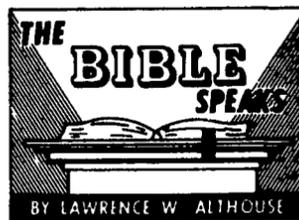


# NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin

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**POWER**  
February 23, 1986

a humble, unassuming man who took upon himself, the suffering of others. By our common cultural standards today, despite his fall, Mussolini was the epitome of power and Padre Pio the antithesis of it. Yet, today, most Italians want to forget the man they once hailed as "Il Duce" (the Leader), and thousands of people are making the pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo where Padre Pio lived most of his life and died.

In September we made our own pilgrimage to San Giovanni Rotondo and found that, although Padre Pio died 17 years ago, his power continues to grow. While he was living, great throngs of people came to his town to see "the Monk with the Wounds." But, since his death, they still come and more than ever before—to experience his spiritual power. Father Joseph, an American who serves in San Giovanni Rotondo, told us: Padre Pio ever told a lie, but his death is in the greatest of all lies."

**BEAR YOUR CROSS**

There is no doubt in my mind which of these two men, Benito Mussolini or Padre Pio, was the most powerful. But neither do I have any illusions that my perception is shared by the world in which we live. Although Jesus demonstrated the true nature of power, we still haven't bought it. We still are pretty much where James and John were when they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left in your glory" (Mark 10:37). We still haven't accepted the answer he gave them: "...whoever would be great among you must be your servant and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all" (10:43,44). Nor have we yet accepted the true power in this world which is the power of the cross.

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**Background Scripture:**  
Mark 8:34-35; 9:33-37; 10:34-35.  
**Devotional Reading:**  
Hebrews 12:1,2.

In the second-to-last decade of the 19th century, two men were born in Italian hill towns in the most humble of homes. One of these men enjoyed a meteoric rise in political power, becoming, perhaps, the most powerful Italian political leader since the days of the Roman emperors. The other became a Capuchin friar and spent practically his whole life in the obscure mountain village of San Giovanni Rotondo.

During the five decades during which these two men pursued their concurrent vocations, their courses led in two different directions. The one man, Benito Mussolini, became the absolute dictator of Italy and for 23 years he held the fate of millions of people in his hands. At the time of his ignoble execution, April 28, 1945, the other man, Francesco Forgione, known as Padre Pio, was just beginning to be known in Italy and elsewhere as "the Monk with the Wounds of Christ," a miracle healer and holy man.

**TO BE GREAT**

What a contrast between these two men. Benito Mussolini was an arrogant man who seized power and was prodigal in his use of it. Padre Pio, on the other hand, was

Blain, 9:30 a.m.  
Cedar Crest FFA Banquet, 7 p.m.,  
Cedar Crest Middle School  
cafeteria.

DHIA Workshop, Cumberland  
County Extension office,  
Carlisle, 1 p.m.

DHIA Workshop, Big Spring High  
School group room, Newville,  
7:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 5**  
Lancaster Conservation District  
board meeting.

Pa. Potato Grower's Institute,  
Toftrees Country Club, State  
College; continues through  
March 6.

Commercial pesticide applicator's  
meeting, University of  
Maryland Adult Education  
Center, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Thursday, March 6**  
Lancaster County Poultry  
Progress Day, Farm and Home  
Center, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Southeast District DHIA meeting,  
Midway Diner.

**Annual meeting of CU co-op today**

SHIPPENSBURG - Plans have been made for 800 people who are expected to attend the 56th Annual Meeting of the Cumberland Valley Cooperative today at the Shippensburg Area Senior High School. The program will open with an informal luncheon in the school Cafeteria at 11:30 a.m. and will conclude at 3:00 p.m.

Henry A Zajac of the Cooperative management said Monday that plans for the popular midwinter event have been completed. Featured on the afternoon program will be in-

formation on the 56 years of the Cooperative and some excellent entertainment by "CHARLEY DORNAN" to take your mind off your everyday problems.

Six directors will be elected for three year terms. Wayne F. Craig, President, will preside at the business meeting and the invocation will be given by James Bear.

Members of the board of directors are Herbert Dice, 2111 Twin Bridge Road, Chambersburg, Pa.; Ronald C. Allison, 1900 Warm Springs Road, Chambersburg; Merrill R. Bivens, 2749 Geibs Road, St. Thomas; Paul L. Garman, R-4, Carlisle; Gerald E. McMath, Star Route 2, Shade Gap; Edward I. Brackbill, R-2 Mechanicsburg; Donald E. Piper, 10627 Otterbein Road, Newburg; Harry A. Mohn, Newburg; Wayne F. Craig, Floyd M. Mains, Wayne D. Baker, all of Shippensburg; William G. Miller, R-1, Newville; David P. Wagner, R-1, Newville; J. Elton Clevenger, R-2, Newville; R. Craig Fulton, R-1, Shippensburg; Kenneth E. Martin, R-1 Fayetteville; and Donald L. Basehore, 6050 Creekview Road Mechanicsburg.

**To Be Aware of Alkaline Water for Pesticides**

If your water is alkaline, especially if the pH is 8 or greater, you may have trouble getting good results from the pesticide spray material you are using on cropland. Water supplies in many areas have sufficient natural alkalinity to cause a "breakdown" of certain pesticides.

