

January 1952

pamela dawn says . . .

*Turning Back
To Give Thanks*



ABOUT a quarter century ago when I was living in a mid-west city, I grew to know a very loveable, gracious Truth teacher. One afternoon while sitting in her study I saw her glance up at a queer light spot dancing on the wall. She went to the window, looked out for a moment, then said softly, "THANK YOU FATHER!"

Noting my puzzled expression, she explained, "I have been wondering for several days where that peculiar reflection came from every afternoon. And I've just found out!"

"What a trivial thing to thank Him for," came to my mind, but I did not voice it aloud.

Through the years of our friendship which followed, wherever we might be together, I frequently heard her whispered, "THANK YOU GOD," or "THANK YOU FATHER." Yet I did not then connect up her joy and success with those constant "thank-yous" to God for every inspiration, answer to problems or other invisible gifts from Him, which she invariably tendered.

Subsequently I moved to Cali-

This Month's Thought to Remember . . .

"As long as I am going to progress, I will try to progress as far as possible. God does not limit, so why should I?"

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fornia. And during World War II I began to observe many beautiful answers to prayers, with "nary a word of thanks" by the recipient.

There was one friend who sought an apartment in a city crowded with service personnel and their families as well as defense workers. She could have her hotel room for a restricted five days only, and she spent three of those walking the streets, almost begging for a niche wherein to lay her head. Then she was referred to a minister who prayed with her in the matter. Almost miraculously she was directed to a vacancy in a motel which she could rent indefinitely.

When relating this streak of "good luck" to me later, I discovered that she never "bothered" to return to thank the minister who aided.

Another instance was that of a pal who accompanied me to a metaphysical lecture one afternoon. She had a certain allergy to nail polish, and could not use

it without her eyes becoming inflamed. Yet she did like colorful manicures. On this particular day she felt sensitive about making a first appearance at this gathering with the swollen disfiguration on her pretty face.

Weeks afterward she told me she had received a *complete healing* of the allergy at that lecture. She seemed pleased over the incident, and even remarked that it was like the Biblical "touching of the hem." Yet she admitted she did not feel it essential to even write the lecturer whose spiritual truths filled and HEALED her.

These, and endless other such cases, might well be compared to that time when Jesus was entering a certain village and ten lepers met him, wailing, "Have mercy upon us and heal us." Whereupon Jesus told them to go and show themselves to the Priests, and as they went they were cleansed.

And one of them, seeing that he was healed, TURNED BACK, and with a loud voice *glorified God*. And he fell on his face at the feet of Jesus, giving thanks. To which Jesus answered, "Were there not ten made clean? Where are the other nine?" (St. Luke 17).

Truly a thank-you is due those who are *channels* through which God's blessings become manifest to us. And it is praiseworthy to direct our thanks to men. BUT, we should look still higher

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the wayfarer says . . .

From Glory To Glory



HOW intriguing is 1952 for you? To me there is more interest in the possibilities, and more satisfaction with the certainties, than I have had for a long time.

It is the way I look at things, I suppose, which gives me this sense of anticipation. Let me state the case very simply: I think 1952 will be good because I expect to go "from glory to glory" and not from "pit to pit". That does not imply that there will not be some bad moments in 1952, but these hard moments will prove only incidental to the overwhelming frequency of the "glory" always around and ahead.

We all know there are wars and rumors of wars, changing governments in world capitals, religious clashes and racial prejudices, high prices and rising taxes. We are aware of the headlines which startle us, headlines made, however, mostly by one percent of the population who are irregular, nasty, and criminal. It does not escape us that whole nations of peoples are hungry and cold in the very

centers (not the corners) of the world. But, O man, do you want to brood over these things so as to get pessimistic or despairing? Only do we propose to ponder anything like the above grim realities in order that we may come to a better understanding about their correction and elimination—very much like a physician who studies all of the ugly ills of mankind in order that later on he might cure them.

You can be among those who look always at the miserable side of life, bemoaning the "foul circumstance" of living in this age, but I shall not join you in this living from "pit to pit". I shall try to live "from glory to glory" during 1952, although I know I shall be aware of the pits everywhere. Let us remember that the mud that gets on a man's boots can always be washed off at the first clear stream he comes to. Isn't the smell of bacon frying on the grate of an open fire enough glory to compensate for any strenuous trek through the wilderness? Especially, if one can see the flapjacks browning in the pan, too. Would

you deny the joy when a wan face smiles through its pain at some toy or flower of remembrance which someone brought at great sacrifice. The struggle is only the means to the end. It is God's gift for the glory to be. So, let me set the case before you again.

Whatever burden you carry, or work you do, or "pit" you are in, or war you fight, or limitation you feel—whatever it is and wherever you are — your attitude can make 1952 a wonderful year, REGARDLESS of the "pits". Look for the "glory in every moment". Let me illustrate.

