Dear Dorothy,

October 2012 Pastoral eNEWS

Welcome: God loves you and so do we. It is always a treat for us to spend a few minutes with you. Thanks for all you do for 3ABN. It is always good to hear from you, perhaps how the Lord leads you daily. We are blessed.

Verse of the Day: "Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Who can utter the mighty acts of the Lord? Who can declare all His praise? Remember me, O Lord, with the favor You have toward Your people. Oh, visit me with Your salvation, that I may see the benefit of Your chosen ones, that I may rejoice in the gladness of Your nation, that I may glory with Your inheritance."
Psalm 106:1-2, 4-5.

Good News: "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things." Jeremiah 33:3. What an incredible promise! If you earnestly pray, God promises that He will not only answer you, but reveal "great and mighty things." I would imagine that these are things that could not possibly be obtained or known any other way. Thank You Jesus for Your goodness to us, Your children.
Answers to Difficult Questions: 1 John 3:9 "Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God." **Answer:** The key to understanding this text lies in the meaning of the word "seed." There is perfect assurance that the "seed" will provide total victory over sin. Who is this "seed" whose presence in the life can guarantee strength to obey? We find the answer in Revelation 12:17 "and the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest (remnant) of her off-spring (seed), who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." The seed of the woman was the man child of verse 5 "...who was to rule all nations..." and "was caught up to God and His throne." Here it is firmly established that Christ is the see. Further evidence is found in Galatians 3:16 where God said to Abraham, "And to your Seed," who is Christ." Now we can grasp the beautiful truth in the Scripture before us. Those who are truly born of God do not willfully sin, because Christ is enthroned in their hearts. The only way they can choose to sin is by separating from Christ. In other words, the abiding presence of Christ and the willful commission of sin do not operate simultaneously in the same heart at the same time. Deliberate sin always separates us from Christ, and the Holy Spirit does not become a minister of sin. Contrariwise, those who are genuinely converted and have the indwelling of the Spirit will be able to overcome sin in all its forms and approaches. This text does not mean that Christians are incapable of committing wrong acts (or else there would be no virtue in their being without sin); rather, their love for Christ constrains them from walking contrary to His will. The word "sin" here is in a Greek form that indicates a continuing process. In other words, even if they stumble into a sin, they will not continue such a course; but rather, will repent sincerely, repudiating any willful violation of God's revealed will." (Answers to Difficult Bible Texts by Joe Crews)

**Fundamental Beliefs:** Seventh-day Adventists accept the Bible as their only creed and hold certain fundamental beliefs to be the teaching of the Holy Scriptures. These 28 fundamental beliefs constitute the Church's understanding of the teaching of the Scripture. Today's belief number eight, THE GREAT CONTROVERSY: All humanity is now involved in a great controversy between Christ and Satan regarding the character of God, His law and His sovereignty over the universe. This conflict originated in heaven when a created being, endowed with freedom of choice, in self-exaltation became Satan, God's adversary, and led into rebellion a portion of the angels. He introduced the spirit of rebellion into this world when he led Adam and Eve into sin. This human sin resulted in the distortion of the image of God in humanity, the disordering of the created world, and its eventual devastation at the time of the worldwide flood. Observed by the whole creation, this world became the arena of the universal conflict, out of which the God of love will ultimately be vindicated. To assist His people in this controversy, Christ sends the Holy Spirit and the loyal angels to guide, protect and sustain them in the way of salvation. (Revelation 12:4-9; Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:12-18; Genesis 3; Romans 1:19-32; 5:12-21; 8:19-22; Genesis 6-8; 2Peter 3:6; 1 Corinthians 4:9; Hebrews 1:14.)

**Thought for the Day:** The Meaning of Conversion
If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor. 5:17. The old nature, born of blood and the will of the flesh, cannot inherit the kingdom of God. The old ways, the hereditary tendencies, the former habits, must be given up; for grace is not inherited. The new birth consists in having new motives, new tastes, new tendencies. Those who are begotten unto a new life by the Holy Spirit, have become partakers of the divine nature, and in all their habits and practices they will give evidence of their relationship to Christ. When men who claim to be Christians retain all their
natural defects of character and disposition, in what does their position differ from that of the worldling? They do not appreciate the truth as a sanctifier, a refiner. They have not been born again. . . . A genuine conversion changes hereditary and cultivated tendencies to wrong. The religion of God is a firm fabric, composed of innumerable threads, and woven together with tact and skill. Only the wisdom which comes from God can make this fabric complete. There are a great many kinds of cloth which at first have a fine appearance, but they cannot endure the test. They wash out. The colors are not fast. Under the heat of summer they fade away and are lost. The cloth cannot endure rough handling. So it is with the religion of many. When the warp and woof of character will not stand the test of trial, the material of which it is composed is worthless. The efforts made to patch the old with a new piece do not better the condition of things; for the old, flimsy material breaks away from the new, leaving the rent much larger than before. Patching will not do. The only way is to discard the old garment altogether, and procure one entirely new. Christ's plan is the only safe one. He declares, "Behold, I make all things new." "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." . . . The patchwork religion is not of the least value with God. He requires the whole heart. Jesus gave His life. . . . for us, and shall we not give Him our best affections, our holiest aspirations, our fullest service? {Maranatha p. 237, Ellen G. White}

Affirmation: "I have an unquenchable desire for the inexhaustible word of God. As a disciple of Jesus Christ, the Messiah, I live in (and according to) His word. Because I adhere to His teachings, I have an intimate knowledge (through personal experience) of the truth-and-His truth has set me free!" (Psalm 42:1, 2; Jeremiah 15:16; Psalm 119:103; Job 23:12; Matthew 4:4; Psalm 119:11; John 8:31, 32; John 8:36.) Life Affirmations from Scripture written by Shelley Quinn

Become a 3ABN Prayer Warrior:
http://3abn.org/pastoral/prayer/warriors/
If the Holy Spirit convicts you that intercessory prayer be your calling, please visit our website and follow directions, submitting the necessary information. Being a Prayer Warrior is one of the most rewarding ministries there is. When we walk the streets of gold, only then will we know the extent of our cooperative efforts with the Lord. We continually receive input from our Prayer Warriors stating how satisfying it is to work in the Lord's vineyard. What we intend to be a blessing for others is a greater blessing for us. God gets all the glory.

Bible Topic Scriptures: anxiety-a painful or apprehensive uneasiness of mind usually over an impending or anticipated ill. (synonyms: agitation, apprehension, concern fear, uneasiness, worry) I would imagine most of us during some time in our life must deal with some sort of anxiety. I have learned in order to get past some of the stuff thrown at us I use scripture to get back aligned. Try claiming these: (1) Psalm 27:14 "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on the Lord!"(2) Psalm 30:5 "For His anger is but for a moment, His favor is for life; weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." (3)Philippians 4:6-7 "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (4) Philippians 4:19 "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (5) Isaiah 26:3"You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You."
Need Special prayer?

http://3abn.org/pastoral/prayer-request/

Your 3ABN Pastoral staff is here to assist you. Every member of our team is sensitive to those in pain. I believe, over the years, we have encountered callers in just about every topic or situation one could imagine. It is only by the aid and power of the Holy Spirit that we are able to successfully do that which He has called us to do. We are eager to share words of hope and encouragement. To God be the glory!

**Our sincere prayer** is that God will richly bless you in all areas of your life. You are precious to us and we love you as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Your loving Pastoral Staff: Grace Yost, Colleen Hauser, Iris Giguere, Jim Cunnington, Devey Rodriguez, Joe O'Brien, Kevin Hart, Lewis Carson, Hal Steenson and JD Quinn.

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