

RainDancing101.com

Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass
It's about learning to dance in the rain

Dance Classes Here

December Newsletter

Rx For The Soul

Here's to
YOU!

Dead People Are Boring...

YOU WERE
WORTH
EVERYTHING
GOD COULD
GIVE! HE GAVE
HIS BEST FOR
YOU! JOHN 3:16

Don't watch what they say.
Watch what they do

"The gospel is about
changed lives! Why, in our
church we have former
pimps, prostitutes, gays &
drug addicts - & that's just
the **staff!**" Tommy Barnett

Jesus is not one of many
ways to approach God, nor
is He the best of several
ways. He is the only way.
A.W. Tozer & Acts 4:12



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God's Got This!

I love Christmas and I love family, which are usually blended together for me. Not everyone has family, so I feel blessed. And I so enjoy the lights of Christmas!

The very *first* Christmas was lit up too, but not by electricity. No, the "glory of the Lord shone around."¹ Only a few shepherds saw it, no tourists. The sky then filled with an angelic choir singing "Glory to God in the Highest."

These simple shepherds also followed a *bright star* to Bethlehem to see this child. Then they couldn't keep to themselves what they'd seen and heard. "After they'd seen him, they spread the word..."² It was astounding!

This moment was pivotal in the history of mankind, validated by secular historians such as Josephus, who also captured Jesus' miracles and ministry. So Jesus & His life here on earth is an historical fact! What really happened there was, that God Himself stepped out of eternity, which culminated in His death on a cross, for all sinful man.

That isn't the only time He stepped out of a timeless eternity. And He will soon return. He has intervened countless times in my own answered prayers, and yours, in order to reveal Himself to our unbelieving hearts! He cares *and* "while we were yet sinners, He loves us!"³

That initial visit as a tiny babe in the manger is called *kenosis* in seminary terms, where He emptied Himself of divine omniscience (all knowing); omnipotence (all power) and omnipresence (present everywhere). Jesus was there at the beginning, and "not anything was made without Him."⁴ He was always God. But in that manger, He became the Son of Man.⁵

Lew Wallace, the author of Ben Hur, was in the field. He went to rest under a shadetree. Once seated, he realized he'd interrupted a colony of ants who were busy working until he'd sat down.

On watching them running askew, he wanted to explain he'd meant no harm. He wondered if - for a moment - he could become like them, so they'd understand...

Upon that thought, Wallace suddenly realized, this was exactly what God had done in sending Jesus to become like mankind. Since that manger, when we humans wish to see God, we look at Jesus! "God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself,"⁶ He was "the express image of God."⁷

This is "The Greatest Story Ever Told." Yet, if you try to convey any part of it to American liberals, you might as well be cursing! They want no part of it, even using laws to ban public display of manger scenes, or ban retail from saying Merry Christmas.

Recently, I attended an event known prior to now as Christmas In The Park. I love my town, but I was deeply disturbed this year as all mention of Christmas was gone - not even any red or green colors! A stage play had 20 or so children singing ...Christmas songs? Hardly! Just frivolous empty tunes. Several tents had kids' games, yet *no mention even of Santa*. Just Winter Break.

My friend and I felt sick. Children are being robbed...!

Why don't Christians speak up...? Because 1000's of Christians sit in dead churches, & are like King Saul and Samson.... The Spirit has departed - & they don't realize it! They've accepted a gospel that's costless, crossless, and reproofless!

In its place, they've embraced a gospel of greed & seeker-friendly messages that make the "Greatest Story Ever Told" boring & predictable! How **dares** they? No power. No holy presence. Little prayer! Just faux peace.

Remember it was the religious crowd that refused Jesus' ministry, and who minimized His miracles...then crucified Him. It's still true. A global church is now rising under a *banner of unity!* But YOU don't wanna be a part.!

Instead, look for the power of God that changes lives in an alive *genuine church*, that's intensely on fire...& on their knees—repenting. They love the Bible & have a grateful heart! Pulpits filled with watchmen heralding oracles of God! Look for people **alive!** and mission minded! If holiness isn't preached, **get out!** Without it no man shall see God.⁸

Live a life where God hears & answers prayers, righteous thru His blood. You need to be daily praying your loved ones into the Kingdom...and out of Hell!!

I've written about our future in these newsletters, and told you of Jesus describing the end as horrible—that's **horror** - things never seen or heard before!

I've told you about 600 FEMA camps in the U.S. (more worldwide) equipped & staffed! All of this IS going to happen! We're closer to the end than we imagine! Those FEMA camps may well be part of the coming tribulation (I hope It's not before! But-?)

