

The Boys Bugle

Calling all young men to the service of Christ

Vol. 5, Number 1

Spring 2005

“Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean.” Ezekiel 36:25



Baptism — A symbol of God having cleansed your heart.

Welcome to The Boys Bugle

This issues theme "Cleanliness"

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156 Newton Rd.
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

The Planned Theme for the

Next Issue.

Dress

Thoughts to ponder and write about:

What is the purpose of clothes?

In what ways do our clothes affect those around us?

How does dressing like God wants you to dress effect your life?

How are we to determine what is appropriate to wear?

Does your clothes accurately indicate who you are, what you work, and who your God is?

What about woman's head veiling, men's hats, wedding rings, earrings, and makeup?

Scriptures to ponder:

1 Corinthians 11:1-16; 1 Peter 3:1-5;
1 Timothy 2:9-10.

Also I need:

Someone to volunteer to write for the Calling of: page for the next issue. Contact us for details.

Good article(s) on how and why to garden and farm without using poisons.

Please send us your contribution before April 31 to get it here in time for the next issue. Thank-you.



Editor's Desk



Dear Readers,

A few weeks ago I got the privilege to do something very relaxing and easy. There was a big pile of dirt and rocks in my brother Luray's greenhouse. Luray and I spent some time building a stone-wall to support a bench and piling the extra dirt behind the wall. In the process, we used all the dirt and rocks up and made the greenhouse useful. It was very hard work. What was so relaxing and easy about shoveling dirt and stacking rocks? First, it was very easy for my mind. I did not have to stall my brain trying to figure out how to do it, (like designing a piece of equipment). Nor did it take constant alertness, (like driving a car.) Second, while the work was very hard, it was an easy, steady pace. I did not have to work harder than I could, (like walking through deep snow with big cover-alls on, carrying a chainsaw and trimming brush). Nor was it tiring, (like standing at an auction). And at the end of the day, I slept very soundly. Third, it was safe work. There was very little chance of getting hurt. Fourth, it was good for my soul/spirit. I had all day to relax and think. So the next time you have to go out and just work, enjoy it, and realize how blessed you are.

This winter and spring, Daniel, Luray, and I are working at build-

ing a bed produce cultivator. This cultivator should be able to cultivate a five-foot wide bed of produce in one pass. With this bed system, we should be able to cultivate almost anything; corn, potatoes, tomatoes, squash, carrots, onions, beans, etc. The hydraulic drive system on this cultivator is very similar to a medium sized skid loader, except with a few more auxiliary hydraulic controls. We're making it so we have quick-attach for various implements. That way we can quickly switch from cultivating the corn, to cultivating the carrots. I hope that this machine is a big success.

When I picked the topic of "Cleanliness," I expected it to give a thin magazine. However, thanks to your support, this issue is thick.

We did not receive the continuation of John Boskovic's article. Maybe it will be in the next issue.

In His Service,

Melvin Martin

When life seems dark and hopeless and you can not see the way, turn to God and he will light your path and guide you in the way you should go.

Unstained
Obscene
Defiled
Immoral
Moral
Sterile
Filthy
Spotless
Bath
Spoiled
Clean
Neat

Polluted Stained Grime Dirty Messy Tainted

Contaminated
Immaculate
Disinfect
Corrupt
Pure
Soiled
Clutter
Scrub
Foul
Guilty
Wash

Clean

Daniel and Mendy Martin

There is an old saying that “Cleanliness is next to Godliness.” What caused the old time people to say this? Why do we have so many words in the English language to tell about the presence or absence of this state of being? Being clean usually takes a lot of work to obtain. Is it worth the effort?

Cleanliness affects many areas of life. These areas range from insignificant to life threatening. First I wish to explore the physical side and then we will look at the emotional/spiritual aspects. Mixed into this, I will share some ideas on how to obtain cleanliness.

On the physical side we think of bodily hygiene. We take baths and brush our teeth. A lot of effort goes into washing clothing and putting them away so we can find them when we need something fresh to wear. Most families also spend a fair amount of work washing dishes, sweeping the floor, and picking up clutter and trash in and around our living quarters. It is said that

you can test the importance of something by what happens if it is left undone. Leave all aspects of cleaning undone in a house and things get very unpleasant, almost unlivable, quickly.

We also care a great deal about how sanitary our food supply is. Love says if you are involved in the production or preparation of food, keep it clean. There are also a lot of laws addressing this subject, most of which have some common sense behind them.

Part of the definition of cleanliness has to do with being free of that which does not belong. This is not always the same as sterile and bare. When we think of cleanliness in the workplace, this can really stand out. Things are not dirt or clutter when they are at a spot for a purpose as the work is in progress. But after the work is finished we need to clean up. When I bake bread I pull a big clean bowl from the cabinet. As I mix the dough it clings to the side of the bowl. This bowl and the dough in it are clean. Then I put the dough

Scrubbed Innocent Tarnished Hygiene Sanitary

Spring 2005

The Boys Bugle

in the pan. Presto, the bowl has to be washed before I put it away as it is dirty. The workman should not consider his work finished until he has put things away, and washed or swept the work area and equipment as required. The orderly workman has a much more pleasant life.

