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By MARION SWINDELL

Someone has said that there are five foods which are essential in a person's growth. They are love, learning, beauty, service and suffering. Without these foods the soul does not grow.

Given hunger — the soul grows in an experience of love. We are nourished when one hungers for learning, studies, seeks mastery of a subject. Beauty comes only when we strive to appreciate or create the beautiful.

Suffering as food may seem to us as hard experiences, but have you not noticed that men intent upon spiritual achievement have grown more surely and rapidly when suffering was their lot, rather than when life moved along like a song.

OUR THOUGHT TO REMEMBER: No high or higher stage in life is reached without devotion.

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Editorial

WASHINGTON — For the 24th time since World War II, the Senate has voted to increase the ceiling on the federal debt.

This time the increase was from \$430 billion to \$450 billion. I voted against this increase as I have done in the past.

In my judgment, we have yet to face up to some hard fiscal facts confronting our Government. Even this \$20 billion increase is but a temporary plateau on our way to ever mounting debt.

A few months ago, we ought to have heeded a drastic warning when the European nations lost confidence in the American dollar. I had hopes then that the President and the Congress would face up to the gravity of the situation and take steps to restore our financial standing in the eyes of the world.

Yet, that clear warning has been ignored. In recent months, we have administered a "band aid" in the form of wage and price control, we have lowered taxes, which I did not approve, and we have now shown no inclination to hold down spending and the national debt.

If anyone doubts the seriousness of the situation, he need only look at the statistics. During the eleven fiscal years beginning June 30, 1963, and ending June 30, 1973, it is now estimated that we will incur deficits totalling nearly \$200 billion. Even more disturbing is the fact that huge deficits seem

to be the accepted way of financing virtually every new governmental program here in Washington.

Recently, I am told that the Governor of Massachusetts, testifying before the Senate Finance Committee, urged that committee to approve a \$10 billion addition to the welfare program. When asked where he thought the revenue to finance this expenditure ought to come from, his reply was simple and direct: "Just add it to the deficit." Tragically, that is the kind of thinking that has brought us to the brink of economic chaos.

I have fought against Federal deficits ever since I have been

in the Senate. I have voted against billions of dollars of appropriations that were approved that I thought we could do without. But, I have also recognized that if these programs are established by the Federal Government that we ought to have the courage to vote taxes to pay for them. For this reason I voted against the reduction in taxes at the last session of the Congress.

The sooner we get rid of the false notion that we can get something from the Federal Government for nothing, the sooner we will rid ourselves of the delusion that we can pay for everything by "just adding it to the deficit."

It's A Fact!

What's the weather like? Is it warm, balmy, delightful; or cold, wet and miserable?

It matters little, you know, because no matter what meteorological conditions exist at the moment, this fact remains unalterable:

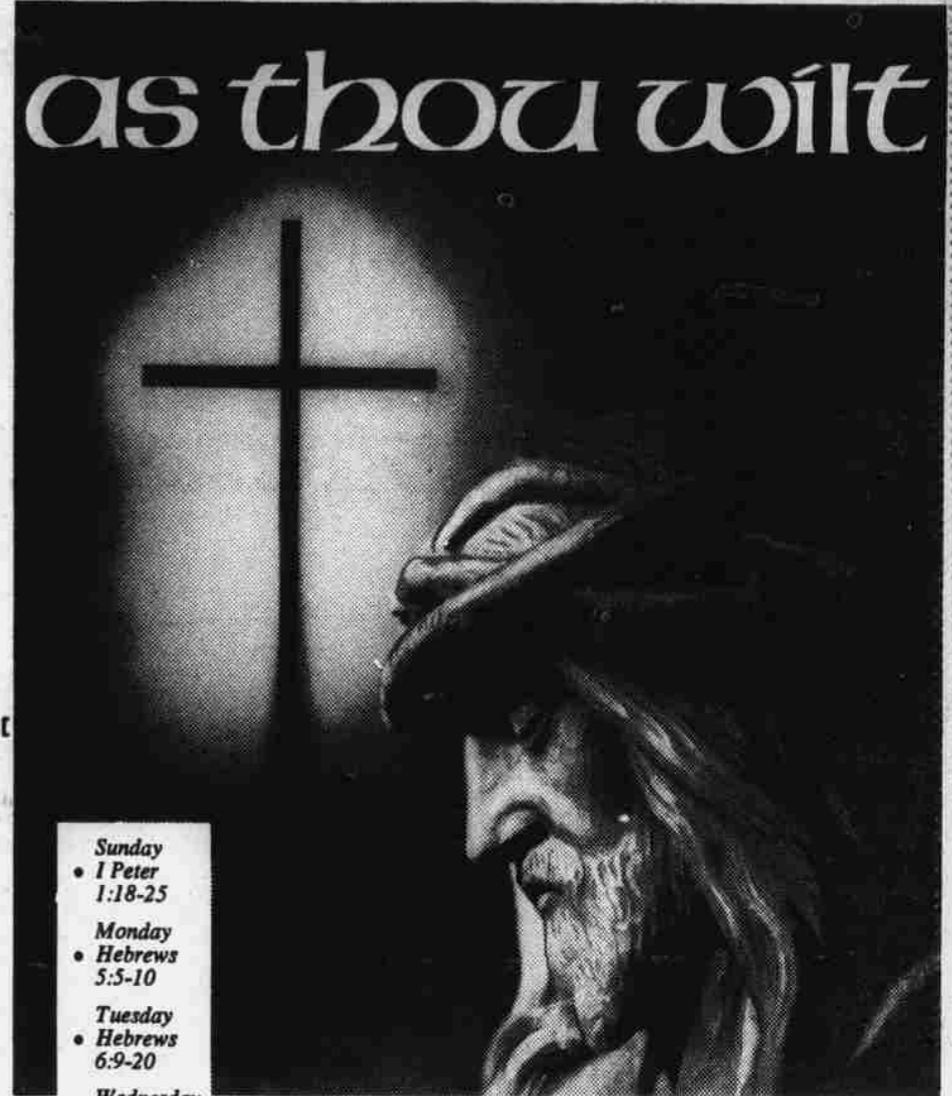
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That's right! Scientifically, it's been that way since Monday. Can Summer be far away?

