A lady went out one afternoon, leaving her little boy at his grandma’s and saying she would call for him when she returned home, which she expected would be by six o’clock. The time passed till it was nearly six, and his grandma said perhaps his mother was not coming for him that night.

“Yes, she will,” replied the boy.

Six o’clock came, and grandma said, “Well, I guess your mother will not come for you tonight.”

“I know she will,” said the boy confidently, and he watched patiently for her.

It was getting toward his bedtime, and grandma was pretty sure his mother would not come, and he would stay all night with her.

“Well, I know she will come,” was still his confident reply.

“Why, what makes you so positive?” asked his grandmother.

“Because,” said the boy, “she said if she was not here by six o’clock, she would certainly come, and MY MOTHER NEVER TOLD A LIE.”

In a few minutes the mother came and took him home.--Unknown, *Signs of the Times*, 

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*Signs of the Times* newsletter is a collection of stories and quotes from past issues of *Signs* and *These Times*.
May 3, 1910.

Quote: “The cross meant death for Jesus in order to mean life to us.”—By Charles G. Bellah, *Signs of the Times*, April 8, 1930.

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A dying Christian, who had been very reticent with his testimony all his life, said to Billy Bray, who sat beside him, “If I had the power, I’d shout ‘Glory to God.’”

Billy answered, “It’s a pity you didn’t shout ‘Glory’ when you had the power.”

We had better be about our testimony while we have the power. If we are ever to study the Scriptures, if we are ever to spend time in prayer, if we are ever to win souls for Christ, if we are ever to invest our finances for His kingdom, it must be now.—By Billy Graham, *These Times*, March 1968.


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NEW from Pacific Press—*Miracle on the Mountain* by Bradley Booth. *Miracle on the Mountain* is a collection of twelve extraordinary mission stories of faith and courage from around the globe. Stand alongside Li Hua and Siegfried as they face certain death. Walk beside Genya and Won Tak as they preach the gospel against all odds, and journey with Philipp and Thomas to the ends of the earth to share the truth of the three angels' messages. Witness the passion and commitment of these dedicated believers, and your own faith will reignited with a desire to serve your Savior.

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Recipe for Life
1 cup good thoughts
1 cup kind deeds
1 cup consideration for others
3 cups forgiveness
2 cups well-beaten faults

Mix thoroughly, and add tears of joy, sorrow, and sympathy for others.
Fold in 4 cups prayer and faith to lighten other ingredients and raise the texture to great heights of Christian living.
After pouring all this into your family life, bake well with the heat of human kindness. Serve with a smile—Unknown, *These Times*, April 1967.

Quote: “The Bible as a whole contains all the vitamins and minerals, all the protein and starch, all the nutrients we need for strong and vibrant spiritual health.”—By W. T. Purkiser, *These Times*, August 1969.

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Is the Bible the Word of the living God, or is it merely the writings of men? Is its origin divine, or is it human? Shall we accept all the Bible as the inspired Word of God, or shall we accept only such portions of it as may agree with modern thought? Is it a good book, or is it bad? How can we tell?

Let us illustrate: Suppose we bring a supply of different kinds of seed to a certain community where the people are especially interested in horticulture. Some of the seeds are well known. Such evoke no discussion, for the people are all agreed about them. But a dispute arises concerning a certain kind of seed that we brought. Some claim that it belongs to one species of plants, while others claim that it belongs to another family. Some claim that it is good and would produce valuable fruit and prove a great blessing to the community; while others claim it is worthless; and some even say that it belongs to an
obnoxious class of weeds that should not be permitted to spread.

The interest in this seed increases, and the dispute waxes warm. Finally some “learned men”—men of science, who ought to know—are called upon to decide the question. They come. They critically examine the seeds. They discuss the size, the shape, the color, and then make their deductions. With great eloquence and masterly logic, these “learned men” argue their cases; they build up their logic; but they do not agree. Each one presents arguments to support his claims, but the community is still at a loss to know whether it is a good or a bad seed.