I am amazed when I see the way nature cleans up after itself. Decay processes constantly recycle nutrients. God sends rainstorms that wash smoke and dust out of the air. The sunshine is a very effective disinfectant. Oxygen purifies water as it splashes down over the rocks in the streams and rivers. This all speaks to me in yet another way, that God is a God of order. In the beginning God created Adam in his own image and told him to dress and keep the earth. Cleanliness and orderliness are part of our duty as we live in God's earth.

The psalmist begs God to, **“create in me a clean heart...”** (Psalm 51). David had transgressed God's righteousness and sinned sorely against his fellow humans. David was very dirty, tarnished and marred by this wickedness. This brings us to another very important part of cleaning. Our soul and spirit, along with our emotions are made dirty by our sin. Also we get dirty and marred by the care and filth of this world. This is an urgent, life-threatening situation. As the song asks “Are you washed in the blood?”

We need to have a clean heart and thought life. I want to draw our attention to several areas that this encompasses. As a starting point we need to learn to think on things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, and virtuous. (Philippians 4:8) What do you think about as you go through your years on this earth? Do you meditate on the wonders of GOD'S goodness? Or is your heart full of smut?

If you have angry, hateful, or bitter thought patterns in your heart and thought life, it is time to get on with some house cleaning. When we are angry or bitter, we tend to focus on other people and their actions. In Christ we can be free even if someone has sinned against us. We can have hate and bitterness purged from our lives by realizing that God takes care of punishing sin—it is not our job to keep everyone straight or to carry out vengeance. We can be aware that wrong has been done—that things are dirty—and speak up about it if it is appropriate. The man that knows how to do something about wickedness around him and yet relax and forgive is free—glory hallelujah.

I have heard of parents washing their children's mouths out with soap if they used dirty language. Soap is a good cleaner, however, I question if soap can remove this kind of filth. The best cure I know of for a dirty mouth is

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to clean up the heart. God says that we will give an account for every idle word that we speak in the judgment day. (Matthew 12:34-37)

Your conscience bothering you when you have done wrong is another example of God wanting things to be clean. The conscience is a big blessing that has been given to us to aid us in living pure, Godly lives. Repentance, confession, and restitution are all tools that need to be used to clean up after sin. Humility as you carry these steps out is so important.


You cannot be clean until you know what it means to be honest in all areas of life, including business. Many reputations and lives have been soiled in the pursuit of mammon. To lose your soul's life and purity for a little money is horribly foolish. I pray that we would always remember that cleanness of our souls is worth more than all the kingdoms of this world.

You are almost sure to get contaminated if you get involved in fighting. We can fight with guns or our mouths. You have crossed into dangerous territory any time you wish to carry out vengeance. There is a better way, a clean way; it is to love your enemies, to bless those that curse you, etc. See Matthew chapter 5-6.

To love the Lord with all your heart, soul, and mind is the only way to go if you would be clean in your soul and if you wish

to spend forever with God in heaven. Or as the song asks, are you washed in the blood...?

I have a final question. What is not getting done while you are cleaning? What trauma is being created? It is good, if you are mama or a daddy and you are cleaning the house and washing clothes. But do not forget that things like love and romance, children and a moment to smell the flowers matters so much more than a little mess and clutter. If a smudge is left on the wall and you yell and scold at a child, and a little heart is left bleeding, wounded and open to infection while you hurry on to clean some more; you risk losing all that is important—all that really matters any way. In the parable of the wheat and tares (Matthew 13:24-30) Jesus considered the trauma that would have been created by rooting out the tares. Sometimes cleaning is not the best thing to do at a given time and place.

It is possible that God would be delighted if you would give that dirty drunkard a hug and a place to take a bath in your clean tub. Serving can leave you covered with sweat, mud, blood, and grease. You will be happier in this dirty service than any where else, as God has cut us out to worship and love Him as we serve others. This is true cleanness. The rest will wash away. 

Young People of the Bible

A Series of Bible Character Stories that teach a lesson.

Jesus at Age Twelve

Perfect Spiritual Development

We hesitate to include our Lord Jesus in this book because He is God as well as man and is therefore infinitely higher than any mere human. However, His life is to be our example (1 Peter 2:21) and perhaps a few thoughts on the Lord Jesus as a young Person may be helpful to young (and older) readers.

Even before the age of twelve the Lord Jesus **“waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom”** (Luke 2:40). Too often our spiritual development or the spiritual development of our children is allowed to lag behind physical, mental, and social development. God made us to be primarily spiritual beings, since it is by the spirit that we can know God. The Lord Jesus was developing His spirit in those years.

At twelve years of age boys were allowed to take part in the religious ceremonies of Israel, so the Lord Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover. When His parents left for Nazareth, He remained behind in the temple. The thoroughness of His spiritual development is seen in the reaction of the doctors: **“All that heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers”** (Luke 2:47). Now we know He was God and so had knowledge we can never have; yet is this not a lesson to us to be diligent in the

study of God’s Word while we are young?

Perhaps the most instructive part of this chapter is in verses 51 and 52: **“And He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them ... and Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.”** If the Creator of the universe was subject to His earthly parents, should not we be subject to ours? They certainly did not understand Him, but He obeyed them anyway. The Lord Jesus continued to grow (verse 52) and gave no cause for complaint to anyone. Let us imitate Him as much as possible.

