

From Where We Stand . . .

The Pleasure Of Hard Work

Let's have a race!"

How many times Dad said that to us boys when we were growing up would be hard to count.

We never had any hard work to do on the farm. It was always a race or a game. We didn't work for rewards. The work was the reward. Dad taught us early in life that work itself can be pleasant; work can be fun, and the greatest reward for work is the satisfaction of seeing a job well done.

Charles Brower, president of the advertising firm of Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn, said recently, "For this, in America, is the great era of the goof-off, the age of the half-done job. The land from coast to coast is populated with laundrymen who won't iron shirts, with waiters who won't serve, with carpenters who will come around some day, maybe, with executives whose mind is on the golf course, with teachers who demand a single salary schedule so that achievement can not be rewarded, nor poor work punished, with students who take cinch courses because the hard ones make them think . . . and the salesman who won't sell is only part of this overall mess."

He went on to say that history is repeating itself; the Russians are doing a wonderful job as the barbarians in our modern historical drama, but we are outdoing them in our superlative imitation of Rome. He said we may lack a few of the refinements of Rome's decadence, but we do have the two-hour lunch, the three day week, and the all-day coffee break. And if you want to, you can buy for \$275, a jeweled pill box with a built in musical alarm that reminds you (not too harshly) that it is time to take your tranquilizer.

Perhaps Mr. Brower stretched the point a little bit, but perhaps he didn't. Sometimes we in the rural areas of the nation fail to realize just how far this business has gone of pay for work not done, of time frittered away, of the something-for-nothing jobs, and the idea that everybody on the job must get the same pay whether he works or not.

We realize there is not the back-breaking labor connected with farming that there once was, but we know, too, that it is still hard work making a living from the soil. There are many jobs that pay better for less work, but we believe that Dad made a lot of sense when he said work can be fun.

And we see some signs that people generally are beginning to find this out. We believe, and we sincerely hope that it is true, that Americans are beginning to become bored with soft jobs. Many are trying to make up for the lack of work by going all out for strenuous forms of recreation, but they still lack that greatest of all rewards — the satisfaction of seeing a job well done.

The greatest truth we can teach our young people today, in this "great era of the goof-off", is that work — just plain hard work — can be fun.

At least that's how it looks from where we stand.

Picnic? Humbug!

So, we said one bright blue summer morning last weekend, why not have a picnic today? Approximately five

miserable hours later we returned to the home's cool interior, hurred our sandy, sooty, lemonade-spattered bodies on the couch, and relapsed into a long muse of reconsideration on this whole business of picnics.

What is there in the nature of a man that drives him to agonies of guilt-laden recrimination if he does not, on bright blue summer mornings, pack hardboiled eggs, hardboiled children and leaky thermos jugs in the old flivver for a miserable meal, gulped on the ground between dabs at smoke-smarting eyes and swipes at voracious, headhunting insects?

Why does one leave a gorgeous view of the mighty Columbia (folks drive thousands of miles over dangerous highways at great cost to see the same sight) and Mt. Adams for a damp musk-scented hole in the woods?

Some score and seven years ago our forefathers cleared the trees, covered the dirty ground with fine, soft lawn, invented lawn chairs, hammock; portable television and luxurious homes in which to take post-picnic naps.

Yet, come summer and the weekends, up we rise, eyes filled with puritanical fire, and set out for some weedy corner of the forest our forefathers shunned like the plague!

No sir, by George, we mused as we itched the nettle burns on our sunburned forearms, never again, not for a thousand pleading children! Then came blessed sleep, which removed the necessity of admitting that, come the next bright blue summer morning, we'd be off with a song in our hearts and disaster waiting at the picnic grounds.

Hood River (Ore.) News

★ ★ ★ ★
Flex Market Muscles! — Dairy co-op officials have been charged with setting a more competitive pace in their markets. Stronger Cooperatives should be built "to carry farmer-members' production as far as possible toward the consumer," urged Glenn E. Heitz, director of the cooperative bank service of Farm Credit Administration, "It has been demonstrated many times," he said, "that cooperatives can coordinate their efforts to get high quality products to consumers by smart merchandising, modern brand identification, and by telling advertising. In so doing, they can expand their markets and gain a fairer share of the consumer dollar for their members."

★ ★ ★ ★
Now It's Compact Pigs — The craze for things compact has invaded the animal kingdom in the form of miniature pigs. Three such animals — strictly experimental — were acquired recently by the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. One advantage of "mini-pigs" is that 3 of them can be kept in the same space needed for a full size hog. They eat less, too. When full grown, they are expected to weight between 125 to 150 pounds each. Easy to handle and park in research experiments, presumably.

★ ★ ★ ★
Changing Times — The occupations that absorbed 60 percent of the 1962 college graduates were not in existence when they were born.

Rich Soil Needed

If you're planning to plant vine crops, such as cucumbers, squash, pumpkins, and muskmelons, you'll need a good rich loam soil containing plenty of organic matter, explains James O Dutt, Penn State vegetable extension specialist. Vine crops also need plenty of fertilizer and insect control. If irrigation is needed, do it in the daytime.

