

FROM THIS HUMBLE BEGINNING



**A CHRISTMAS WISH**  
I like to think that there will be  
On Christmas Day, around each tree,

A feeling of the presence of  
The Child God sent us with His love;  
That there, beside each girl and boy,  
He'll be, and sharing in their joy.

I like to think that, all the while  
The gifts unfold, I'll see Him smile;  
And that He'll hear our caroling,  
And know it's for the thanks we bring  
To God the Father, for his birth,  
To be among us on the Earth.

O, may our Christmas time be gay:  
But let's remember it's His Day—  
Let's find a place for prayer in it,  
And so have Jesus share in it.

—Carl Helm

## The Christian Viewpoint

Prepared by Department of Bible  
Presbyterian Junior College  
Maxton, North Carolina

The biggest problem with both men and missiles is guidance. Guiding your own life is your chief problem. Guiding our children is the problem of parents and educators. Ever since 1232 A.D., when the Chinese deicides of Knaife, capital of Honau Province shot the son of Genghis Khan, rockets and missiles have been hard to guide. Missiles and men get their guidance from the escape of

the explosive forces within them. That is, unless the missile explodes on take-off, as the first captured German V-2 did when they test-fired it at White Sands. Man has within him explosive instincts, like hunger, sex, self preservation, and curiosity, which impel his life into patterns of behavior, but a life lived only by instinct is on the level of the animals. Missiles are given aim by pointing them to a target and attaching fins which press against the air and keep them on a flight path. Man has intelligence and he can use his mind to adjust to his environment and choose rational goals.

God's moral laws, from observation of life, from the witness of others, or from the words which God has given us, and set our consciences by those moral laws, we have a good guidance for living.

Some rockets are radar controlled. Men can have a communion with God so that they are willing to let the Spirit of God blow upon their hearts and minds and set them aglow with gladness in the grace of Jesus Christ and love for God and man. A spirit of such a man, touched by the Spirit of God, using all the other means of guidance, and receptive to the promptings and warnings which come into his soul after prayer and self examination and counsel with his fellow Christians, has the highest form of guidance known to man for making a good flight through the circumstances of this life and a happy landing in that city which has foundations whose builder and maker is God. Unlike missiles of warfare, but like the rockets used to shoot a line over a sinking ship by the life-saving services, his life shall bring forth good.

"Then said Jesus to those Jews who believed in him, If ye continue in my words, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31, 32).

The art of living is the art of using experience — your own and other people's.

—Sir Herbert Louis Samuel  
Learn from the mistakes of others—you can't live long enough to

Aristotle said only the examined life is worth living. Never the less, reason and education are not altogether good guides for living. Reason, or dialectic as the communists say, cannot see far enough to measure consequences of action. It is swayed by environmental ideas as a rocket is deflected by the wind. Education fits a man with a set of more or less excellent notions, prejudices, and convictions which tend to hold him in a way of life, like the fins on a rocket, but he tends to run a set course with obstinate inflexibility unless pushed into some other way by circumstances.

The Germans fitted a guiding mechanism in their V-1 and V-2 rockets, made of gyroscopes. They were adjusted to fixed direction and so could guide the missile on its flight in relation to unchanging bearings. Man has an in-built guiding mechanism called conscience. It can get out of order and give warped guidance. Conscience can be set by eternal moral principles. Ancient Abraham turned from the gods of his native land, which were but man made notion of gods like men. He sought the real God, the God of truth, holiness, justice, and mercy. God answered his seeking soul. He walked out by faith with a conscience set to the eternal principles of the law of God. As we find



In the spirit of Christmas, we wish our friends and patrons a happy holiday season, filled with all the good things of life.

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To all my Friends,  
I extend my warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. In the true spirit of Christmas our thoughts turn to the gifts with which divine providence has enriched our lives. We have much for which to be thankful, warmer and enduring ties with our families and friends, peace in our nation and good health, that great blessing which more and more of us are enjoying throughout life. May you and your family have, in abundant measure, health, happiness and peace of mind during this Christmas and all the years ahead.