Some may have wondered why the Lord Jesus stayed behind in the temple without telling His parents. Here is where we cannot follow Him, for as God He could give His earthly parents spiritual instruction, whereas it might be most inappropriate for us to do so. We can be assured that what He did was God’s will for Him at that moment. Perhaps God directed the Lord Jesus to do this in order to stir up Mary and Joseph. From their actions and response (verses 48, 50) we see that they had forgotten, at least in part, the true identity of their Son. They had grown accustomed to treating Him like an ordi-

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The Calling of:

Joshua Bauman

Joshua was born August 2nd, 1923. His parents were Mose and Lovina Bauman from Ontario, Canada. He was second oldest of seven children. They had hard times as many others also did during the depression. So he had to leave his home early and go stay with a younger couple and work for his keep (board), causing some struggles in life.

During the time of the second world war, he was one of the boys who had to go to Montreal River Camp, which was 80 miles north of Sault Ste Marie, to serve in helping build a road, for probably close to four months. They traveled from Sault Ste Marie to Montreal River Camp by night in the back of a cattle truck in December. When they came back from Camp, they still had to work where the Selective Service placed them.

While the boys were at camp, they had beans to eat three times a day. But Joshua liked beans and never got tired of them till the last year of his life here on earth, when he had to eat them without salt. Then he wanted no more beans.

On December 3rd, 1946 he married Magdalena Brubacher. They had 12 children: Cleon, Gordon, Vernon, Aaron, Anna, Erma, Lovina, Eva, Adina, Amos, Leslie, and Edna. They have 34 grandchildren, and four great-

grandchildren. The two youngest daughters are in Honduras, taking care of little children; they have four children at this present time.

Joshua and Magdalena did farming for a living while living in Ontario, Canada.

On Jan. 3rd, 1962, Joshua moved to Snyder County, Pennsylvania with his family. There he did farming and also started a little leather shop. Then around January 20th, 1965, Joshua moved to Tennessee with his family, where he and his sons cleared a lot of land, first with handsaw and then with chain saw. As they got land cleared, they did farming. He also built a small shop where he started leatherwork, with his sons. His sons also worked for Cooper&Sisco snaking logs and working at the sawmill. When the younger boys grew up, they also worked with Joshua in the leather shop.

Joshua liked to read and study the Bible. In his studies he came to see that Christ returned at the destruction of Jerusalem, at 70 A.D. and found that others that studied the Bible came to see the same.

On Dec. 3rd of 1996, Joshua and Magdalena celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They spent 58 years together.

In the year 2000 he had car-

penters build, and he himself helped all he could, with building a retirement home. There he had his leather shop in the garage. He enjoyed working in there where it was warm, and where he could step in from the kitchen out into his leather shop. The last year or two, he had sort of a high chair with little wheels, so he could move around where he wanted to go, as he was not able to stand and walk so much anymore.

He would often discuss scriptures with people who came to the shop to get work done.

In the fall of 2003, he had become very sick and was sick for four months. To the Doctors amazement he became well enough again to work in his leather shop.

The last evening we had together, January 6th, 2005, he wanted to go visit a couple in the community.

They were discussing the Bible. The last scripture verses that he read out loud is found in Acts

13:37 “But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption. 38 Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins. 39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the Law of Moses.”

He looked up another scripture but never read it aloud. Very soon after that, he passed away with an open Bible in his lap, at the age of 81 years and five months. I think this was how he wanted to go.

He shall not return to us, but we can go to him. And let it be our desire to meet our Savior, as Joshua read just before he passed away, the one through whom we can have forgiveness of sins, and meet our loved ones there, too.

Magdalena Bauman
Monterey, Tennessee

(Continued from page 7)

nary child. For their own spiritual benefit they needed to see Him as He really was. (Throughout the life of Christ and up to the present day, Satan has been very active in trying to convince people that Jesus was just an ordinary man. Only when we believe that He was God manifest in flesh is there any hope of salvation.) Everything the Lord Jesus said or did was according to the will

of God and was directed toward the glory of the Father and the physical or spiritual welfare of some person. May this be the motivation for all of our actions.

By M. K. Canner
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Questions and Answers

Question from last issue:

Is cleanliness next to godliness?

Answer #1:

I believe the “next to” in this old saying means “second in rank to,” or “a stepping-stone to” godliness. I also believe that godliness itself is a practical matter as well as a spiritual one. Therefore it stands to reason that there will be practical, or physical, stepping stones in the path to godliness.

In the Bible, “clean” and “unclean” were often used to refer to spiritual and moral matters:

1. The land was polluted or made unclean by the erection and worship of idols on the hilltops and other prominent places.

2. The people were defiled and made unclean by immoral conduct and carnal habits.

3. The murderer’s hands were defiled with the guilt of blood, no matter how much water he had used to wash them. King David prayed for “a clean heart.”

4. The apostate in Israel were urged by God through the prophet Isaiah to wash themselves from their sins; that, though they were as red as crimson, God could make them white as snow.

5. The New Testament goes on to speak of Christians being washed from guilt and sin by the blood of Jesus, of which baptism is to be a symbol.

Such references to “clean” and “unclean” refer not to soil or germs, but to an inner matter of the heart and soul.

