

Memories of Home and Christmas



Times Remembered

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**This story as told to me by my husband, Bob.*

As I sat on my front porch drinking coffee, my mind drifted back to memories of my home and Christmas growing up in Winchester.

Christmas was always good and it was a simple life full of energy and love. My grandmother and aunt weren't rich but my aunt was a registered nurse at Central Baptist Hospital in Lexington and we lived comfortable. At Christmas, I never asked for certain things; I was always happy with what I received. I remember getting board games, a clown, and a basketball. To me the important things they gave us was love, security and a home.

My Mom and Dad divorced when I was three years old, and fate placed

my two older sisters, Liz and Debbie and myself into the home and hearts of my grandmother and aunt. Dad moved to Florida and mom re-married and moved to Lexington; she took my younger brother and sister with her. At the time, I found it difficult understanding all this, and wondering why???

I attended grade school at Fannie Bush Elementary and Hickman School. I walked every day from Royal Apartments located downtown above Newberry's. I was a familiar face to businesses and I acquired a job in the winter shoveling businesses' store fronts and sidewalks. I earned \$5.00 for each front, pretty good money for a ten year old. I thought I was a millionaire.

I was a Boy Scout with Troop 54 in Winchester and I used the money from shoveling snow for my Boy Scout Camp every year at Camp McKee, where I became an Eagle Scout. I also attended Trinity United Methodist Church in Winchester where I sang in the choir and attended youth group.

At the age of 14 we moved into a new house located in Lyndale Subdivision off Boonesborough Road. I was a freshman at George Rogers Clark High School. Many of my friends from grade school lived in my subdivision and our street was constantly full of kids playing basketball or kick ball till dark nearly every night.

Upon graduating from high school, I received a letter from Uncle Sam to serve my country; I was drafted into the Army during the Vietnam War. I did basic training at Ft. Knox, then OJT at Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Indiana; luckily I was sent to Korea instead of Vietnam. I did spend one lonely Christmas overseas and it wasn't like home.

Upon my return home I worked for Blue Grass Army Depot; where I eventually met the love of my life and we married and I moved to Irvine thirty years ago. This is my hometown now and I have met some wonderful people and made many friends over the years with individuals, business people and of course my church family at Calvary Baptist Church.

Hometowns are very important to me and I make purchases with local businesses if at all possible. We also have many wonderful churches in Irvine. I encourage everyone to get into church and worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ- the reason for the season.

If you do not attend a church; I welcome you to Calvary Baptist Church at 21 Glory Street, West Irvine, Kentucky. We will be having a Candlelight Service at 7:00 on Christmas Eve and Worship Service at 11 a.m. on Christmas Day.

God Bless you and Merry Christmas!

Irvine-Ravenna Kiwanis Christmas Light Contest

The Kiwanis Christmas Light Contest is back again this year and everyone living in Irvine or Ravenna is encouraged to take part. All you have to do is decorate your house, apartment, or business and have it in full display on for judging on Friday, December 16th and 17th. Once again, we will divide Irvine and Ravenna into five judging sections;

- 1) The city of Ravenna
- 2) The city of Irvine, from the Ravenna city line to the courthouse
- 3) The city of Irvine, from the Courthouse to the city limits on Winchester Road
- 4) Apartments and multiple unit buildings within Irvine and Ravenna
- 5) All businesses within Irvine and Ravenna

Each section will be judged separately for "Best Overall Winner" for that section. A "Grand Champion Winner" and a

In Times Like These

by **BOB CASEY, preacher**
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In consideration brought on by all the religious confusion of today, just what is the Christian worker to do when it seems that very few are willing to involve themselves in study or consideration to search out and find just what the Bible really has to say relating to what Jesus really has to say. The devil has most of this world confused so much that they never consult for themselves, "What sayeth the word of God?" There is no hope for salvation for this type of person. In Luke 15:14, "And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch." Folks who listen to blind leaders and themselves remain blind simply because they will not read the Bible for themselves, are in danger of the fire of eternal death. Strong language? Yes, but these are tough times.

People sometimes ask me, "What kind of preacher are you?" referring of course to one of the denominations. Then they begin to name off all the noted ones. Then, when I reply, "No, I don't belong to any of those." They say, "Well! which one do you preach for?" Then I say: "The one you can read about in the Bible." Then I can see their mind search for the answer, but being unaware of what the Bible says. I reply, "Which one did Jesus die for?" Then they say, "Now, I see what you mean." Then I get to preach Paul's statement found in Ephesians 5:23-26. "That Christ is the head of the church, he is also the savior of the body, and that he loved it and gave himself for it."

Religious people ought to be ashamed of themselves for giving false names to their religious practices that are not found in the Bible. It is sad that most take upon themselves religious baggage that our Lord does not authorize. Please read for yourselves in Matthew 7:21-23. See if I tell the truth. We will never get to heaven upon our plans or schemes. John 1:13 declares that we will never be saved by family relationships, or our own plan, neither by the plan of some other men, but only by the plan of God, who sent Jesus into this world to proclaim his truths only.

