

A bouquet for Mother

By DIETER KRIEG



It took my mother 55 years to become a grandmother, but she was a grand mother long before that.

She started out as a mother just prior to the end of World War II. The scene was war-torn Germany and Russian troops were pouring into the area en masse. They took whatever they could get their hands on and frightened the women and children especially.

Cradling her infant in her arms, my mother went into hiding in the fields of our farm. Discovery would have meant harrassment and possibly death by bayonet or bullet.

Post-war Germany wasn't easy on mothers, either, even though the world was finally at peace in that region. Shortages of food, housing, medicine and clothing were very real. Some items, such as chocolates and oranges were totally unavailable. The country was partitioned into four sectors, with our state being occupied by the Soviets. That made matters worse yet as it cut us off from American aid. But worst of all was the agony which followed due to my father's imprisonment by the ruling communists. Openly denouncing the system, he drew a 15 year jail term from the totalitarian regime. Mom was left to take care of herself and four young children.

Life for Mom must have improved significantly when Dad was released from jail just 13 months after having been taken away. And I'm sure it improved still more when the family crossed into West Berlin one dark and drizzly night. That adventure alone involved risking death. Imagine the joy of the successful escape. But Mom still had many years to go during her unusual career as a wife and mother.

The escape from East Germany led to 2½ years of life in West German refugee camps, which were generously supported by America. Nevertheless, housekeeping there occasionally involved sharing a single room with

several families. Luxury was having one room for yourself -- even if it was a family of six, as we were at that time.

Homeless, and the owners of nothing other than our lives and what was provided at the refugee camp, we could still consider ourselves fortunate for having escaped from a system which continues to enslave millions. Mom endured all.

Arriving in the United States, my mother did her grocery shopping by walking to a bus station more than a half mile away, and often carrying the shopping bags on the return trip. Meals were always planned with pennies in mind, but no one was ever shortchanged of good, wholesome nourishment. The same held true for clothing. We always had something to wear. Nothing was ever allowed to go to waste. What's more, Mom never ran out of love, patience, kindness, understanding and caring, even when others in the family ran short with their feelings. There were seven of us now, with the youngest being just a year old when we arrived in the United States.

Mom's outstanding qualities as a mother continued to shine when we moved to a farm in late 1959 and she became the foster mother of every calf that was born. Over the years she has raised thousands of them. Her devotion and patience has never run low -- whether it be for the family, calves and cows, or the hundreds of plants she cares for.

Her life has always been one of service to others and all living things around her. A bird fallen from its nest, for example, has often found a home with Mom. No plant in her garden and flower beds was ever endangered by weeds. No calf she has raised ever received less than 100 per cent of her devoted attention.

My mother's dedication and faith shine through the occasional dark clouds of life, and the entire family has benefitted greatly because of it.



NOW IS THE TIME...

Max Smith
County Agr. Agent
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TO BEWARE OF HERBICIDE DRIFT

Many acres of corn ground, and no doubt some other areas will be sprayed with chemical weed killers in the coming weeks. Custom sprayers and farmer operators should keep in mind the danger of the wind blowing some of these fine particles to nearby gardens, properties and easily-killed crops. This often happens in the rural areas with graden plants. If spraying can be done when there is no wind, or the wind going away from the properties and gardens, there will be less complaints. The ester forms of 2, 4-D are more likely to give off more vapors that the amine forms; this is especially true in very hot weather. Respect for the property of others should be kept in mind at all times.

TO KEEP PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT IN PLACE

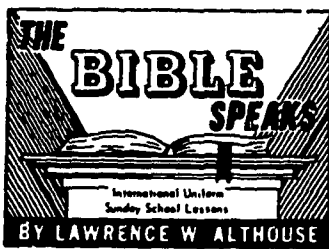
Field work will be going at full speed as soon as the weather clears; this means that farm machinery will be used to get the job done. All

of us get in a hurry at times when this happens we may fail to respect the safety guards that have been provided with our farm machinery. All chain and gear shields should be put back in place. The PTO guards on tractors are often removed and not replaced. This shaft travels at rapid speeds and can tear off clothing and break bones in a few seconds. We urge all machinery operators to take time to keep guards and shields in place. A few minutes to be safe may prevent life-time injury.