For one thing, we who read this are alive—we are breathing and can love and be loved. We are a living organism which needs to be met at many levels. The sun on the curve of the horizon, the wind in the ice-covered oaks, the star in the frosty sky, the baby's cry in its crib, the canary-song in its cage in the living room, the firelight from the fireplace, and a thousand other delights are for those who, like you and me, are alive this very day. Think of it, we breathe; and life is precious; we struggle, and life is glorious; we dream, and the future is bright. We are alive.

Further, we have work to do. How eagerly the world awaits those who, like our pioneer forbears, are not clock-watchers, but who undertake great tasks. Few there are who luxuriate very long in idleness. Most

everyone I know takes pride in getting work done. There is wood to be carried tonight to stoke the furnace for someone's warmth, ploughing of furrows to sow the seed, mixing the mortar to lay the brick, swinging the axe to fell the forests, whipping the sugar and shortening to make a cake, being over the hot stove to prepare a meal, laundering to make clothes clean and fresh—I say to one and to all, it is a glory of living to have work and to enjoy it.

Besides, we have the sweet assurance of faith in God. He never forsakes His own. He has not deserted his world. The world is His and so are we all. Intrinsic goodness and right will always win, and for that you may mark on your calendar every day the triumphs God brings about. This spiritual assurance can touch depths you never knew you possessed, if you will give way to that faith. They are spiritually perceived, however. Those quiet words of a good friend or clergyman or teacher, the exhilaration of a child's arms about your neck, the soft caress of a mother's hand—these are wordless joys that are spirit-induced and perceived by the sensitive souls. Indeed, "deep calleth unto deep" in these cases, just as truly as voices are carried through vast spaces over the radio.

We know that God talks to us vitally this way, and causes us to see His world that there is glory all around. His blessings

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marcus bach . . .

Living Thoughts for Better Living



"Where there is no vision the people perish." Proverbs 29:18.

1.

WHEN I was a boy I heard many fabulous stories about Jesus.

I was told that once in Joseph's carpenter shop, Jesus needed a piece of wood cut to a certain size. He found a piece but was not quite right. It was too short. So he pulled it a bit and it stretched itself exactly into the length desired.

I also learned that one day he did not have much to do. It was a quiet day in the shop at Nazareth, so he idly carved some sparrows out of a few pieces of wood. He made five beautiful wooden birds and set them in a row on his workbench. Then he passed his hand over them and the birds flew away.

There was the story of his walk through the woods with another lad in search of a tree "so big that it would fill four arms." It was supposed to make a top for the king's table. The

boys searched all day without success and at sundown Jesus said, "Well, God will just have to make a tree so big that it will have four arms. Let's take hold of hands and get around this sapling." They did and the tree just grew and grew until the boys had all they could do to hold it within the circle of their arms.

These are pretty legends, but Jesus was not a magician. He was not given to playing tricks either on himself or his neighbors.

The miracles he performed were always miracles with a meaning in the area of human relations. To him they were not miracles at all. They were simply his way of bringing the genius and power of life to bear upon problems confronting individuals and groups of his time. His super-normal manifestations were his way of demonstrating his vision of the near.

2.

Frank B. Robinson once made an unforgettable statement. He said, "The trouble with the Christian world is that it has worshipped the messenger instead of living his message."

Every honest Christian ought to agree with those words, and every other thinking person ought to reflect upon them seriously.

Too many people have set Jesus up as one who represents only the vision of the far. They talk about salvation in terms of a future event and they refer to eternity as "beginning over there." They attach to the name of Jesus a magical influence and talk about him as though he were more to be worshipped than obeyed, more to be applauded than emulated. Let them get his vision of the near and they will be confronted by a challenge to their characters and an assignment for their lives.

Where this vision does not exist, the people perish.

Where life is robbed of the holiness which Jesus saw in it, life becomes commonplace. Dignity and majesty go out of it.

When a nation is robbed of its vision, a culture ends.

When civilization fails to perpetuate vision, it is well on its way to disintegration.

Jesus' vision of the near included:

1. The innate goodness of the individual.

2. The innate divinity of the individual.
3. The basic oneness in all individuals.
4. The capacity of the individual to grow in spirit and mind.
5. The sanctity of work.
6. The realization of the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God.
7. The concept of eternity here and now, extended forward and backward into the cosmic consciousness of a personalized creative Power.
8. Belief that all things work together to demonstrate God's designs in life.
9. Belief in the law of cause and effect.
10. Belief in his mission to lead men to God.

3.