However, Paul in his epistle to the Corinthians (chapter 6) admonishes the readers about their physical bodies be-

ing a temple for God’s holy Spirit, and that as such they must avoid destroying or defiling their bodies with unhealthful practices. These would include immorality, intemperance, excesses, or neglects (such as neglect to wash, to brush teeth, to keep food clean, keep animals restrained, garbage away from the house; sunshine and fresh air into the house to kill germs). Neatness and order are taught in the Bible. We think of God as being particular, and I believe that as His children we can and should reflect this. Our minds will more likely be in disarray and our tempers at loose ends if everything in our rooms upon which the eyes rest is that way. So, for safety, (ours and others), for health, and for a positive disposition which is necessary to godliness, we need to have a place for everything, to wash and sweep often, as well as keeping our thoughts, speech, reading, associations and conduct morally clean. Then, yes, in every way cleanliness is next to godliness.

Some references:

1. Isaiah 24:5; Jeremiah 3:1;

2. Hosea 5:3, 4;

3. 2 Kings 24:4; 2 Samuel 3:29;

Isaiah 1:15;

4. Psalm 51:10;

5. Isaiah 1:16-20;

6. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11;

7. 1 Corinthians 3:16-17, 6:18-20.

By a Sister,

Jamie L. Whitaker

Defuniak Springs, FL.

Wash Me – Baptize Me

When we think of baptism, we should be thinking of the cleansing that takes place in the soul of the person being baptized.

The Psalmist writes, **“Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.”** (Psalms 51:7). Often in ceremonial cleansings, a bunch of hyssop would be dipped in water or blood, and sprinkled on whatever was cleansed. The writer of the book of Hebrews tells us that almost all things are purged (cleansed) with blood; and without the shedding of blood is no remission (taking away) of sin. Hebrews 9:18-28 also tells us that Jesus died at the end of the world (age; that is the old covenant age) for our sins, so that we could have life with God. Yes, his blood cleanseth us from all unrighteousness, (1 John 1:9). This is the message of the gospel (good tidings) of the New Covenant.

The story is told of the Apostle Paul meeting up with Jesus before he was a Christian. When he or anyone else, including you, meets Jesus, there is a realization that you need to do something. Paul asked, “What shall I do?” In the course of events he was told to go and be baptized, and wash away his sins, calling on the name of Lord, (Acts 22:16). What is meant by, “To be baptized and to wash away you sins?” Surely water cannot wash away sins. As I said before, it is the blood of Jesus that cleanses us, but how that is accomplished in each one of us is by, repenting of our sins, and believing

on Jesus and his words, (Acts 2:38). The book of Titus tells us that it is the kindness and love of God our Saviour and it is not our right works that save us. It is the washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost that cleanses us, (Titus 3:5).

The definition for the Greek word “baptizo” which has been transliterated into English as “baptize” is: whatever is capable of thoroughly changing the character, state, or condition of any object, is capable of baptizing that object, and by such change of character, state or condition does, in fact, baptize it.

So then each one of us must have a changed character in order to be truly baptized. Acts 2 tells us how, when the Holy Spirit baptized the disciples of Jesus, they were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the wonderful works of God. We can also notice how they then lived clean lives. Peter, one of these disciples, later wrote saying that baptism saves us, not by the putting away of the filth of the flesh (sins), but by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

There are many scriptures that explain about baptisms and being made clean and holy, so that we can have an abundant life. Please take the time out of your schedule to read the Holy Bible. On Sunday morning, come to services to hear about this great clean life offered to you by Jesus the Son of God!

Sanctified by Jesus,
Luke M. Martin

The Children's Challenge

To Charity and Cheerfulness

Wild Ride Down Big Hill

One day we were hauling slab wood for the road that we were building across our swamp. We were putting slab wood down on the mud and roots in the swamp, and then dirt on top of the slab wood to make a platform to make it solid. We were getting the slab wood from a different part of the woods. Between where we were getting the slab wood and where we were building the road there was a big steep hill.

I was hauling with a team of horses and the one horse was partly green (untrained). Dad had just put a new neck yoke on the forecart. I had a little headache that day. Bob, (my brother-in-law's Dad), was getting sand back in our woods and was following me with his tractor as I was bringing a load in.

Just before I went down over the big hill I stopped and inspected the neck yolk and all the snaps and chains. As I went down over the hill, I made the horses slow down and they did a very good job holding back, including the green horse. About

half way down the hill, I heard a "snap" and the wagon lunged forward. Instantly I realized that the neck yolk had broke which meant no brakes, no steering and no control. I yelled "giddap" to the horses so that the wagon would not run over them. Instantly it seemed I was at the bottom of the hill.

Surprisingly, the green horse did not get scared and run off. On the way down, the corner of the wagon bounced off a tree, bending the frame. The little headache that I had was suddenly a throbbing headache and I was tired the rest of the day. I did some rigging with the tie rope and took the team and fore cart home. Bob took the wagon in with his tractor.

By the Lord's mercy, I'm still alive. I know that God has a purpose for my life.

Melvin Martin



From our Readers:



Dear Brethren and Sisters,

I really enjoyed your last magazine. The answers to the last question were all interesting, thought-provoking, and good studies. So great it is that Jesus had the power, by His death to destroy the devil and ransom the believing from the power of the grave. Things too wonderful to comprehend—things too good to believe, yet they are true! No, Jesus didn't have to die but He did: for us. Now it is our part to live as though we realize that we are His dearly purchased possession. Still, it is a difficult question; the Bible tells it all.