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1:18-25
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5:5-10
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6:9-20
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• Hebrews
7:15-28
- Thursday
• Hebrews
9:11-15
- Friday
• Hebrews
12:1-10
- Saturday
• Hebrews
13:10-16

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The night was dark and calm. All creatures were silent and leaves stood still as a lone man knelt in a garden called Gethsemane and prayed, "Not as I will, but as Thou wilt."

Around Him Jesus' disciples lay sleeping. Soon He knew would come betrayal, public condemnation and derision . . . and the long last march. And yet He prayed, "Thy will be done."

In the shadow of the Cross Jesus demonstrated perfect love and trust for God, His Father. In the hours ahead He would establish His Sonship for the atonement of all mankind.

And so today, in a world that needs this message of hope, let us commemorate that first Good Friday by acknowledging God as our Father, helping our churches to illustrate His way to the hungry, the sick, and the needy.



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ONE BODY IN CHRIST
International Sunday School Lesson for March 26, 1972
LESSON TEXT: Romans 12: 1-5; 1 Corinthians 12: 1-3
Ephesians 4: 4-8

WHAT IS THE CHURCH? Paul — one of the greatest writers and teachers of Biblical times — was the author of the thought that the Church was "the body of Christ."

The aim of this lesson will be to help us understand the meaning of this concept, and impress upon us the importance of patterning ourselves in a Christian mold in the light of Paul's teaching.

The worst enemy of any church at any time had reared its ugly head in the little church at Corinth. The members became divided, and the true attributes of Christianity became blurred as each put their own interpretation on the importance of each teaching concept. Some felt, because they "spoke in tongues" they were better than others who did not have that gift, while others claimed that the power to heal was the true evidence of Christian superiority. No doubt these were merely evidences of the "growing pains" of the young church, but Paul saw all the dissent as a threat to the ideal of Christian unity in Christ.

Paul therefore went to great lengths to promote the concept that all churches and all men were members of one body — the body of Christ. Christ, Himself was the head — and just as a person's head functioned in conjunction with eyes, ears, feet and hands, so He functioned with the Church as His members.

Paul saw all men — Jews and Gentiles, slaves and free men, brought together in unity in Christ, bound by their common faith in God, made one entity through the Holy Spirit. Paul felt strongly that, just as the physical body of man has need of all its organs, so the church had need of the contributions of all its members. If its destiny was to be fulfilled.

If we will only bear in mind that the church is the visible representative of the invisible Christ, dedicated to carrying out the commission which He so gloriously began, and think of it as an extension of Him, we cannot go far wrong in our approach to Christianity. How we serve our church is reflected in how we serve our fellow men — and, through them — serve God.

True, the roles we are called upon to play in service vary greatly. Pastors, Deacons, organists — these are specialized services. Countless other roles, while maybe not so prominent in the public eye, are just as important. The contribution of Sunday School teachers, choir members, and those who keep God's House as it should be kept . . . immaculate . . . none of these services can be discounted.

We must always bear in mind that no Christian is unneeded, or is saved without the expectation of service. For it is through us, motivated by the Holy Spirit, that God equips His church for service to mankind, and it is through us, through our sense of discipline and devotion, that His end will be attained.

It is an unending circle . . . the church supports the work of Christ; Christians support the church, and, in so doing, support Christ Himself.

A nation is made up of its citizens; the church is made up of its congregations; a religion consists of believers. . . and the quality of all depends on the quality of its people, as does the strength of all. Let us therefore strive for Christian unity in Christian service. . . in His name!

(These comments are based on outlines of the International Sunday School Lessons, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, and used by permission).

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