

Words Of Hope

By Chuck Godfrey

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16). So reads the greatest text on the greatest theme in the greatest Book ever written.

"I or God..." So begins this greatest of declarations. We gaze around us, within us, and above us, and everywhere the mind is confronted with the mysteries of life and death—the meaning of things, the reality of experience, the how, and above all, the why of existence.

"Ah man, so great, renowned and wise,
Pray tell who hung the azure skies?
Who built the cavern of the sea
And guards the waters' boundary?
What mason's hand built mountains high,
Whose survey does the sun go by?
Who lights the stars at eventide?
Who tells the moon to change her stride?
And now, O man! in wisdom's throes,
How gets the perfume in the rose?"
—W. Earlington Whitney

The simple answer of the Bible—and the answer is no less profound because it is so simple—is that "every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God." (Hebrews 3:4, RSV.)

"In the beginning God created..." (Genesis 1:1). That is the beginning of the Bible. It is the beginning of the universe. It is the beginning of religion. It is the beginning of faith, for "by faith we understand that the world was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was made out of things which do not appear." (Hebrews 11:3, RSV.)

You know, the Bible never once argues about the existence of God. His reality is taken for granted, even as the existence of the sun is taken for granted. But, you may rightly say, "We can see the sun." Even so may God be seen, "for what can be known about is plain...., because God has shown it... Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made." (Romans 1:19,20, RSV.)

Augustine grasped this amazing truth and expressed his conviction in eloquent language: "And what is God? I asked the earth: and it replied, 'I am not God'; and whatever is therein made the same confession. I asked the sea and the abyss, and the creeping things therein and they answered: 'We are not thy God, seek Him higher.' I asked the breezy air, and the whole sky with its denizens replied, 'Anaximenes is wrong. I am not God.' I asked heaven, sun, moon, stars: 'Nor yet are we the God whom thou seekst,' they made answer. Then I spake to all that crowd around the doors of sense: 'Ye have told me concerning my God that you are not He: tell me now what ye can of Him.' And they exclaimed with a loud voice, 'He created us.'"

The Scriptures assure us that this majestic and eternal Being who created all things has given us a revelation of Himself adequate to our understanding. Because He created all and we are made in his image, our conceptions of God must be spiritual and personal. "The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all men life and breath and everything. For 'in him we live and move and have our being.' Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the Deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, a representation by the art and imagination of man." (Acts 17:24-29, RSV.)

In the Scriptures God is compared to a tender shepherd and a loving Father. But even with these human comparisons, we may still find it difficult to visualize God. So He has taken the final and inevitable step of coming down from heaven to share our humanity, the final and full revelation of God is found in Jesus. "In these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world." (Hebrews 1:2, RSV.)

The prophets pictured God to their generation by calling to their aid comparisons of various human relationships. Jesus, on the other hand, revealed God by becoming man. Therefore He could truthfully say: "He who has seen me has seen the Father." (John 14:9, RSV.)

We invite anyone who would like to come and worship with us to join us at our church located 2 miles west of Pembroke at the junction of Highways 710-711. The church in study is at 3 pm and the church in worship is at 4 pm each Saturday. Our mid-week service is at 7 pm each Tuesday.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED



Converse, Inc. of Lumberton, N.C.

The wedding is planned for June 25, 1988 at 5:00 pm, in Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

No invitations will be mailed, but friends and relatives are invited to attend.



PEMBROKE, NC

OSCAR MAYER

- Weiners & Franks \$1.99
- Cheese Franks \$2.19 lb.
- Mt. & Bf. Bolo. \$1.29 8 oz.
- Cooked Ham \$1.79 6 oz.
- Cooked Ham \$5.59 12 oz.
- Chopped Ham \$1.79 8 oz.
- Mt. & Bf. Bolo. \$1.79 12 oz.
- Lunch Meat \$1.59 8 oz.
- Bf. Variety \$2.19 12 oz.
- Liver Cheese \$1.69 8 oz.
- Ham & Cheese \$1.89 8 oz.
- P&P Loaf \$1.59 8 oz.
- Cotto Salami \$1.59 8 oz.
- Sliced Bacon \$2.89 lb.

LOUIS RICH

- Variety Pack \$2.29 12 oz.
- Chopped Ham \$1.49 8 oz.
- Ham \$1.89 8 oz.
- Turkey Franks \$1.79 12 oz.
- Smoked Turkey \$2.19 8 oz.
- Bologna \$1.99 8 oz.
- Smoked Sausage \$1.99 lb.
- Chicken Breast \$1.79 6 oz.
- Oven Roasted Breast \$1.69 6 oz.

A Social Note

In honor of the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dial their children and grandchildren request the pleasure of your company at a dinner on Saturday the fourth of June 1988 at four o'clock in the afternoon at Prospect School Cafeteria in Maxton, North Carolina.

U.S.D.A. Choice

Chuck Roast

Bone In 99¢ Lb.

Boneless Shoulder Roast Lb. \$1.59

Festive

Turkey Breast

6-8 Lb. Avg. Lb. 99¢

Pembroke, Maxton
St. Pauls And Fairmont
Plus 23 Other Locations
In Southeastern North Carolina



AMERICAN OWNED AND OPERATED

For The *Super* Lowest Food Bills Head For The Hills!

QUANTITY RIGHTS RESERVED - NO DEALERS PLEASE - OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 7 A.M. - 11 P.M. - PRICES GOOD THRU MAY 21, 1988

U.S.D.A. Choice Boneless

Sirloin Steak

\$2.99 Lb.

T-Bone Steak Lb. \$3.99

Farmer Jim

Smoked Sausage

\$3.99 3 Lb. Bag

Flanders

Beef Patties

\$4.99 5 Lb. Box

Gwaltney

Sliced Bacon

99¢ 12 Oz.

Charmin & White Cloud

Bathroom Tissue

99¢ 4 Pk.

Bounty Assorted

Paper Towels

59¢ Limit 3 Roll

Light N Lively

Ice Milk

\$1.99 1/2 Gal.

Coca Cola
OR
Diet Coke

\$1.19

2 Liter

Gwaltney

Franks

12 Oz. 99¢

Gwaltney

Great Dogs And Bologna

16 Oz. 79¢

Holly Farms Fryer

Breast Quarters

Lb. 99¢

Fresh 1/4 Sliced

Pork Loin

Lb. \$1.59

Red Ripe

Watermelons

\$3.89

Fresh Tender Green

Broccoli

69¢ Large Bunch

Crisco

\$1.83

32 Oz. Oil

Chatham

Dog Food

40 Lbs. Crunchy \$5.49

Kellogg's

Special K Cereal

\$1.99 12 Oz.

- Family Pack Specials -

Chuck Steak

Bone In \$1.39 Lb.

Shoulder Steak

Boneless \$1.69 Lb.

Beef Stew

Boneless \$1.79 Lb.

Genuine

Viadalia Onions

2 Lb. Bag 89¢

Crisp California Iceberg

Lettuce

59¢ Large Head

THIS WEEK'S FEATURE

DINNER KNIFE

3 for \$1.00 with each \$5 purchase

ETIA FLATWARE

Available in two patterns