Lancaster Farming
Lancaster County's Own Farm Weekly

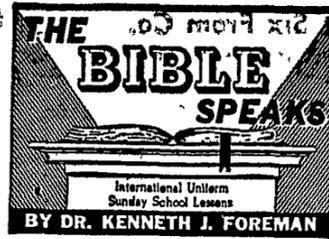
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The God Who Acts

Lesson for July 7, 1963

Bible Material: Genesis 1 and 2.
Devotional Reading: Psalm 33:1-12.

BELEIVING there is a God is necessary to religion; but just believing that God exists doesn't make a person religious. Believing there is a school doesn't make me educated; believing there is a hospital somewhere will not mend my broken leg; believing that women exist does not make a marriage. So believing that God exists does not make religion, it is only the bare start of it.



That God is, is important; what He is, is more important; but the Christian religion, and the Jewish before us, believe that we haven't got to the heart of the matter till we have asked, What does God do? The God of the Bible is not a serene infinite Contemplator, lost in his own great thoughts, viewing human affairs with indifference, as an emperor might look at an anthill. The God we worship is a God who acts. He is a God whose actions, so far as they are concerned with us, have been revealed to us through the Bible. At the beginning of the Ten Commandments God is identified, not by describing what He is like, but by recalling what He has done.

Why God acts

The very first mention of God in the Bible, in the very first sentence, tells of something God did: He "created the heavens and the earth." We must not fancy that God had been spending eternity in idleness and that now for the first time He was stirred up to action. But whatever else God has done, His dealings with men and women began, we may say, when He made the world in which we live. The Christian theologians generally believe that God didn't have to create any world at all, or this one in particular; He was entirely free in creation.

Still, He must have had reasons. He is not a God who does any-

thing "just for the fun of it." We are not free to cheer "guess" work. We can perhaps not comprehend why God should create anything at all; but we can think of some good reasons why God created this kind of universe. The story in Genesis tells of God's creating a world carefully ordered; a world beginning with light; a world filled with life. It is a fair belief that God acted in this way because He does not approve of disorder, darkness and death.

Where God acts

God doubtless acts in ways and places far beyond our power to follow Him even in thought. But within the range of our line of sight, so to speak, God acts in two realms: the realm of nature and the realm of man. God does not force His way into nature or the life of man. He belongs in both because He created both, and He did not shut himself out when He made them. People sometimes make the mistake of ascribing to God only events that are mysterious and terrible. On insurance contracts, for example, "act of God" means disaster of some kind. But God is in the world on a sunny summer morning just as much as in a blizzard. It is by an act of God that the sun is bright and the sky is blue; for it is by an act of God that there is a sun and a sky at all. Christians do not believe that God made this world and tossed it—this earth and all the stars there are—out into space to spin in the emptiness as best it can. Rather, God upholds the earth and the heavens, keeps them going, is at work continually. The growth of a flower is as much of a miracle as could be imagined, only we have grown used to the mighty and amazing acts of God that we can see every day.

How God acts

God also acts in man. We believe that all good comes from him. Wherever we see an unselfish act, wherever we see a selfless devotion, wherever there is sincere repentance for sin, there we see God at work by His Spirit. Whoever abides in love abides in God, one apostle wrote,—for "God is love."

But how can the Holy God work in unholy man? How can the infinite God who is Spirit be at work in this material universe? This we do not know, and God has not revealed to us the how of His actions. If we knew how God acts in the universe and in man especially, we should know as much as God does. To recognize God, to love and to serve Him, it is not necessary first to explain Him.

(Based on outlines copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. Released by Community Press Service.)

Now Is The Time . . .

BY MAX SMITH

To Seed Cover Crop In Corn

Corn growers who have not used any Atrazine for weed control on this year's corn should consider the broadcasting of a cover crop immediately following the last cultivation. The use of 20 pounds per acre of either domestic ryegrass or field brome grass should give some growth for this fall and winter; brome grass is preferred because of less danger of winter-killing. This cover crop is especially useful where the ground is going back into corn and when the organic matter of the soil is low.

To Control Fruit Borer

MAX M. SMITH Fruit trees such as peach, cherry, and plum are often severely injured or killed by borers working in the trunk near the soil level; in many cases these borer holes may be detected by looking for gum oozing from the injured area. A good method of prevention and control is to spray or paint the trunk of fruit trees with DDT; make two applications with the first about July 15th and the second one about August 10th. Use 6 tablespoons of 50% DDT per gallon of water.

To Renew Old Strawberry Beds

Usually the strawberry plant will yield best the first year after planting; however, in many cases with good care and when the weeds and grasses have been controlled the bed may be kept for several years. After the picking season, we suggest that the rows be narrowed down by hoeing or cultivating and that the tops be cut off all the plants; a complete fertilizer such as 5-10-10 at the rate of 25 pounds

per 1000 square feet will encourage new plants and result in a better yield next spring.

To Drench Lambs

With the sheep population on the increase in Lancaster County this enterprise becomes more important. Growers who are feeding spring lambs are reminded that stomach worms have been one of the major problems in southeastern Pennsylvania. The entire flock should be drenched both

(Continued on Page 5)