I also specially liked the page "Please

Him." How different a place the world would be if every Christian would remember, and hear God ask, "What are you doing here?"

I am going to try making malt for my sister to use in bread. I don't like sweet bread and it is hard not to make it taste sweet using honey. I did not know it was that easy to make; thank you for sharing that, Mrs. Martin. Also, I always like reading your letters.

God bless your work,

April Whitaker
Defuniak Springs, FL

Does a Gyroscope prove Geocentricity?

Dear Sirs,

I received a copy of "The Earth and the Sun their Motion and Location" (about Geocentricity versus Heliocentricity) by Jerry Sodeman. ...

A while ago, I and my brothers came up with an idea that would prove (we think) whether the earth is moving or not. That idea is the gyroscope.

The gyroscope will stay in the same position no matter how you tip or turn the outside. They use them on ships and airplanes.

So if the earth is spinning, if heliocentricity is correct, then a gyroscope should make a complete turn every day. Also, it should make a complete turn every year.

Now let's assume that the gyroscope stands still, indicating that the earth is standing still. For further proof, if you would take the gyroscope around

the earth, it should make a complete turn and be in the same position when you get home as when you left.

I think that this would really prove whether the earth is moving or not. Of course it is very possible that there are factors that I have not thought of that would throw this whole experiment off.

However, I do not have a gyroscope that will spin longer than a few minutes. To test it, it is necessary to have one that will spin at least one day. I have no way to make one. I don't know where I could get one. I don't know where I can get information on them. Do you know the answer to this? Or do you know where I could go to find out?

Hope to hear from you.

God be with you and bless you.

Melvin Martin

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(Continued from page 13)

Dear Mr. Martin,

I just received your letter of the twelfth with your proposal for a test for geocentricity. I appreciate the thought that went into it, and, indeed, there are some truly sensitive gyroscopic experiments currently under way in orbit that relate to this matter.

Your proposed experiment will work, but it works exactly the same whether the earth is moving and rotating or the universe does the rotating as it drifts by the earth in a yearly cycle. The problem lies with the word "motion." If nothing existed but one atom, could that atom move? How would we know? We can imagine it drifting by us, but then the atom is no longer alone; there are then two things present: the atom and the observer. I suppose we could imagine us only, and no atom. Are we moving? Are we rotating? How would we know? There is nothing we could grab to stop or start our rotation and there is nothing to stop or start any motion.

And therein lies the crux of the problem with the experiment. Motion is relative. The gyroscope points in a constant direction because of inertia, and inertia exists only because there is a starry universe out there. Without that, there is nothing to hold the gyroscope steady. But whether the earth rotates and the universe is fixed, or the universe rotates and the earth stays fixed, the inertia works the same way. This principle has a name; it is called "Mach's Principle."

The whole point with Scriptural geocentricity is that the third heaven, which lies beyond the edge of the starry heaven, a.k.a. the firmament, provides the observation point from which the observation can be made to resolve the true state in the above dilemma; it is

with respect to the throne of God that we can define an absolute space. But that throne lies beyond our space, so the only way we can determine the truth of the situation is to read what the God who sits on that throne has revealed to us in his Book. Physicists have a technical way of saying this, too. They say that the modern acentric model of the universe can be considered a proven fact only if we assume that the universe is "the smallest isolated system." This latter is their way of saying that there is nothing outside the universe capable of communicating with those things and beings inside it.

Now about the current experiment. In 1917 two German physicists, Thirring and Lense, used Einstein's gravitational equations to examine what the gravitational force looked like near the center of a rotating shell of matter. (Yes, it is a disguised geocentric model.) They discovered that the gravitational forces will look exactly as we observe. However, they also found hitherto unsuspected drag on orbiting satellites about the earth. Today the drag is called "the Lense-Thirring" effect. One team of researchers using the LAGEOS satellites has reported finding it to an accuracy of 70%. Another set of satellites, which received some popular press earlier this year because of their ultra-precise gyroscopes, has not been in orbit long enough to give any accurate result. If you look up the press releases you will find that they claim the effect is due to the rotation of the earth, but in fact the effect is due to the relative rotation of the universe and earth. Bear in mind that this effect was first predicted from a geocentric perspective, not from a heliocentric or acentric one. It shows that the geocentric or geostatic model is every bit as

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Proverbs

24:30-34

I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down. Then I saw, and considered

it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction. Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

How was Israel baptized?

“I would not that ye should be ignorant how that all our fathers were (baptized) under the cloud, and all-passed through the sea. And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea.” 1 Corinthians 10:1

Israel was baptized by sprinkling or by pouring water on them from the clouds. King David tells us how they were baptized. Psalms 77:17-20, “The clouds poured out water. The skies sent out a sound, thine arrows also went abroad. The voice of the thunder was in the heavens, the lightnings lightened the world: the earth trembled and shook. Thy way is in the sea and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known. Thou leddest thy people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.”

Israel was baptized by sprinkling—rain. The Egyptians were baptized by immersion, or not baptized.

History tells us the Red Sea was from 4 to 8 miles across. And that Pharaoh came after them with 200,000 footmen and 50,000 horsemen, and 600 chariots. And that when God made a path thru the Red Sea for Israel, it was not for Pharaoh and his army but Pharaoh used it anyway, and it cost him and

his great army their life.

God’s mode of baptism was, **“Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean.”** Ezekiel 36:25 But with the Egyptians, God used immersion.