Finally, an old farmer with no college degrees affixed to his name arises to address the people. He says: “Neighbors, let me tell you what to do to settle this question. Let us plant the seed in a good warm soil; and when it bears its fruit, we shall be able to tell whether it is good or bad. Then we shall not need any of these learned doctors to tell us. Here is a kernel of corn; I know that it will bring forth corn. Here is a pumpkin seed that will bring forth pumpkins; and this kernel of wheat will bring forth wheat. So will this seed that we have been discussing so long bring forth its own fruit. And then we shall know. I have not attended college. I do not know Greek or Latin; and, as for the university degree, I do not know just what it is; but I do know good fruit when I eat it. So, neighbors, let us plant this seed, and let it prove by its own fruit what it is."

To this the community agreed, and dismissed their learned men.

Even so it is with the Bible.—By Nels P. Neilsen, Signs of the Times, March 29, 1927.

Quote: “Good company and good discourse are the very sinews of virtue.”—By Izaak Walton, Signs of the Times, November 7, 1906.

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Sometimes it takes a severe illness, a crippling injury, or unforeseen misfortune to open a person’s eye to the true values of life.

Blindness helped the apostle Paul to see. John’s book of the Revelation was written while he was in exile. John Bunyan wrote The Pilgrim’s Progress while he was in Bedford Jail. Martin Luther translated the Bible into German while in Wartburg castle. Madame Guyon’s sweetest poems and deepest experiences came out of her long imprisonment.

Frances Parkman, known as the fabulous invalid, though unable to write for more than
five minutes at a time because of illness and poor eyesight, produced nearly a score of the
greatest histories of early America.

In almost all outstanding lives one finds handicaps, reverses, adversities, and
misfortunes: Milton’s blindness, Beethoven’s deafness, Pasteur’s paralysis, Jacob’s night
of wrestling. God sometimes puts men on their backs so they can look upward.—By E. E.

Quote: “Often we miss the most precious blessings by neglecting to speak a word in
season. If the golden opportunity is not watched for, it will be lost. At the bedside of the
sick no word of creed or controversy should be spoken. Let the sufferer be pointed to the
One who is willing to save all that come to Him in faith. Earnestly, tenderly strive to help
the soul that is hovering between life and death.”—Unknown, *Signs of the Times*, October
5, 1926.

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A young student at Yale College was once called upon to take the place of principal of the
New Britain, Connecticut high school for a short time.

He was kindly informed by his associate teacher that it was the custom to open school
every morning with prayer. Although he was not a Christian, he felt that it was his duty,
and he complied accordingly.

Finally he said to his associate: “I feel that I am playing the part of a hypocrite. My
class at Yale holds its prayer meeting tomorrow evening, and I have half a mind to go
down there.”

His associate urged him to go, and offered to open up school the next morning.

This young man went, told his story in a manly way, was converted, and as a result a
revival sprang up in which eighty students were led to Christ.—By Clifford M. Loveland,
*Signs of the Times*, April 19, 1910.

Quote: “Prayer is a moving, a longing, and a desire of the spirit Godward for that which it
lacketh as a sick man mourneth and sorroweth in the heart, longing for health.”—By

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Don’ts for Prospective Ministers

An English paper gives the following as part of the charge delivered at an installation of a pastor:

Don’t study without prayer.
Don’t tell all you know in one sermon.
Don’t put the hay too high in the ricks.
Don’t offer sentimental confections or intellectual shavings.
Don’t mistake philosophy for Christianity, cant for piety, noise for zeal, or crowds for success.
Don’t be so broad that you can float nothing but intellectual ships on your shallow stream.
Don’t scold.
Don’t mistake length for profundity, or brevity for wit.
Don’t lash the back of a sinner instead of the back of sin.
Don’t offer to other people manna which you have not tasted yourself.
Don’t be a vender of nostrums.
Don’t try to make bricks without straw.—From The Expositor, Signs of the Times, January 30, 1912.

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Compiled by Dale Galusha. Please pass this newsletter on to others.
Spam
Not spam
Forget previous vote