TO PURCHASE

OUTSTANDING SIRES

In the livestock industry spring and early summer is the time when many breeders are replacing their herd sires or studs. We urge farmers to take the time to look for the very best performance-tested sires in order to improve their herds or flocks. A cheap sire might be able to reproduce his kind, but may not do much for improving the group. Good sires are seldom cheap



OF FAITH AND WORKS

Lesson for May 8, 1977

Background Scripture:

James 1:19 through 2:26

Devotional Reading:

Psalms 40:1-8

Protestant Reformer Martin Luther called the Epistle of James "a right strawy epistle" and openly regretted the fact that this letter had never been included in the canon of the New Testament. Others have had a similar reaction. The

and do not come at a "bargain", but in the long run they may be the most profitable investment. Keep in mind that the herd sire is half of the new-born animals; his influence on the future herd or flock should be the determining factor. Many sires are now available that will produce fast-growing and meat-type market animals; those that still throw small, and fat-producing carcasses will not be of much value in the long run. Try to buy the best sires available and you will stay in the profit column longer.

reason for this unhappiness with James is to be found in the presumed conflict between Paul's teachings about "salvation through faith" and James apparent emphasis upon "works" instead of "faith."

The conflict seems obvious:

Paul: "For we hold that a man is justified by faith apart from works of law" (Romans 3:28).

James: "You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone" (James 2:24).

Show me your faith

But the conflict is more apparent than real. The two scripture passages quoted quite out of context are not mutually contradictory. In fact, when we examine them more closely, we find that they are simply approaching the same truth from two different perspectives.

The problem is in the meaning of the word "faith."

For example, James asks us:

"If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, be warmed and filled,' without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit?" (2:15).

What James is really saying here is that that kind of "faith" is not faith at all. The faith that is expressed only in cheerful words instead of helpful actions is not the faith that Paul speaks of

Farm Calendar

Sunday, May 8
Have a Happy Mother's Day

Wednesday, May 11
York County Beekeepers meeting, 4-H Center in Bair, 7:30 p.m.
Lebanon County Con-

in Romans. It is mere belief and there is a big difference between belief and faith. "Show me your faith apart from your works," challenges James (1:18).

The completion of faith

Two illustrations are used by the apostle. First, the example of Abraham offering his son Isaac upon the altar. It was not enough for Abraham to believe this what he was to do, but for him to be willing to act upon that belief. Because he was ready to follow his belief with action, James says, "You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by works..." (2:22).

The second illustration seems strange to us, but it is well suited for his point. Rahab was spared destruction, not just because she believed the messengers were from God, but because she acted upon that belief and "sent them out another way" (2:25). Thus, as with Abraham, it was not a matter of belief or works, but belief and works. These two together comprise faith.

ervation District board of directors meeting, 8 p.m. Room 209 in the Lebanon Municipal Building.

Poultry industry symposium on the conservation of energy, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Farm and Home Center, Lancaster

Fruit growers' meeting and tour of Phil Roth's Apple Valley Orchard, Fairfield, Adams County

Thursday, May 12
York County Fruit Growers meeting, 7 p.m. at Blevins Fruit Farm, Stewartstown.

Friday, May 13
Pennsylvania Egg Marketing Association meeting, 7 p.m. at the Sheraton - Conestoga, Lancaster. "Is There a Computer in Your Future?" Hunterdon County, N.J. 4-H Youth leadership weekend begins, continues through Sunday.

Saturday, May 14
West Virginia Country Fling Weekend, today and tomorrow, Harpers Ferry.
Lancaster County FFA poultry judging contest at Weaver's Poultry Plant, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Third in a series of TV farm programs, Channel 8, Lancaster, 7 p.m.