Egypt was nearly cleaned out—emptied out. With all the first-born killed, and all who died in the plagues, and all Israel gone—who was left over after Pharaoh and his whole army was drowned?”

The history of Josephus tells us “showers of rain came down from the sky, and dreadful thunder and lightning with flashes of fire.”

“Pharaoh said who is the Lord that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go.” Exodus 5:2

Submitted by J. T. Wickey
Edited by The Boys Bugle

Cleanliness

Cleanliness is a rather complex subject. It has so many avenues that it's hard to choose which one I wanted to write on. So I decided I would briefly touch on three different subjects.

Hospitable Cleanliness

In the first part of Genesis 18, three men come to visit Abraham and as it is recorded he ran to meet them. The first thing he said after greeting them was, (verse 4) **“Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree.”**

Back then people wore sandals all the time, and since it was in sandy country you would get a good deal of sand on your feet. Now it is a rather well known thing that if you are feeling tired, that you should soak or wash your feet. So simple hospitality would be to give the visitors water to wash the grime and slim off their feet and they would feel refreshed. (Refer to Genesis 19:2 and Genesis 43:24).

Having them *'sit under the tree'* would be like you saying to your visitors now days, “Come on in and make yourself at home.” Also if your guests happened to have dirty hands, you would be willing to show them where they can wash. I know that it is hard to keep my mind on the conversation when my hands are dirty. So I like to make sure that if our guests have dirty hands or feet when they come in, they can wash their hands and wipe the dirt from their shoes.

And don't begrudge anyone hospitality. 1 Peter 4:9 **“Use hospitality one to another without grudging.”** You can be blessed in many different ways when you are willing to share what you have with others.

Healthily Clean

“Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases.” Psalm 103:2-3. God is the one who can heal our diseases and keeps us healthy. Remember how when Christ was on earth how he healed all the peoples' diseases? **“Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed;”** Jeremiah 17:14a. Jeremiah is stating how he would ask God to heal him from any disease or wound and God would. God sent out the 12 disciples as it says in Mark 3:15 **“And to have power to heal sicknesses and to cast out devils.”** God was sending his love and healing power to everyone that could be reached by his disciples. James 5:16 **“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”** Healing has to involve praying in my opinion. Because when you pray, aren't you asking the one who gives life and health to everyone to heal you of your disease? God doesn't heal everyone in the way that they ask though. I know several Christians who have diseases or illnesses that God has given them

to bear. That is their burden for the Lord. Being healthy doesn't mean that you won't get sick. But eating healthy foods, drinks, getting proper exercise, and not being in polluted places, plays a large part in your health.

Spiritually Clean

King David was a righteous king even when God called him **“the king after my own heart”** and yet he asked God in Psalms 51:7 **“Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.”** and on to verse 10, **“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.”** David knew that no matter what good deeds he did it wouldn't do him a bit of good because he hadn't been washed by God yet. When you asked God to save you, he immediately began to wash your heart with his blood.

Ephesians 5:1-4 states, **“Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour. But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.”** Paul is exhorting the brethren in Ephesus to conduct themselves as children of God, and leave off their ungodly work. He is telling them to be clean and not let the things of the world get into their con-

versation; **“but rather giving of thanks”** because, as 1 Thessalonians 4:7 says, **“For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.”** That is a powerful verse.

God said in John 15:3 and 4a, **“Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you.”** God is the only one that can make us holy and through his word which we believe, he has made us clean; if we abide with him he will keep us clean and holy. 2 Corinthians 7:1 **“Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.”** Remember what the ‘filthiness of the flesh’ is? Galatians 5:19-21 tells us, **“Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”** Notice that it lists ‘*uncleanness*’ as one of the works of the flesh. Only God can clean up your life. He gave his son to die on the tree so his blood that was shed would wash away our sins. God loves us so much and he wants us to be clean when we stand before the judgment seat. Ephesians 5:25b-27 **“Even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with**

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Hospitality

Hospitality has numerous aspects. Of course, the most obvious and most common recipients of this ministry are members of the family. God created the family unit to attend to the needs of the various related members (Isaiah 58:7; Esther 2:5-7; Psalms 68:6). Elderly, widowed or orphaned relatives should be taken into the home to be ministered to and cared for, if there is need, not sent to unscriptural institutions. What people need is the personal, loving, and practical care of a true home, not the “professional care” of an institution. Man has created a variety of institutions, such as mental “hospitals,” “orphanages,” day-care centers, old folks “homes,” and care centers for the disabled, which serve as substitutes for the home as a place of ministry. However, the home continues to be God’s care center.

Perhaps the most devastating blow to the home’s use as a care center is the working mother. God’s order for the wife/mother is that she be a “worker at home” (Titus 2:4-5; 1 Timothy 5:14). This does not preclude the possibility of part-time work outside of the home or some gainful labor in the home (see Proverbs 31:10-24), but it is simply not possible for a wife/mother to properly attend to her domestic responsibilities while working full-time outside of the home. As Christians, we need to concern ourselves more with observing God’s order than with our standard of living or developing some natural capacity. Recognition from people should never play any part in motivating or directing our activities.

