



Times Remembered Betty A. Young

January usually presents itself with snowy days of cold temperatures but also with quiet beauty. There is something electric in a January snowfall, even when the laziest, over weight, Golden retriever will gather enough energy to amble to edge of the deck and gaze longingly at the gentle drifting, swirling snowflakes. With a little encouragement she will trot briskly around the yard as though there are quail to be flushed and game to be retrieved. In January I put out bird seed and check our supply of fire wood and propane. I think about all the body warming soups I can make;

January -- Snowy Days & Quiet Beauty

maybe chili or vegetable soup or perhaps cheesy potato soup. These are the biggest decisions I care to make on a snowy day. I mostly want to read or day-dream and reflect.

January can be a good time to clean cabinets and closets. Bob and Tara gave me clothes for Christmas and a sewing machine; maybe I can start working on those quilt pieces I've had in the chest for several years. I've got big plans for sewing although I'm just a novice. I am planning to make some curtains for the kitchen.

I know if I really try I could find a hobby or a pleasurable pursuit. It could be something simple such as organizing photos in albums or knitting, quilting or humming. Maybe I could just stare into the fire and dream away with never a worry about time or things.

If the weather is too bad to go shopping, antiquing and too cold for yard sales; what's a girl to do? (I know..... I could plan a vacation to the beach). My Dad always said my middle

name was "go."

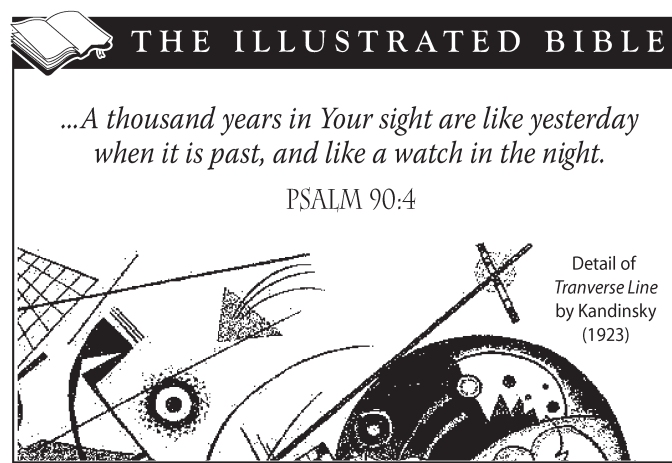
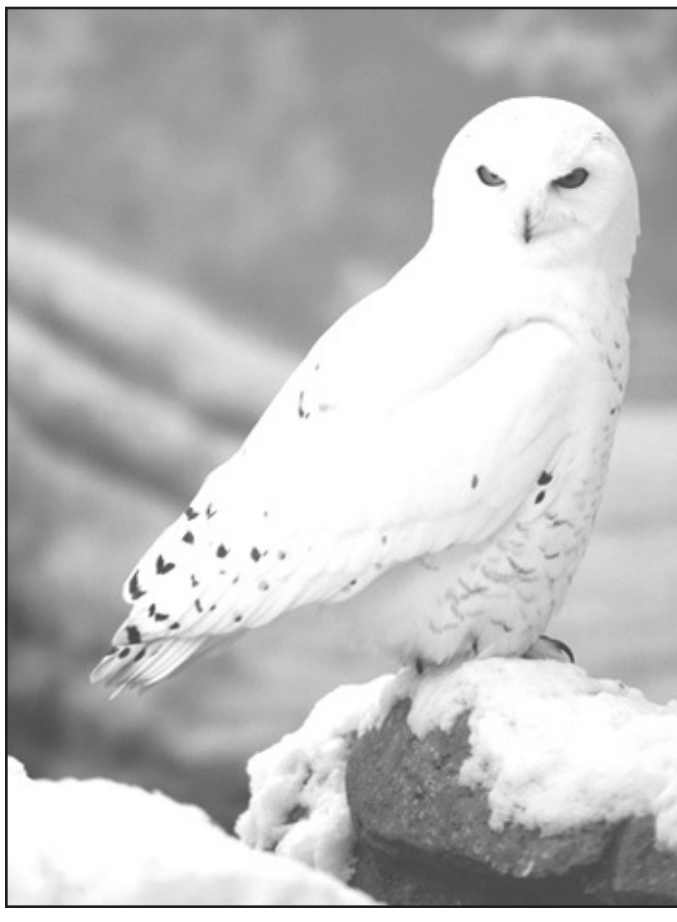
Usually when I go shopping I spend too much money. I plan to go to Wal-Mart for a couple of items and come home having spent \$75.00 to \$100.00. I can always find something on sale that I might need or something good to eat I had not planned on buying.

I seem to always have the same New Year's resolutions every year; lose weight, exercise my body

and brain, and save more money.

Although I get cabin fever during the month of January on a cold snowy day, try to remember it is good to realize that there is beauty and pleasure in our daily lives whether it is cleaning closets, cooking, doing laundry, reading or just feeding the birds.

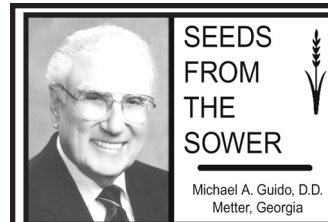
Whatever you do in January have a Happy New Year!



