

## ***BURLEY BIBLE MEN'S 2011 NEWSLETTERS***

The following links are for the Burley Men's Newsletters. If you have any comments or suggestions for the Men's Ministry at Burley Bible, please contact Don Nelson at: [halfnelson2@comcast.net](mailto:halfnelson2@comcast.net).

- ***JANUARY***
- ***FEBRUARY***
- ***MARCH***
- ***APRIL***
- ***MAY***
- ***JUNE***

# BURLEY BIBLE MEN'S NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4 – Issue 1

January 2011

Psalms 119:9,11 –“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 4  
PAGE 2

## MEN'S EVENTS

**Men's Breakfast – 7:30 AM**  
JAN. 1<sup>ST</sup>, FEB 5<sup>TH</sup>, MAR 5<sup>TH</sup>,  
APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup>, MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>

### MEN'S MINISTRY CONTACTS

E-mail: [halfnelson2@comcast.net](mailto:halfnelson2@comcast.net)

#### Men's Leadership Team

**Don Nelson – (Men's Ministry Director), Dennis Williams**

#### **GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH**

Hymn Author: - William Williams,

Psalms 31:3 “For You are my rock and my fortress; For Your name's sake You will lead me and guide me.”

During the early part of the eighteenth century a young Welsh preacher, Howell Harris, was stirring Wales with his evangelistic preaching and congregational singing. In England the Wesleys and George Whitefield were conducting similar revivals and outdoor campaigns. One of the lives touched by Harris's preaching was William Williams. Prior to this time Williams had been preparing for the medical profession, but upon hearing a sermon by Harris, young Williams gave his heart and life to God and decided to enter the ministry.

He served two parishes in the Anglican Church for a time but never felt at ease in the established, ritualistic church. Like Harris, he decided to take all of Wales as his parish and for the next forty-three years traveled nearly 100,000 miles on horseback, preaching and singing the gospel in his native tongue. Though he suffered many hardships, he was affectionately known as the "sweet singer of Wales."

Throughout Wales he was respected as a persuasive preacher, yet it is said that the chief source of his influence was his hymns. He wrote approximately 800 of them, all in Welsh. One hymnologist has said, "What Isaac Watts has been to England, that and more has William Williams been to Wales."

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" first appeared in a hymnal published by Williams in Bristol, England, in 1745. It originally consisted of five six-line stanzas and was entitled "Strength to Pass Through the Wilderness." The imagery of the hymn is drawn wholly from the Bible. The hymn compares the forty-year journey of the Israelites to the promised land with the living of a Christian life as a "pilgrim[age] through this barren land." Note the symbolic phrases used throughout: "bread of heaven" (manna), "crystal fountain" (I Corinthians 10:3, 4), "fire and cloudy pillar," "verge of Jordan," "Canaan's Side."

Article From Osbeck's 101 Hymn Stories

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our last breakfast was on December 4<sup>th</sup>. There were 28 men who attended the breakfast. Come for a great breakfast at the next breakfast on January 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 AM. We encourage you to invite other men to attend our breakfast. Pictured below are some of the men who attended on December 4<sup>th</sup>.



### MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

The next Burley Bible Men's Discipleship class begin on January 9<sup>th</sup>. The subject is: "Standing On The High Ground", which is a discussion and life application Bible study. The class will be held in the education building in Room 105 from 9 AM to 10:15 AM. All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.

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### WHO IS #1? - Romans 12:1-2

“Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, {which is} your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”

## **GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 4 (Article By Mr. G.)**

January brings us to a new year. The subject this month is one that is always a personal choice all the time. **INDEPENDENCE!**

Jeremiah 17:5 states. “Thus says the LORD, “Cursed is the man who trusts in mankind, and makes flesh his strength, and whose heart turns away from the LORD”. This verse is pretty simple since it gives each of us a choice. Trust in ourselves (mankind) or trust in the Lord. But this is only the beginning of the story of independence.

God does not expect us only to be compliant to Him because God’s Word expects obedience to Him. He wants us to make a choice in our spirit and will regarding independence. It is a good thing, our God allows us to choose and not be forced to serve Him. Our verse for the month, Romans 12:1-2, makes it very clear that serving God is a choice of the will and spirit. It was so an important choice that the Apostle Paul urges us to present our bodies to service to God. The word urge is also translated in other versions of the Bible, beseech, plead, appeal, beg, call upon, etc.. The emphasis is clear, we need to make a choice.

Psalms 37:23-24 contain a promise. “The steps of a man are established by the LORD, And He delights in his way. When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, Because the LORD is the One who holds his hand.” But to receive the promise, we need to make a choice to put God first in our life.

Psalms 37:4-5 gives us specific instruction regarding independence. “Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.” Again, to receive the promise, we need to make a decision, to trust in God and commit (to put in charge) our way to the Lord.