I will now go on to the matter of extra-family hospitality — hospitality shown

to individuals who are outside of one’s own physical family; that is, those who are not blood relatives or related by marriage. One form of extra-family hospitality is hosting a church (Romans 16:23). It seems that in the New Testament the homes of disciples were the primary places of fellowship for churches (Romans 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:19; Colossians 4:15; Philemon 2; Acts 1:12-14; 12:12; 20:7-8; 28:30-31). Obviously, this involves the showing of hospitality on the part of the host.

Through the ministry of hospitality the home becomes a place for religious/spiritual functions, activities and experiences such as: teaching the Word (Acts 5:42; 20:20); corporate prayer (Acts 1:12-14; 12:5 and 12); corporate meals (Acts 2:46; 20:7-8, 11; Jude 12); the Lord’s Supper (Matthew 26:18, 26-28); foot washing (Luke 7:36-38, 44; John 13:4-15); and receiving the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:2-4; 10:22, 25, 44-46; 11:12). In addition, the home provides a place for such things as: singing (Matthew 26:17-20, 30; Mark 14:26); ministering to the sick (Acts 9:11-12, 17-18; James 5:14-15; Matthew 25:34-40); deliverance from evil spirits (Matthew 8:14-16; Mark 1:29, 32-34); raising the dead (Matthew 9:23, 25; Acts 9:36-41); material giving (Matthew 2:11); and manifestations of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 17:25-27; 1 Kings 13:20-22; Luke 1:39-45; Acts 21:8-11). The home also provides a facility for ministering to God in such ways as singing to Him (Matthew 26:17-20, 30; Mark 14:26); worshiping Him (Matthew 2:11); and glorifying Him (Mark 2:1, 12; Luke 5:19, 25-26). Of course, if these things are to transpire in homes, it is necessary that

someone extend hospitality.

Hospitality can be either long-term or short-term. Long-term or extended hospitality involves such things as providing a home for widows, orphans, the poor and/or cast out, and the solitary (Psalms 68:6 NASB & Amp.; Isaiah 58:7 Amp.; John 19:26-27). Let us note that the disciple whom Jesus loved took Mary, the mother of Jesus, into his own household (John 19:26-27).

Short-term or limited hospitality can involve less extensive ministry, such as a single meal or lodging for a brief period of time, to: widows, orphans, the poor, those cast out, and the solitary; those with physical handicaps (Luke 14:12-14); or any other needy individuals (Galatians 6:10; Matthew 10:42). Either long-term (extended) or short-term (limited) hospitality could be involved in such matters as hosting visiting apostles (Matthew 10:40-42; Acts 10:5-6; 10:48; 16:14-15; 3 John 5-8 KJV), visiting prophets (Matthew

10:41-42; Acts 21:10), and strangers (Hebrews 13:2; 1 Timothy 5:9-10).

That God places value on hospitality is indicated by the fact that showing hospitality is a qualification for a widow to be supported by the church (1 Timothy 5:9-10), and for a brother to serve as an overseer (elder) (1 Timothy 3:2). The Lord's esteem for hospitality is also evident from Matthew 10:41-42. Here we are told that those who extend hospitality to prophets will receive the same rewards as the prophets themselves. Even the giving of a cup of water will be noted and rewarded by God. With these things in mind, let us be diligent and zealous to extend hospitality as willing hosts in the kingdom of God. Who Knows? Our next guests may be angels (Hebrews 13:2).

Jerry Sodeman
St. Paul, MN

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the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that is should be holy and without blemish.” God wants us to be without blemish when we stand before him as his church. How can we do that? How can we keep our hearts clean and pure from the filthiness of the world? Only God knows and he has given his word for us to know. He gave us his guide book, the Bible, so that we may find how we are to live our lives. Thank the Lord that we

have a map that tells us how to get to heaven.

Hannah Holter lives in SK. Canada with her parents (Kirk and Heidi) and her 8 (soon to be 9) siblings. She enjoys horses, cows, reading, writing, crocheting, playing and listening to music, and is a follower of the Lord.

Washing Hands

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might.” Ecclesiastes 9:10

Almost every activity in which we engage involves the use of our hands; so it is reasonable to assume that they deserve our special care and attention. Because the hands willingly perform unnumbered tasks and are not afraid to come in contact with a wide range of substances, it becomes advisable to wash them many times every day. When Jesus pronounced ceremonial washing before mealtime unnecessary (Matthew 15:11) he did not condemn cleanly habits, he warned that the washing of the hands can not render the heart cleansed. Pilate attempted, by washing his hands, to release his soul from the guilt of sentencing a perfectly innocent man to crucifixion, (Matthew 27:24), but to no avail—and, no wonder, for only the blood of that just Man could wash the heart and make it clean. The real purpose for the external washing of our hands is to preserve the well being and health of our families, and therefore is a Christian duty to the practical extent of every man’s varied understanding and ability.

Rules have their place, but observation is often the most efficient instructor. Notice whether the things you’re handling are clean or not and remember when you’re done to act accordingly. Try washing your hands in the same manner, and for the same length of time as

you normally would, after currying a horse or setting out strawberry plants, then take a look at your hands: mine usually need more washing on the outside edge of the palm, the back of the fingers from the second knuckle to the end, and sometimes the wrist. Use the two hands God gave you to advantage and get them clean every time. If you think about it, a dirty hand turns on the water, a clean hand must turn it off; cup one hand under the running water as you turn it off then you can rinse the other hand with that water. If you do this enough times, it becomes second-nature and does not seem inconvenient. For children with small hands, provide a small pail in an easy-to-reach place for them to rinse in and refresh it every day. If you notice your mother moving clean things from around the sink when she sees you come in, you may conclude that the kitchen sink is reserved for a last rinse and you should wash up at a common sink.