Meantime, we're told to wake from our stupor and "watch"⁹ We can't know the day nor hour but... **we're told to watch the seasons!** Be doers of the word, not hearers only, (self-deception!) *deceiving yourselves!* ¹⁰

The Most Subtle Deception

I finally figured out what I want to be when I get older.
Younger.

Jesus Christ calls us out of darkness and into His marvelous light and then sends us back into the darkness to shine!

Never lose a chance of saying a kind word. *Thackery*

But evil men and imposters will advance to worse, deceiving and being deceived. 2 Tim 3:13

There are aspects of deception that are hidden from us. People who are deceived don't know they're deceived...because they're deceived! Don't confuse tolerance & diversity with LOVE!

The fact is, we don't know our own hearts.¹¹ That fact is revealed when Jesus said to Peter "Get behind me Satan, for you are on the side of man & not of God."¹² Clearly, Peter didn't know his own heart. But Jesus did! I take comfort in that, that I don't have to know my heart. I place my trust in Him to keep me pure thru daily prayer & confession.

And I listen to my mouth! For "out of the abundance of the heart, the *mouth* speaks."¹³ Those who do counseling, know this tool. Just listen and learn a lot.

People who are deceived don't realize that fact, they mistakenly think they're right. That makes them dangerous, or a heretic.

I've maintained for some time, that to be deceived, there has to be something – weakness, or pride - inside us that **wants to entertain it!** And the most subtle kind of deception is self-deception!

The era we live in makes us particularly susceptible to deception. Why? Jesus warned us about it. When He and the disciples exited Jerusalem to go to the Garden of Gethsemane, they asked Him, how they would know when these endtime events would occur. *He didn't answer them!*

Jesus gave them **one** big sign! He warned, "Take care that no man deceive you!"¹⁴ He thus warned them that the

Greatest sign of endtimes would be deception that prevailed in the earth! Thus, we need to make it our business to recognize it when it comes our way! But there is no room for naivete here. If your theology is only Love without Truth, you'll be swept away with deception.

Jesus told us not to even THINK He came to bring peace...No, rather a sword!¹⁵ The sword of the Spirit is Truth that divides light from darkness..¹⁶

Never in the history of the church has there ever been so many 'brands' of deception. A great falling away has come.

Scripture says simple and ignorant people are most easily deceived, often by flattery.¹⁷ Don't be them! "I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin."¹⁸



- References: 1) Luke 2:9
 2) Luke 2:17 3) Rom.5:6
 4) John 1:1-3 5) Col 1:19
 6) 2 Cor. 5:19 7) Heb 1:3
 8) Heb 12:14 9) I Cor 15:34
 10) James 1:22 11) Jer 17:9
 12) Matt 16:23 13) Luke 6:45
 14) Matt.24:4 15) Matt 10:34
 16) Ephes.6:27 17) Rom 16:18
 18) Ps 119:11 19) Phil.3:1-3

Grant these men wisdom God,



that they may lead this great nation.

Dealing With Betrayal

Dear Agatha: I used to go to Promisekeepers, but after a divorce, I grew cold to God. I've recently found a nice church & there's a men's group that looks appealing. But I'm leery- a man whom I thought was godly stole my wife from me, a 'friend.' How do I trust again...? **Ed**

Dear Ed: Wow. That's a tough trial, Ed. Betrayal by your wife-then the church too. But you can do it.... if you put your eyes solely upon God.

Scripture tells us not to put any confidence in the flesh. That's **ours, & others** too.¹⁹ Why? Flesh will fail us. Jesus never will. So trust Him to send you friends...He's better at it! The Holy Spirit will lead you if you look to Him. He's our Helper and our Advocate Who comes alongside us.

Begin by teaching your children, since it's up to you now, to set their hope in God. You want to be a Rock of stability to them—since they've experienced such upheaval in their home. Help them too to see God as good and loving, like you...

You can find great comfort in scripture. The Holy Spirit is even called the Comforter. Look for like-minded people & attend Bible Study with them. It builds fellowship. But also read a devotional every morning. It gets your daily life off on the right foot .

I learned this truth myself, as the world had made me a total cynic. Yet God has made me rich in friends... people I would never select. He sends them to me!

Remember that Judas betrayed Jesus, so you are in good company! Jesus knows & is touched by the betrayal you felt.²¹ But He also has the capacity to heal those hurts & hardness of heart, (that's behind every divorce) if you release them to Him in an open palm. Do it as often as necessary, until Jesus heals your broken heart.

As you are rearing your children, remember who you are! They don't need a friend – they have friends. A parent's role is to **guide** their children. Read Deuteronomy 6 where it tells parents to teach their children as they rise up, lie down, & walk in the path .It means not a lecture, but as you do things together!

