



OPINION

Thanks Everyday

Tragedy.

What makes it so terrifying is that it strikes so quickly. Most often it strikes without any warning. And when there is warning, that warning most often goes unheeded.

Why?

Do we think that through our intelligence and our infinite wisdom that we can outwit Mother Nature? Or do we believe that through our power and our might that we can actually withstand these awesome and most horrifying acts of nature?

Or do we simply believe, "Well, that won't happen to me."

How does tragedy decide where it will strike? How does tragedy pick and choose who will die in its path?

Tragedy's path, during the recent bombardment of tornados and hurricane-like windstorms, cut a swath several miles long, a half-mile wide with winds up to 250 miles per hour in Huntsville, Tennessee. The storms continued up through the south and north-eastern states with less destructive forces.

In New York, at the elementary school where seven young children died from injuries when a cafeteria wall collapsed from a hurricane-like wind storm. The evening news showed two young mothers, both crying. Only one was clutching her child.

Hurricane Hugo.

The San Francisco earthquake.

These destructive quirks of Mother Nature seem so far away to those of us who did not have loved ones affected by these disasters.

But tragedy came frighteningly close to residents in southeastern Pennsylvania, parts of Maryland, and New York this week.

On Thursday, less than 10 miles from Lancaster Farming's office building, roofs were ripped off of livestock barns and houses, buildings were leveled, people were injured, and a roof was torn off of a junior high school while the children were in it.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving Day, let us again be aware of our helplessness, our need for a God who is greater than these tragedies. Let us be thankful for our God who can heal the emotions of those who have suffered, who gives us protection, food and shelter that we take so often for granted.

Let us remember that first Thanksgiving Day celebrated by the Pilgrims after surviving a severe winter, they had been ravished with disease and death yet they rejoiced for the abundance of food that God provided.

On this Thanksgiving Day, let us do more than enjoy turkey and family ties. Let's give thanks for all the good things we have—every day.



NOW IS THE TIME

By Jay Irwin
Lancaster County Agriculture Agent

To Be Careful Around Flowing Grain
Many farms move grain from one bin to another, onto trucks or the feed grinder. One of the major hazards of moving stored grain is to become covered up and smothered by it. It is very dangerous to be standing in a grain bin when it begins to flow. It takes only a few seconds for an unloading auger to remove enough grain for a person to start sinking into the grain. Never enter a grain bin without first "locking out" all the power sources; also, never enter the bin alone without another person being present. Children should be warned about entering grain bins because of the danger of "bridging" of the grain or the shifting of large areas. All employees should be alerted to the hazards of flowing grain.

To Check Standby Generators
Your standby generator may be needed at any time. Is it ready? With all the uses of electricity on the farm today, we need this type of emergency equipment. We are

meeting, Whitehall Mall Community Room, Whitehall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 28
New Jersey/Pennsylvania Equine Short Course, Part 3, North Hunterdon High School Cafeteria A, North Hunterdon, N.J., 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.; for information, call 201/526-6293 for New Jersey, 215/746-1970 for Pennsylvania.

Wednesday, November 29
New Jersey/Pennsylvania Equine Short Course, Part 3, Holiday Inn, Kulpville, Pa., 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.; for information, call 201/526-6293 for New Jersey, 215/746-1970 for Pennsylvania.

Saturday, December 2
Mid-Atlantic Goat Seminar, Francis Scott Key High School, Union Bridge, Md., 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Berks County 4-H Horse Banquet, Berks County 4-H Center, Leesport, 6:30 p.m.
National 4-H Club Congress, Chicago, Ill.

Shenango, W. Middlesex, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; make reservations by November 16, contact Forage Conference, Dept. of Agronomy, Penn State, 119 Tyson Building, University Park, 16802.

Saturday, November 25
Mercer County Holstein annual dinner meeting, Mercer County Extension Center, Mercer, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 26
National Young Farmers Educational Institute, Columbus, Ohio; runs through November 30.

Monday, November 27
Lehigh Valley Horse Council

in the weather season now when we can expect both snow and ice storms that can give us power outages. This means that activities on many farms will stop when the electricity fails. To have a standby generator is very good management; however, you need to run this generator at least once every two weeks to be sure it is in good running order when needed.

This kind of emergency equipment can be a life saver for both animal and poultry, as well as eliminate possible financial losses.

