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-- Overlook On Life --

By WARREN S. REEVE

Note: The idea of "Overlook" is taken from the Overlooks provided for viewing panoramas along the Blue Ridge

thought together about the mean- illustrate the way in which their ing of imagination in our lives. I minds framed mental pictures was incited to take up this sub- that would strike us as very odd. It ject because recently in my Bible is as if we were to use the word reading, I was impressed again "wagon" to describe the platform with the bold imagination of the of a political party or the teachings

For exmple, the Psalmist wrote servant would "thresh the moun- Sphinx? tains" (Isaiah 41:15) and pulverize the hills into chaff and that people could then take a fan and fan them and make them blow away Isaiah also pictured God as coming with a big scales in His hand and weighing the mountains in them! (Isaiah 40:12), Simiarly, he says, God will put whole nations in the scales and weigh them, and in comparison with His might, they won't amount to more than the dust that has accumlated on the scales! (40:15).

Another prophet (Nahum 1:3) likened the clouds to the dust that was shaken from God's feet!

People of other countries and cultures think in images very differet from our own. The pictures that spring to their minds are sometimes quite unintelligible to us: often they appear grotesque

The early followers of Buddhism formulated the teachings of their master in three groups. Each group they called a "basket". Who in our day would describe a set of teaching as a basket? To a Buddhist, the "three baskets" represents the whole of the master's teaching.

Centuries went by and, just as in Christian history, a "protestant" movement drew apart from the History, so in Buddhism there was a reformation.

When they came to assign a they called it the "Greater Vehicle", of God was LIFE, to the fourth in contrast with the "Lesser Ve- degree. hicle" which signified the original Thirdly, in the faith that man is traditional teachings. I cite this created in the image of God, he

In last week's Overlook we case from Buddhist history to

of some school of philosophy. The Egyptians and the Babylonthat "the mountains skipped like ians had also their favorite kinds rams" (Psalm 14:4), and the of imagery and symbolism. What, prophet Isaiah wrote that God's for example, is the meaning of the

> Other Orientals were fond of numbers and pictured truth in terms of numbers. Bible readers. have puzzled all through the centuries over the meaning of some of the numbers that occur in certain books of the Bible, Revelation 13:18 assigns a mystic number, 666, to the "Beast" (the Devil). Is there a deep and hidden meaning in that

> Perhaps no imagery-of the Bible is harder for us to understand and be interested in than the pictures of God and of Heaven that are given in this book of Revelation. Really however they go back to the thoughts and visions that some of the prophets had.

Ezekiel found that it took more him like a mighty column of fire, Or, rather Ezekiel was saying it. terribly bright. (Ezekiel 1:4) But of course that alone was far from being a sufficient description of God. So, secondly, in order to "beasts" is a bad translation of the eyes! They take in everything! Hebrew word that was used. The

had just said one living creature, it it may go along, even just a little wouldn't have been emphatic bit, with the inspired imaginations enough. So he said there were four of the prophets and apostles. name to the protestant teachings, living creatures. The "livingness"

Obituaries

CECIL R. BODFORD

Cecil R. Bodford, 47, of Burns-Burnsville hospital after a long

Funeral services were held Tuesday, Feb. 12, at 2 p. m. in the where you are. We know you are Windom Baptist Church. The Rev. H. M. Alley and the Rev. Astor. Buchanan officiated and burial was in the Pete Young Cemetery. Survivig are the widow, Mrs. daughters, Miss Ina Ruth and Miss in peace, dear one we loved. Virginia Bodford; a son, Eddie, all of the home; the mother, Mrs. Bessie Bodford of Johnson City, Tenn. and a sister, Mrs. Alma Miller of Baltimore, Md.

THEODORE ROBINSON

Funeral services for Theodore Robinson, 58, of Burnsville RFD 3, who died Tuesday night, Feb. 5, in

wanted us to feel that God was not too different from ourselves. And so each creature had a face! - no, not just one face, but four faces! - which again emphasized the fact of face. There was a further advantage in giving each creature four faces. It meant that there was no direction where God was not facing. Nothing was hid behind the boad.

To each of these four creatures was attached a wheel. Now, who in our day, would think of a wheel as a way to describe God? And if we have not read this part of the Bible very much, this language will strike us as being queer, I have no doubt. We will certainly find it hard to understand.

I interpret the wheels to signify that God is mobile and that He is not tied down to any one spot. He can go anywhere. At what rate could He travel, let us ask? As fast as the lightning, said Ezekiel (1:14); and in the same instant He could return to His starting point.

What a marvellous way of teaching us that God is here, there, and everywhere, so that we may never than one picture to describe how he dare to think that we are out of felt the Divine Being looked, First His reach or out of the range of of all, God's appearance impressed His gaze, - "of His gaze", I said.

In what language did he express it? He pressed the truth that God is seeing everything everywhere and at every minute with piercing stress how much alive God is, he scrutiny by saying that these said he saw "four beast." Now wheels are "full of eyes". Full of

I could go on and on this subject word meant "living creature". of imagination. To me it is fasci-Ezekiel was trying to make plain nating to study Bible imagery and main Catholic stream of Church the "livingness" of God, and if he to school my imagination so that

IN MEMORY

In loving memory of our dear sister, Mamie Evans, who away May 25, 19

Eight lonely months it's been since you have gone and left us ville, died Sunday night in a here so sad and lone. We miss your sweet smiling face. No one will ever take your place.

That brand new star tells free from all pain, although our same. Memories keep you always near us. In our hearts you're always there too, God keep you Odette Edwards Boford; two safely up above, and may you rest Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ray

> a Marion hospital following a long illness, were held Thursday in the Indian Creek Baptist Church.

The Rev. W. E. Ray officiated, and burial was in the Robinson Cemetary.

Surviving are his wife; a daughter, Mrs. Carnel Johnson of Detroit, Mich.; four sons, Mack of Burnsville RFD 3, Ed of Detroit, Mich., Clyde in the Air Force at Columbus, Ind., and Ralph of Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk; a sister, Mrs. Grady Robinson of Burnsville RFD 3; two brothers, Fred and George of Burnsville RFD 3; and seven grandchildren.

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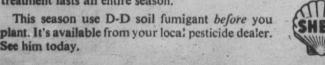
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