There can be no doubt of the advantage of such a vision of the near if we adopt it in our own lives. You remember that we said we were not striving to become prophets; we were thinking only of the value of probing into some of their secrets and finding some value in the "mystical experience." William James said that even the smallest mystical experience had the right of way over a person's life. They are "authoritative over those who have them." Those who get hold of a truth which

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Questions & Answers

(This section is devoted to questions which have been sent to us by our students. If you have a question, the answer to which you feel would be of interest to other students as well as yourself, send it in to us. We reserve the right to choose those questions which are published.)

What is Psychiana's position on the argument concerning separation between "church and state?"

ONE of the most important principles upon which this country was founded was religious freedom for everyone. The Pilgrims originally came to this land of promise because of persecution—both political and religious. There was deeply ingrained on the minds of the founding fathers the conviction that religious freedom was to be the cornerstone of this new country, and that everyone was to have absolute freedom in his personal religious worship. Nor were any public property or funds to be used for the benefit of any religious faith.

This simply meant that religion was on its own and was to be propagated and financed strictly within each religious group. It seems ridiculously simple, therefore, that any argu-

ment should have come up at all regarding this principle. But certain groups have sought to gain financial and other aid from the individual states and the federal government to help members of their own religious order. Here is what I mean: We all pay state and federal taxes, and some of that money goes to support our public schools. Now, do we want some of that money to go to support the children of parents of another faith other than our own so that these children can go to the religious schools set up by this other religious faith? Do we want part of our tax money to go toward providing transportation for these children so that they may attend their own school, set up by their own religious faith, *while public schools are already provided for them?*

This is only one example but a good one. No public tax money should be used for the benefit of any religious group whatsoever, as this practice is opposed to the constitution of the United States.

The Way

magazine for March contains the first article in the new series by Dr. Marcus Bach. Mailing date for this issue is February 26, so make certain your subscription has not expired.

Frank B. Robinson...

Discovering God



FIRST of all, God is Life. God is invisible Life. God is Life, capable of existence with or without physical form. In your case, you are a physical being. You are the only creation of God which has the ability to have consciousness of the fact that there is a God, and that God actually lives in you. A horse does not know that. A bee, flitting from flower to flower, does not know that. But you do. And you are the only creation in the whole universe that does. And there's something else, too, so grasp this well, please: *you are the only creation God ever made which has the ability to not only recognize the presence of the Spirit of God, but you are the only creation that has the ability to direct the Spirit of God, and use that staggering Power to bring to you anything right and good you can possibly need or desire. You have the ability to supply the urge—to guide the Spirit of God!*

It is not a case of your getting down by your bedside and begging and cajoling the Almighty

to give you "this" or "that" and then add, "for Christ's sake." That's not the way God operates. The Power of the Spirit of God lives in you. It lives in you—now! Every moment you live you are in unbreakable contact with all the Power there is in the Realm of God. And if you do not progress into the superlative beauty and Power which God can bring, it will be because you don't want to. The Power is there. God is there. You are there. And this Power of God is in you!

Now may I say to you that there are no limitations to the Spirit of God. There is nothing — absolutely nothing you can need for your own good which the Spirit of God cannot bring to you. I don't care if it's a million dollars or ten million dollars. With the Spirit of God in you, why there's nothing to it. All you do is stay in earnest enough to direct the Spirit of God into the proper channel. Impress upon It what you want, and the immutable Spirit of God will supply it.



Letters

FROM MEMBERS

Massachusetts
November 12, 1951

Psychiana
Moscow, Idaho
Gentlemen:

You will find enclosed a money order for the amount of six dollars, which is the amount due for my last four lessons. I am looking forward to my future lessons. Psychiana HAS done something for me. I have taken an entirely different attitude towards life. I learn from the past, apply in the present, and plan for the future. And I can well assure you that before I studied Psychiana, I was com-

pletely fed-up with life-in-general. I had tried everything within my power, but failed miserably. Indeed, suicide seemed a pleasant avenue of escape. Then I saw your advertisement. I said to myself, "What can I lose?" Gentlemen, I lost nothing. Instead, I gained a weapon with which to fight the miseries of life. I am winning; it's just a matter of time before I conquer. That is why I am looking forward to receiving my future lessons. After all, what good is a weapon without the ammunition to sustain it?

Your student and friend,
W. J. M. _____

Our Thanks. . . .

We want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of our students who sent Christmas cards and kind holiday thoughts to us through their letters. It is a very heart-warming feeling to know that we have so many sincere friends throughout these United States. So for your kindness we would like to say, Thank You, and God Bless You All."



Those who WALK with God

*"I see God in the morning
before my works' begun,
I see Him in my garden
and in the rising sun."*

THIS single verse of poetry hangs on the enclosed back porch of a lady I know. It is printed on faded cardboard and I imagine it has hung there for many years. The back porch itself overlooks her garden in which in summertime she grows vegetables for her needs, plus many various flowers and shrubs. She lives alone, renting some of the upstairs rooms to couples and single people.

