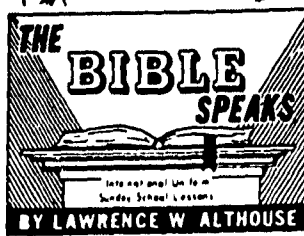




**WASHINGTON'S PRAYER
AT VALLEY FORGE, 1783**

"ALMIGHTY GOD, WE MAKE OUR
EARNEST PRAYER THAT THOU WILT
KEEP THE UNITED STATES IN THY
HOLY PROTECTION, THAT THOU
WILT INCLINE THE HEARTS OF THE
CITIZENS TO CULTIVATE A
SPIRIT OF SUBORDINATION
AND OBEDIENCE TO THE
GOVERNMENT; AND ENTER-
TAIN A BROTHERLY AFFECTION
AND LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER
AND FOR THEIR FELLOW
CITIZEN OF THE UNITED
STATES AT LARGE.

"AND FINALLY, THAT THOU
WILT MOST GRACIOUSLY
BE PLEASED TO DISPOSE
US ALL TO DO JUSTICE,
TO LOVE MERCY, AND TO
DEMEAN OURSELVES
WITH THAT OF THE
DIVINE AUTHOR OF
OUR BLESSED RE-
LIGION, AND WITHOUT
A HUMBLE IMITATION
OF WHOSE EXAMPLE
IN THESE THINGS
WE CAN NEVER HOPE
TO BE A HAPPY NATION."
—1783



THE VICTOR

Lesson for February 17, 1974

Background Scripture: John
19:16-42
Devotional Reading: John
2:13-22.

Chief Luthuli of South Africa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of his outstanding leadership in the cause of peace. Yet this renowned man spent years under official "house arrest," isolated, for the most part from the world that honored him. Alan Patton said of Luthuli upon his death, "They took away his chieftainship, but he never ceased to be a chief."

In Command

In a very real sense, although Luthuli was imprisoned, his jailors could not take from him that which was most important of all. Thus, though it seemed he was their victim, in reality he emerged the victor. They did all that men could do, but still he retained his moral authority.

So it was, too, with Jesus Christ. Although Jesus did not seek death, neither was he its victim. He accepted death on the cross as the consequence of his commitment to God. His life, thus, was not taken from him, wrenched out of his hands, he gave it. Even as they nailed him to the cross, he was in command of the situation. His Lordship was not one bit diminished by the cross; if anything, it was enhanced, magnified, exalted, confirmed. They could drive away his followers for a time, but they could not take away his Lordship.

On Calvary one April afternoon there was played out the greatest battle of all time: the massed forces of evil at their worst vs. the seemingly vulnerable Son of God. Judging by the usual canons of success and failure, Jesus did not have a chance. Forsaken by the fickle crowds that had cheered him on Palm Sunday, the victim of lies and trumped-up charges, abandoned by his closest friends and followers, the Nazarene did not appear to be a match for the combined forces of Rome and Jerusalem.

"It is finished"

Yet, despite their power, his enemies could not shake his commitment. His faith did not waver. He took the very worst they could offer — insults, physical abuse, crucifixion, and even death—and his Lordship emerged untarnished. They played their ultimate card, but it was not enough and the victim emerged as the victor. When Jesus, drawing his last breath, said, "It is finished," he did not mean that his effort had failed, but that his purpose had been fulfilled. It was not a cry of despair with which Jesus died, but of victory!

Jesus came teaching—and ultimately demonstrating—a different standard of success. Just as he taught that we can get by giving and be first by being willing to be last, so, he said, it is often only through apparent failure that we experience

**NOW IS
THE TIME.**



Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
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TO REPORT LITTERING

Many farmers are aware of the amount of dumping of garbage and other solid wastes along the highways in the rural parts of our county. There is a new Anti-Litter Law being proposed at Harrisburg that should help to reduce this nuisance. Farmers and others in the rural areas are urged to get the license number of the cars from which the trash is thrown or scattered. The owner of the car will be responsible and there are possible rewards for convicting the guilty person.

**TO PREVENT STIFF
LAMB DISEASE**

We have reports from Dr. Sam Guss at Penn State that several sheep producers in various parts of the state are having trouble with stiff lamb disease. Common symptoms are stiffness of the legs and neck and the finding of lambs dead without any period of illness. It usually affects the best and huskiest lambs. An injection of sodium selenite into the ewe about one month before lambing should give protection for the first month of the lamb's life; after that a single injection of the same material into the lamb will give protection until 6 months of age. One ordinary treatment is to give each lamb one 400-unit Vitamin E capsule when a week or so old or when the stiffness first appears. Lamb producers are urged to be on the alert for this problem in their spring lamb crop.

**TO KEEP GOOD
RECORDS**

This is an old suggestion but keeps growing in im-

portance each year. There's little doubt that good farm records are a "must" in today's farming program. If the farmer himself does not want to keep records, or cannot find the time, then I'd suggest that the farmer's wife be given this important job. I'm sure most of the farm women can do as good or better than the men at record keeping. Good records are not only necessary for income tax reporting but needed to do farm planning and in many cases useful to obtain additional credit, which is so badly needed for many of today's farming operations. Be sure your farm records are complete and accurate.