To Be Careful When Cleaning Manure Pits

Many manure pits will be emptied at this time of year; it's an opportunity to clean out the pit before cold weather arrives. When this volume of manure is agitated there is greater danger of toxic and explosive gases being released. Every precaution should be taken. If there are animals above the pits, then maximum ventilation should be provided. When the pit is empty or partially empty, no one should enter the pit without a respirator or gas mask. There may be dangerous gases present. Also,

no smoking or open flames should be nearby. These pits are the modern way to store manure, but they do present a hazard to both man and animal.

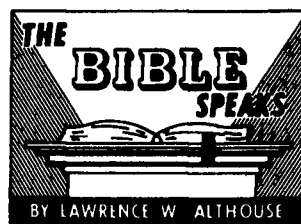
To Appreciate The End Of Harvest Season

Once again we have come to the end of another growing season and the end of the harvest.

The 1989 year was favorable in most areas for field, orchard and garden crops and this has meant good production of food and feed. Some areas cannot say the same.

The harvest is now 95 percent plus completed. There now comes a good feeling of satisfaction when all is safely gathered in. And it brings rewards of a feeling that you've done your best.

Rewards from crop production come as a result of a choice selection of seeds and plants; of careful preparation of the seedbed; of applying soil nutrients, tilling soil and weeding; of cooperation with weather's rain or sunshine and of the owner or manager inputs. Harvest time follows. A time of joy and thanksgiving should now prevail.



THE FINAL SCORE
November 19, 1989

ter; that doesn't mean it has to be for us, too. The writer's images are like those of a dream - always changing, ill-defined images, seemingly coming and going without rhyme or reason. As in working with dreams, one must focus, not on the images themselves, but the meaning behind them.

The revelation that comes to the writer of Revelation 19 and 20 is not about horses, but about the ultimate triumph of good over evil. It matters little how you think about this great struggle, so long as you acknowledge that the struggle does exist and accept the writer's assurance that in God's own time evil will be finally and resoundingly defeated by God. **FOR EVER AND EVER**

Often it is hard for us to maintain that faith, because in this life, evil often seems to have the final word. But we need to know that "it isn't over until it's over." Today, evil forces may seem to prevail, but the Gospel assures us there is always a victory that lies beyond our sight.

When I was a boy, I listened to a radio broadcast of a World Series game between the New York Yankees and the Brooklyn Dodgers. The Dodgers seemed safely ahead with two outs and two strikes against the Yankees in the last inning. The pitcher threw a third strike and the game was over. But, not really — the catcher dropped the third strike and the batter got on base and eventually the Yankees scored and won the game! The game wasn't over until it was over. And that's the way it is, too, with God's plan for this world.

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Background Scripture: Revelation 19 through 20.

Devotional Reading: Psalms 115: 3-13.

Two of our sons are musicians. Their world is largely that of rock music. When they talk about their music, more often than not we do not know what they're talking about. Sometimes we have to work very hard to close this wide communication gap.

That's the way it is for Christians and the writer of the Book of Revelation. Translated into even the most simple English, much of what he says sounds about as familiar to us as our sons' talk about contemporary music. That is why so many people have difficulty with the Book of Revelation. The things he reports to us from his ecstatic visions are foreign to us.

HEAVEN OPENED

Some readers of Revelation also make the mistake of taking the images and pictures literally. If the writer says, "Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse!" (19:11), these people are likely to get hung-up on the "white horse" and miss the underlying meaning of the passage. The writer saw the Christ on a white horse, but the passage is not about a white horse. The horse was only a meaningful symbol for the wri-

Farm Calendar

Saturday, November 18
Lancaster County Farmers Association farm tour; repeats November 19.

Christmas Craft Show of Intercourse, Martin Sale Building, Intercourse, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Tuesday, November 21
Franklin County farm-city week banquet, Kauffman's Community Center, Kauffman, social hour 6:00 p.m., dinner 6:45 p.m.

Lancaster Chamber ag-industry banquet, Willow Valley Resort & Conference Center, 6:30 p.m.
Forage conference, Sheraton Inn-

Shenango, W. Middlesex, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; make reservations by November 16, contact Forage Conference, Dept. of Agronomy, Penn State, 119 Tyson Building, University Park, 16802.

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HISTORICAL FACT!

DID YOU KNOW:
IT WAS UNCLE OTIS'S GREAT, GREAT, GREAT, GREAT GRANDFATHER WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRADITION OF FEASTING ON TURKEY ON THANKS GIVING DAY.
Dave Carpenter

GREAT SHOT 'DEADEYE' YOU MISSED THE DEER AND HIT THAT TURKEY...