No, she doesn't have too much as far as material wealth is concerned — just enough for her own needs. But she does have more than a lot of people. You see, she has faith in God and can see the manifestations of the Spirit of God all around her: in her garden, in the morning sun which casts light and heat in her back yard, and in the plants and flowers which she cultivates so meticulously. I'll wager she doesn't need the little verse to remind her of God's presence, but yet it is there for all to see—in summer and winter.

The most precious thing in this universe belongs to this little old lady—peace and happiness. She doesn't own a car, and probably doesn't want one; but she sees God in action. She has no children to give her joy and contentment; but she gains joy through the knowledge that her Creator is near. Her house is not a mansion; but all of her needs are provided for. She lives a good life — *and has found her faith!*

One of the greatest secrets of all happiness is this: be happy in your own circumstances. It isn't necessary to think you must have this or that, because all the happiness, all the joy you can absorb awaits you within the glorious realm where the Creator of Life presides—*within you!* Certainly you may change your circumstances, but first you must be happy and have a faith. You can't go about griping because of your situation. You must first realize that there are so many good things to be thankful for, and get rid of your thoughts about the bad. When you do this, you have truly taken the first step on the Pathway to God.

bach . . . (from page 6)

experience makes real know what they are talking about and no theology or rationalization from "without" is going to talk them out of it. So it will be when you begin to apply yourself and to your own daily activity some of the points which we have cited above. Out of Jesus' vision of the near will come a pattern for spiritual *outreach* and spiritual intake which will bring your life to greater self-unfoldment.

For always remember that it was this vision which made the Nazarene select the common, everyday people to be his disciples. He knew that he would find in them the faith, the courage, and the wisdom to believe. He invited them into the fellowship of his discoveries. They came and found new power in the power of God. It was locked up within themselves all the time. He released it. It was part of their make-up, he showed them how to utilize it.

Albert Schweitzer, in speaking of this summons, says that the call is still the same today. The reason it is still the same is because of the assumption that the common man, because of his environment, work, needs, hopes and faith, can best understand what this Man of Galilee experienced as he united his vision of the far with his ever-present vision of the near. "Where there is vision, the people live, for no man dies whose ideals exist."

wayfarer . . . (from page 4)

are sure. His promises are secure. His power is inexhaustible.

I look forward to the cessation of the Korean conflict. I can see no real fighting on a large scale anywhere in the world in 1952. I believe in the rightness of right as God gives us all strength to understand the right. I am sure that we will all find the sunlight bursting upon us in parades of peace this year, and not in parades of military might. We may get into the "valley of the shadow", but we shall be going "through" it to some yonder height from which vantage point we can see greater glory. Philip Doddridge in 1751 wrote these lines which are good for me, and for us all in 1952:

*Great God, we sing that mighty hand
By which supported still we stand;
The opening year Thy mercy shows,
That mercy crowns it till its close.*

And a later writer (about 1878), Francis Ridley Havergal, has said these timeless lines, from which I have the theme for this brief New Year's word:

*"From glory unto glory, O
word of stirring cheer,
As dawns the solemn brightness of another glad New Year".*

From "glory to glory" let us go through 1952. Will you join me? Thanks.

dawn . . . (from page 2)

and offer our thanks to God also. In this way we establish a definite connection between ourselves and God, WHO IS THE TRUE SOURCE OF ALL OUR GOOD.

HOW CAN WE HONESTLY GIVE THANKS WHEN DISASTER STRIKES and we feel as though every prop has gone out from under us? One man said that when he was so discouraged and worried over circumstances, he had to put his teeth together and literally lash the unhappy, depressed thoughts out of his being *by words of thanks that he did not feel at first*. What happened? The discouraged and fearful feelings began to fade and vanish away. By thanking God for UNSEEN GOOD, it soon began to become visible to him.

Thank neighbors and friends of course for their services and gifts, but while thanking an individual realize that you are thanking God in him. Even though some proffered gift may seem useless to you—a so-called “white elephant” on your hands, you should immediately PRAISE THE LOVE THAT GAVE IT, and that love will bless you again and again.

Lift your ideals by giving thanks—and more thanks—to God from whom all blessings flow. Thanks is all the payment God asks. But payment is just as necessary in dealing with God as it is in a material transaction with a fellowman.

Begin today to “turn back” and “GLORIFY HIM.”

“GOD, I THANK THEE” are magic words. Try them.



A look at next month's bulletin . . .



Pamela Dawn says, “Hitch Your Wagon to a Star,” and then goes on to tell exactly how to do it . . . Marcus Bach begins a new series of dynamic articles in the February Bulletin . . . “Rebound,” is the theme of The Wayfarer's article . . . Our other regular features round out this second issue of 1952 . . .