**TO HANDLE MANURE
CAREFULLY**

Spring is just around the corner and soon the barns and feedlots will be emptied and the waste spread to the fields. This year, due to the possible fertilizer shortages, and the certain higher costs, barnyard manure will surely reduce the amount of commercial fertilizer needed. There are many ways to store and spread manure and I'm not really sure there is only one best way. However, it should be stored so that the fertilizer elements do not leach away and it should be spread in a manner of least annoyance to the folks in the community, and get it into the ground as quickly as possible after spreading or as it is spread; soil injection has the advantage in this respect. Livestock manure has always been a valuable fertilizer crop and this year it is surely worth handling properly.

National FFA Week

The promise of the future lies in the youth of today. This fact is brought sharply to mind during National FFA Week, which occurs this year during the period of February 16-23

Through its program of instruction in modern farming techniques and preparation for challenging careers in agribusiness and related fields, the Future Farmers of America ensures that tomorrow's agriculture will be able to meet the needs of tomorrow's consumer.

The national FFA organization embraces some 8,000 high schools

throughout the nation, helping its members develop their individual skills and interests in agriculture. As the world leans evermore heavily upon American farmers to supply the food and fiber vital to human life and well-being, the importance of FFA becomes more evident. We must see to it that the Future Farmers of America continues to thrive and produce the agricultural leaders capable of maintaining the excellence of U. S. agriculture -- the most productive agricultural system ever created in all the recorded history of man's earthly tenure.

Grassroots Opinion

DALTON, MASS., NEWS RECORD: "The history of the American people cannot be separated from the history of American journalism. In establishing independence, the pen and the press had equal merit to that of the sword."

BUCKEYE VALLEY, ARIZ., NEWS: "People are the same everywhere -- Natives who beat drums to ward off evil spirits are objects of scorn to smart Americans who blow horns to break up traffic jams."

ROSHOLT, S.D., REVIEW: "Now that no American soldier is engaged in military combat action anywhere in the world, we wonder what the protestors will use for ammunition in their next demonstrations? It would be a novel turn of events that for lack of something to gripe about they might have to protest against their own demonstrations."

SOMERSET, KY., COMMONWEALTH-JOURNAL "It's an ill wind, etc. The government decision to clamp controls on the distribution of propane gas, to be followed by rationing of heating oil, together with predictions of severe fuel shortages anyway if it's a hard winter, have caused a boom in sales of oldtime wood-burning stoves 'It's unbelievable,' says a spokesman for one large manufacturer, who says he already has more orders on file than

he can possibly fill. Ben Franklin's fireplace, which always was an efficient heater has been considered mostly a decorator item for lo, these many years, is also enjoying a comeback. The phenomenon raises the question, of course, of where everybody is going to get the wood to burn in all these stoves, not to mention the effects on air pollution. But one problem at a time, please."

ST. EDWARD, NEBR., ADVANCE: "Whatever happened to our free enterprise system? Uncle Sam is knocking the legs out from under it for one thing . . . The old American way dictates that all citizens have the freedom to pursue their interests and fortunes . . . Our free enterprise system also has meant that if a person found a way to do something faster, cheaper, more efficiently or in any manner which was more acceptable to the consumer, then that way was the successful one and others fell by the wayside. That is still a pretty good system, but it is not good enough or strong enough to buck the government. That is proven in the federal government and also in the state government with its various price fixing laws of late. It really is bad to have a corporate monopoly, but it is a thousand times worse to have a government one. The citizens just have no recourse it seems when the government itself is the violator of individual rights"

Farm Calendar

- Monday, February 18**
7:30 p.m. - Lancaster County Swine Producers meeting, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.
- Feb. 18-20 - 1974 Annual meeting of the United Dairy Industry Association, Atlanta, Georgia, Hyatt Regency Hotel.
- Tuesday, February 19**
9:30 a.m. - Crops and Soils Day, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.
- 11:00 a.m. - Atlantic Breeders Co-op meeting, Twin Churches, Friends Cove.
- 7:00 p.m. - Atlantic Breeders Co-op meeting, Quarryville.
- 7:30 p.m. - Ephrata Area Young Farmers meeting. Topic - Fuel Allocation and Shortage, problems of concern to farmers. Ephrata vo-ag department.
- 7:45 p.m. - Garden Spot Young Farmer Business meeting and recreation.
- Garden Spot High School vo-ag department.
- 7:00 p.m. - Atlantic Breeders Co-op meeting, Juniata Valley High School.
- Wednesday, February 20**
10 a.m. - Atlantic Breeders Co-op meeting, New Oxford Fire Hall.
- 7:30 p.m. - Eastern Lancaster County Adult Farmer meeting, Hay, Silage and Forage testing, Garden Spot High School vo-ag department.
- 7:30 p.m. - DHIA Workshop, Farm and Home Center, Lancaster.
- 7:30 p.m. - Lancaster 4-H County Council meeting, Farm and Home Center.
- 7:30 p.m. - Public Affairs Seminar, "The 1974-75 Livestock and Meat Outlook", Farm and Home Center.
- National Conference on Environmental Improvement, Marriott Twin Bridge Motel, Washington, D.C.
- Thursday, February 21**
9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Eastern Penna. Potato Meeting, Wotrings Banquet Hall, Rt. 873 north of Schnecksville, Lehigh Co.
- 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Chester County Crops Day at Stone Barn, Rt. 842, (Continued On Page 11)

true success. As Jesus himself won the greatest of battles through his suffering and death on a cross, so we are called in the midst of some of life's most trying moments by the power of God to rise up victors from the ashes of defeat.