PSALM 90:4

Detail of Transverse Line by Kandinsky (1923)

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SEEDS FROM THE SOWER

Some individuals teach and preach a "Dalmatian Theology." They believe that the Word of God is only inspired in certain "spots."

How dangerous. If we pick and choose what we like and pick and choose what we do not like, it is not God's Word that we believe, but what we want to believe about God's Word.

Paul wrote that "All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and

to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right."

To pick and choose what we think is right or wrong in the Bible would leave gaps in the Gospel and leave out steps in salvation. It would be living on my terms and not God's terms. While this may be comfortable and convenient, it is not God honoring or Christ exalting. It would not lead me into God's likeness, but into my selfishness. It would be doing what I want to do, not what God expects me to do.

5497 - January 1, 2014 Visit us at: SowerMinistries.org

What Have You Left Behind?

by BOB CASEY, Preacher
Church of Christ, 262 Broadway, Irvine, KY

By the time you are reading this we will have finished the year 2013 and will be facing 2014 if the Lord permits. I think that it is always a good thing to look back occasionally to take a measure of our accomplishments, as well as our failures. This is a great help to us to strive to do better in the future. In **II Corinthians 5:10** the Bible tells us that our future will be determined by our actions as we live and work here year by year. We ought to review our past year and say unto ourselves, "What have we left behind this year?" Only we can determine what things have been important unto us, and in so doing, we can work to make improvements in the future. My greatest hope for everyone is that they are making improvements in their spiritual lives. I know that if you have been faithful in church attendance, faithful in Bible study, faithful in prayer, faithful in good works, then you have advanced yourself in the Kingdom of God. **II Peter 3:15** says: "But grow in the grace; and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." Then on the other hand, there may be some of you that have been working your way toward salvation by attending church and listening to the word being taught or maybe even reading some text all by yourself.

Then again, maybe this is the year that you have planned to obey the gospel and become a Christian. This would be the best thing you could do to make your calling and election sure. In **Philippians 4:8-9**, Paul wrote: "Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, good report, and if there be any praise, think on these things, and those things which ye have learned, and received and heard, and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you." So then, if one wants to make a new start in life, this can be done through obedience to the will of Christ, and by applying the above characteristics to their manner of life and the Lord will receive them no doubt.

And to all parents who may read this, what have you left behind for your children this past year? I am speaking from a spiritual stand point, but perhaps you have prodded them to achieve educational advancements, or material or financial gains then we should try to do. But again, what has been our example been before them to help get them to Heaven when all this other is over and done. At funerals, I rarely hear family members say, "My parents sure left me a good example by taking us to church every Lord's day, and they taught us to be thankful as well."

What better example could we leave behind, so remember this! If the Lord tarries, we will go the way of all the earth, and we will leave a legacy, and only you will determine what it will be. So begin this year by being faithful, so you are always welcome at the church of Christ at 262 Broadway.

Sincerely, Bob Casey, 1-859-369-4165

Veterans Post Don't Just Sit There

VETERANS POST by Freddy Groves

If you're a member of a veterans service organization, like the Veterans of Foreign Wars or the American Legion, do you participate? By that I mean, do you do more than just show up at most of the meetings? Do you participate in events? Offer ideas of ways to step up and help veterans in need?

Let me tell you what happens when members don't all participate: A small group of members will keep working, hosting events, stepping forward ... until they stop. And they'll stop because they're worn out. They'll be worn out because they've been doing all the work for far too long.

Is a similar situation going on in your organization? Have you considered how close the post might be to losing those members (or at least their participation) due to sheer exhaustion? How about your auxiliary?

If you hesitate to organize an event or participate because you don't know what to do, fear not. It's all been done before, and someone

has the know-how you'll need. Maybe it will be another post, or the staff in volunteer services at the medical center.

We all have skills we can bring to the table when it comes to helping other veterans. Start off by driving a veteran to appointments, answering phones at the Vet Center or playing chess with patients at the hospital. Or maybe you can plan a party for a ward at the medical center, organize a mail-writing blitz for letters that go in Operation Gratitude packages or put together a Stand Down for homeless veterans. Or try recording a veteran's story for the Veteran's History Project or serving as escort on an Honor Flight so an elderly veteran can go to Washington, D.C.

Get involved, and once you do, encourage other members to join you.

Freddy Groves regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Send email to columnreply2@gmail.com.

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Madaline's Memories

Madalene Wasson now has another book out about her family.

"Madalene's Memories" has stories about the Proffitt, McIntosh and Wasson families and other related families.

The very informative 60-page books are \$15.00 each and can be bought from Madalene by calling 606-726-9705.

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BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Zebedee in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Proverbs 3, "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy ..."?
3. Acts 2:42 is a key scripture on Ecclesiology
4. To which apostle did Christ entrust the "keys of the kingdom"?
5. Where is the "Apostles' Creed" found in the Bible (KJV)?
6. What is the youngest book in the Old Testament?

Bible Trivia answers are at the bottom of Page 12

RETIREMENT RECEPTION
A retirement reception for Janice Lake will be held at the Richmond USDA Service Center at 1024 Ival James Blvd on January 8, 2014, 2:00-4:00 P.M. Mrs. Lake will be retiring after 26 1/2 years of dedicated service with the Farm Service Agency. Farmers and other customers are invited to come by and give Janice your good wishes and advice.