So then in the midst of all these man made religions, just what is a Christian to do? When it seems that very few are interested in Bible truths, we could just throw up our hands and quit, saying, "Let them go to hell if that is what they want to do," or we can continually and and preach the truth just as our Lord demands of us, even if we think no one is paying any attention to us. You see, we have no power to save, but we still have power to preach, if people will take heed to the truth. So then this is the reason why I continue to do what I do as a preacher, if I can preach for another 40 years and get just one to obey the truth, it will be worth it all, because many Christians have never worked to save any at all. So Christian friend, don't quit. Jesus is coming to judge us all. Don't be caught standing at the judgment religiously bankrupt. Read and obey the word of Jesus while you still have the time.

Sincerely, Bob Casey 1-859-369-4165

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Luke in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 1:18, when Mary became pregnant, she and Joseph were ... ? Married, Engaged, Just friends, Strangers
3. For the journey to Bethlehem, how did Mary

and Joseph travel? Bible not specific, Walked, Rode donkey, Boat

4. At the birth of Jesus, who was king of Judaea? Solomon, Herod, Balak, Belshazzar

5. What was the home city of Mary and Joseph? Capernaum, Nazareth, Aphek, Shechem

6. Which of these wasn't a gift from the wise men (Magi)? Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense

Answers on bottom of Page 13

Wilson Casey's mainstream UFO book, "Swamp Gas & High Hopes 101," is now available from TouchPointPress.com

Seeds of Hope



What others did in the past influences what we do today. What is done today will influence what goes on in the future. It's like dominoes: stand them on end and place them in a line - one after another - and if the one at the beginning of the line is pushed over, all of them will fall down.

We all leave legacies. And each legacy is different because everyone is different. We seldom realize that we actually leave two different types of legacies. Most of the time we think of leaving a legacy of valuables: money, stocks, property, insurance, vehicles, jewelry - things that have monetary value.

But we rarely think of the legacy we leave that has

eternal value - a value that has moral and spiritual influence or impact on the lives of others. Whether or not we realize it or want to admit it, we cannot not influence or impact the lives of others.

The writer of Psalm 71 was very conscious of the spiritual values he would leave behind. "Even when I am old and grey," he wrote, "do not forsake me my God, till I declare Your power to the next generation, Your mighty acts to all who are to come."

In the preceding verses he recalled the goodness of God in his life: "You are my refuge, my rock, my fortress, my hope, my confidence, my teacher, my Savior." God had been with Him, had honored and protected him and made his life worthwhile. He wanted others to know this God.

So, he asked God to spare him so he could share His Word.

EPS 164

Spotted Owls Taste Somewhat Like Bald Eagles



America's Heartland

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A judge berated a fellow who had just pleaded guilty to killing an endangered spotted owl.

"Why did you do it?" the judge asked.

"Well, sir, I was just trying to feed my family," the fellow said. "We're poor and didn't have anything else to eat."

"In that case, I'm going to dismiss the charge and set you free," the judge said. "By the way, before you go, what does a spotted owl taste like?"

"Kind of like a bald eagle," the fellow replied.

The idea of having the slate wiped clean and being set free is altogether appealing for anyone who has ever been charged with wrongdoing. That's the reason defendants hire the best lawyers they can afford, spending their last dimes if necessary to have charges dismissed. It can be a long arduous process, and there's guarantee that, in the end, people will avoid the penalties.

But, in the spiritual realm, the outcome is assured by our advocate, Jesus Christ.

If people do wrong in God's eyes, and if they repent of their sins and ask forgiveness, the Bible is clear that they will not only be forgiven and but also be cleansed from all unrighteousness.

"My little children, I am writing you these things so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father - Jesus Christ the Righteous One" (1 John 2:1).

Jesus died on the cross all those years ago to pay the penalty for our sins. You see, the Bible says the wages of sin is death. Someone was going to have to die. It was going to be each of us, but Jesus opted to die in our place so that we could live eternally.

Through Jesus, God the Father took the burden of sin off us.

"As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us" (Psalms 103:12).

The prophet Micah said God delights in mercy, that He loves his people, and that He "will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea."

I, for one, am glad the Righteous One is willing to forgive. I don't know that very many of us have ever shot and eaten a spotted owl, or a bald eagle for that matter, but, spiritually speaking, we have done plenty of other things that are wrong.

And we will be held accountable unless we accept the forgiveness available through Jesus, the Son of God because, as the Bible says in John 8:36:

"If the son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

Roger Alford offers words of encouragement to residents of America's heartland. Reach him at rogeralford1@gmail.com.

NOTICE

The two-bedroom, one-bath, HUD approved mobile home listed in the classifieds on Page 11 is no longer available. Please do not call.

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