Modern culture sometimes confuses our thinking, allowing us, for example, to cuddle our pets while we rather keep our hands out of garden soil; we look at mechanics and can’t wait for them to get cleaned up, but don’t think the same of chemical make-ups. Animals, cats and dogs especially, have germ-spreading habits by nature—be nice

to them, give them a good patting, but remember to wash your hands afterward. Garden soil, as long as it is not receiving runoff from a nearby sanitation system and has not real recently been fertilized with animal manure, is safe to work with your hands and even to wash off in the kitchen sink. God made many kinds of micro-organisms that live in the soil and they convert wasting matter into good, clean soil, so that we can safely grow our food in it. Shop work—gasoline, diesel fuel, and hydraulic fluid, as well as grease, tar and paints that need to be removed with chemical solvents, often leave their odor on your hands for hours which can be both annoying and unhealthful because the chemicals continue to absorb into the skin. I like to wash up with soap then get a handful of clay soil and rub it around in my hands a while—that seems to get the residues off.

Think about what you've been doing—shoes and vehicle tires go everywhere; money, mail, and doorknobs are handled by everyone. Animals almost never get a soapy

bath, floors get walked over and over, and, of course, Mother said wash after using the bathroom. Make sure your hands are clean before preparing or eating a meal, hanging out, bringing in, or folding clean clothes, harvesting garden vegetables or, especially tender fruits, grabbing up a baby or wiping your own face, or (if you know you'll be) shaking someone else's hand.

Each family differs; the rules, customs and habits need not be identical. A regard for cleanliness and care for the little things is what matters most. Some argue over anti-bacterial soap or regular soap, I rather address the fact that most of us probably need to wash our hands more thoroughly and more often. Washing the hands is certainly not all there is to cleanliness, but it is often the first step without which other steps may as well not be taken. We wash our hands, we pray to God to wash our hearts.

April Whitaker
Defuniak Springs, FL

(Continued from page 14)

viable as the modern acentric model

Thanks again for your efforts. I encourage you and your brother to keep learning; you may yet discover the secret of Psalm 104:19, "He appointed the moon to her seasons: the **sun knoweth his going down.**" (Most modern versions change this to the sci-

entifically nonsensical "knows when to go down," which only makes sense for a flat earth.)

Sincerely,
Gerardus D. Bouw
The Biblical Astronomer
Cleveland, Ohio

Statement of Purpose and Printing Guidelines

Our goal is to print things that will encourage you to search deeper into the things of God, understand better what God wants of you, and how to live life in a better and fuller way. Included in that is to love God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself. Also our goal is to encourage you to show your love by doing what's right. We try to promote only what is in agreement with the Bible.

We reserve the right to not print anything that we receive. We do not print fiction, things that blaspheme God and what he has done for us, things that mock, scorn, and condemn. Arguments are not to be a debate trying just to prove the other person wrong, but rather they are to be pointing others closer to God.


Disagreements are not bad as long as we practice "the faith that works by love," and have respect for what others believe. Disagreements can be good if they make us think and dig deeper into the things of God. It's important that we listen to the views of

other people and think about why we do or don't uphold those views ourselves.

We welcome discussions, questions and answers, etc, that stimulate us to think. We want to hear what you learned from God in the spiritual and physical realms in the way of encouraging and pointing others to God.

The views expressed in the "Calling of:" page, the question and answers page, and the letterbox, are not necessarily the views that we hold to. The main points expressed on the other pages are the views we hold to, but there may be small details on those pages that we would not embrace.


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Magazine News

Some people around here thought that to ask our readers to respond every year is too often. Therefore, we have now decided to ask people to respond every 4 years instead of once a year.

However, that does not mean that we don't want you to respond as often as you were. We still need your support just as much as we did before. Thank-you for the support that you have given us in the past.

Because we expect a steady or growing mailing list, we have decided to go with bulk mailing. The bulk mailing rules require us to always send out more than 200 pieces of the same weight and size at a time. Also we can send up to 3.3 oz. at a time without extra postage. The postage rate varies depending on many small details. 

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**“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell
together in unity!” Psalm 133**

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American Idols


Inversion of Psalms 23

The wisdom of science is my Shepherd. I shall not want any diseases. It maketh me to lie down in the hospital. My body organs it cutteth out and casteth away. My days shall be cut in half.

It leadeth me in the valley of chemical science, Yea, though I walk the fields sprayed with chemical poisons, in the shadow of increased disease and death.

I shall eat drugs to restore my soul.

It anointeth my head with knowledge of genetically engineering. My cup runneth over with aspartame sweetened soft drinks, and leadeth me in the path of death.

Thou preparest a table before me of irradiated, chemicalized, GMO foods, and I shall not lack any diseases in body and soul. Yea, I shall be its addict all the days of my life. Yea, though our children are all taught the idol of humanism—evolution science in public schools; Surely we shall not lack for crimes all the days of our life. And we shall dwell in the house of the devil forever. 

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There is a generation
that is pure in their
own eyes, and yet is
not washed from their
filthiness. Proverbs 30:12