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—Anonymous  
Experience is victor, never the vanquished; and out of defeat come

as the secret of victory.

—Mary Baker Eddy  
All experience is an arch, to build upon.  
—Henry Adams

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—Nicholas Breton  
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—Blaise Pascal  
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—Longfellow

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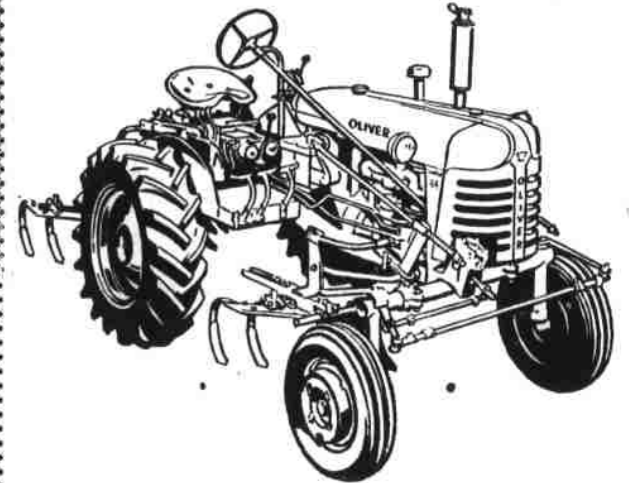
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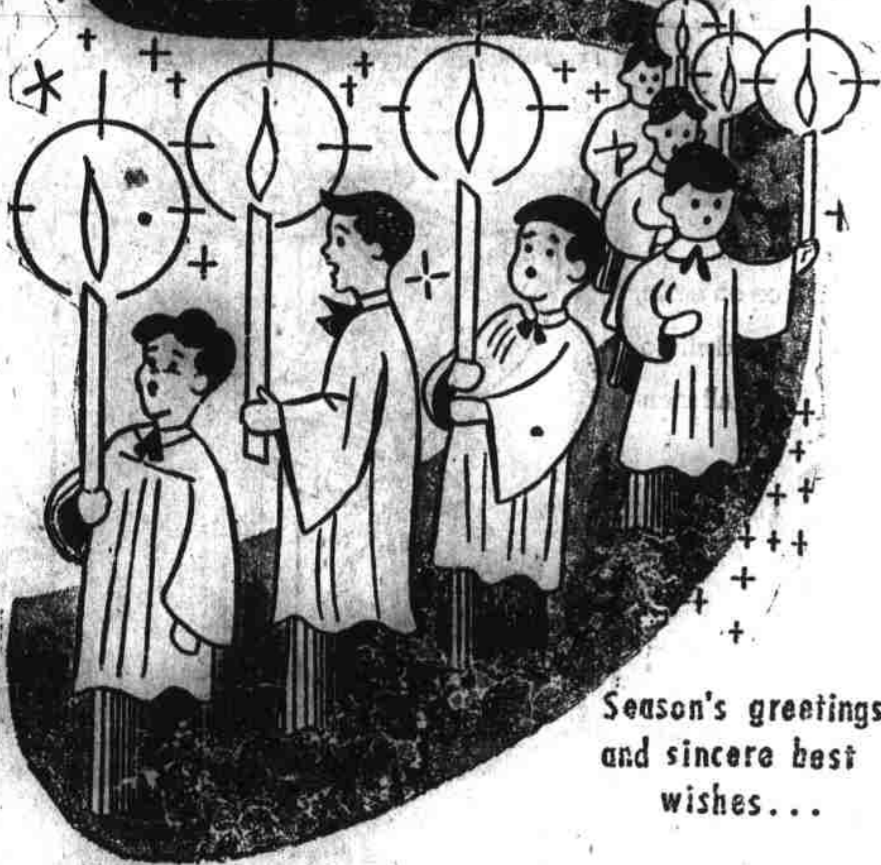


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