This means pest control may be somewhat less than desirable, or even non-existent, because the ingredient will be rendered inactive before it even reaches the plant or pest. If the spray is allowed to stand several hours before spraying, as much as 50 percent or more of the active ingredient may be decomposed.

Our Extension pesticide specialist tells us that pH in the range of 4 to 6 is recommended for most pesticide sprays. You can adjust spray solutions to this range by buffering agents. In general, the insecticides are affected more severely by alkaline water than fungicides or herbicides.

**To Consider Topdressing Wheat**

At this time, we are not certain how our wheat crop will survive the winter elements because we still have March to contend with. And March, with its freezing and thawing conditions, is one of the

hardest months on wheat.

In any event, topdressing wheat with nitrogen will generally result in an extra 10 to 12 bushels per acre. This can result in extra profit to the grower.

The ideal time to topdress wheat is just when it begins to "green-up" in the spring. This will generally occur in the middle to latter part of March. However, wheat can successfully be topdressed earlier in March when the ground is "honeycombed." Be cautious of highly fertile land that has received a lot of manure in the past. This kind of land does not need additional nitrogen.

Most wheat varieties can use between 40 and 50 pounds of nitrogen per acre. There are few activities around the farm that can return more profit, with less input, than topdressing wheat with nitrogen.

**To Use Quality Seed**

Many people are making plans for the 1986 growing season. In these plans, we should be preparing to use the very best quality seeds possible. Leftover seeds may be satisfactory if properly stored.

If they are certified or top quality seed to start with, it would be a good idea to run a germination test to be certain they will grow.

This can be done with the old, but still effective, "Rag Doll" method (wrapping seeds in rolled-up moist rags or by placing seeds in a dish on wet paper towels, cover with plastic, and keep in a warm place for at least 10 days.) If these seeds do not grow under either of these tests, don't rely on them for your crop.

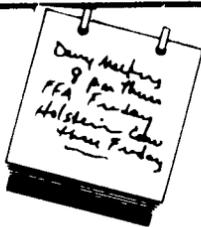
Certified seed may cost a little more in the beginning, but usually is worth the difference.

**To Store Supplies Properly**

Many farmers have purchased and accepted early delivery on seeds, fertilizers and other supplies. It is very important that these supplies are stored properly. I have seen bags of fertilizer stored too close to a barn door or an open window where the rain and snow blow in; also seeds in similar condition.

Extra moisture on these materials, or under them on a damp floor, can seriously affect quality. It's also very important to keep seeds away from weed killer chemicals. These herbicides may reduce or kill the germination of the seed. Be sure to store all farm chemicals out of reach of children, pets and livestock. All of these materials become more expensive each year so it's only good common sense to store them carefully.

## Farm Calendar



**Saturday, February 22**  
Annual Meeting, Pa. Holstein Association, Sheraton Station Square, Pittsburgh.  
Simental Association Annual Meeting, 3:15 p.m., Allenberry Resort, Boiling Springs.  
**Monday, February 24**  
Game Bird Conference, University Park; continues through tomorrow.  
Bucks-Montgomery Dairy Day, 10 a.m., R and S Diner, Hatfield.  
Cumberland Cooperative Wool Growers, S. Middleton Firehall, Boiling Springs.  
Milker's School; York County 4-H Center, 9:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.; continues through tomorrow.

**Tuesday, February 25**  
W. Pa. Turf Conference and Trade Show, Pa. Turfgass Council, Monroeville Expo Mart.  
Berks County Extension Dairy Day, 9 a.m., Berks County Ag Center.  
Lebanon County 4-H Livestock Banquet, 7 p.m., Shaefferstown Firehall.  
Mastitis Control and Prevention, 7:30 p.m., Blue Ball Elementary School.

**Wednesday, February 26**  
McKean County dairy buyout program, 1:30 p.m., Extension Center.  
Multi-County Small Grain Meeting, Crawford County Courthouse, 1:30 p.m., Mercer County Extension Center, 7:30 p.m.  
Franklin, Cumberland County vegetable growers' meeting, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Leinbach Farm Market.  
Farm Transferrals and Partnership Meeting, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., York County Extension office meeting room.

**Thursday, February 27**  
Agronomy Day, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fayette County Fairgrounds.  
Estate Planning meeting, Lancaster Farm and Home Center, 7:30 p.m.  
Lancaster County Conservation Tillage Conference, Farm and Home Center.  
Cumberland County Dairy Clinic, Penn Township Firehall, Huntsdale, 9:15 a.m.  
S. Jersey Tree Fruit Growers

Meeting, Silver Lake Inn, Clementon, NJ. Contact Leslie Miller at 609-784-1099.

**Friday, February 28**  
Cumberland County Crops Day, Cumberland County Extension office, Carlisle.

**Saturday, March 1**  
Nut Tree Grafting workshop, Dauphin High School, 9 a.m.

**Monday, March 3**  
N.W. Cattlemen's Beef Meeting, Steese's Restaurant, Mercer, 7 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 4**  
DHIA Director's Meeting, 8 p.m., Fayette County Extension Office.  
Lancaster County Dairy Days, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Farm and Home Center.  
Swine Management Seminar, Blain Firehall, Blain.  
Swine Artificial Insemination short course, Penn State University, 11 a.m.  
Juniata-Perry Swine Management Seminar, Blain Fire Company,