Proverbs 3:5-8 continues with more promises from God. “Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil. It will be healing to your body And refreshment to your bones.” There is much wisdom in these four verses. One part is a spiritual check point for us. When we fear the Lord, it will help us to turn away from evil.

Jeremiah 17:9-10 cuts to the spiritual chase with yet another promise. ““The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it? “I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds.” This is the basic spiritual cause and effect. We must realize that our heart (old nature) is really deceitful and morally, spiritually sick. But, praise God for His spiritual microscope that looks into our heart and mind. Based on what is in our heart and mind, we will receive the spiritual result, i.e., give us our reward, whether good or bad. The following verses continue this thought.

Galatians 5:16-18 provide another promise. “But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.”

So, how do we walk by the Spirit? The following are a few suggestions.

1. Spend time in God’s Word everyday. Ask yourself, where is your spiritual heartache? Then read areas of Scripture that help in those areas. Psalms and Proverbs is an excellent area of Scripture to read for healing spiritual heartaches.
2. Start your day off, by asking the Lord Jesus, what would you have me to do for you today. In all that we do, demonstrating kindness to those around us will take us a long way to serving the Lord Jesus.
3. Walking by the Spirit is really walking in the light. 1 John 1:7 adds a vital element to walking in the Spirit. Fellowship with each other. I have been reading 1John the first chapter everyday (along with other areas of Scripture) for over one month. It has helped me to remember that I still have a sin nature and, praise God, the blood of Jesus cleanses me of sin when I am walking in the light.

**MAY YOUR INDEPENDENCE BE SET ASIDE FOR THE CAUSE OF SERVING THE LORD JESUS!**

# BURLEY BIBLE MEN'S NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4 – Issue 2

February 2011

Psalms 119:9,11 – “How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 5  
PAGE 2

**MEN'S EVENTS**  
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## JESUS LOVES ME

**Author: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915**

Mark 10:16: “And He took them up in His arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them.”

Without doubt the hymn that has influenced children for Christ more than any other is this simply stated one, written in 1860 by Anna Bartlett Warner. Miss Warner wrote this text in collaboration with her sister Susan as a part of one of the best-selling novels of that day, a novel written by Susan entitled Say and Seal.

Today few remember the plot of that novel, which stirred the hearts of many readers. But the simple poem spoken by one of the characters, Mr. Linden, as he comforts Johnny Fax, a dying child, still remains the favorite hymn of children around the world to this day.

Anna and Susan Warner were highly educated and deeply devoted Christian young women who lived all of their lives along the Hudson River in New York, in a lovely but secluded area apart from the busy world.

Their home was near the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, and for a number of years these two sisters conducted Sunday School classes for the young cadets. Their home, Good Crag, was willed to the Academy and made into a national shrine. Both sisters were buried with military honors in recognition of their spiritual contributions to the lives of the young military officers.

Dr. William B. Bradbury, the composer of the music for the text, was one of the important contributors to the development of early gospel hymnody in this country. He was born in York, Maine, on October 6, 1816.

Article From Osbeck's 101 Hymn Stories

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our last breakfast was on January 1<sup>st</sup>. There were 35 men who attended the breakfast. Come for a great breakfast at the next breakfast on February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM. We encourage you to invite other men to attend our breakfast. Pictured below are some of the men who attended on January 1<sup>st</sup>.



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## WHO DO WE LOVE?

We need to show love to those around us. But, how much do we love the Lord Jesus? When we think of what He has done for us, love is the normal spiritual reaction. When you think about those whom you love next month, think about the One who loved you first.

John 13:34-35a – “**A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.**”

## **GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 5 (Article By Mr. G.)**

The subject this month is one that makes us look at our spiritual priorities. **IDOLATRY!** **Idolatry** is defined in American Heritage Dictionary as: “Worship of idols or blind or excessive devotion to something.”

The Bible Library provides a good simple definition of **idolatry**. “In the New Testament idolatry came to mean, not only the giving to any creature or human creation the honor or devotion which belonged to God alone, but the giving to any human desire a precedence over God's will.” Please note the last part, “a precedence over God’s will”. Precedence is simply how we set our priorities, or choices.

Matthew 6:33 states, “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.” When Jesus spoke these words, little did those who heard His plea that day understand it’s lasting counsel that has continued with us today. The key word as it applies to our subject, **idolatry** is, “seek”. When we seek something, it takes an active decision of our will, which in turn moves us either a physical, emotional, mental or spiritual action.

We probably would not make an active choice to commit a crime maybe because of the consequence as a result of the crime. But what about the spiritual crime of **idolatry**? No, we probably do not have physical idols that we bow down too. What about spiritual idols we bow down to with our daily choices? It would be easy if the Word of God would give us a list of those spiritual idols to avoid, but it does not. God’s Word does give us some insight about **idolatry** in the new testament.

**1 Corinthians 10:13-14:** “Therefore, my beloved, flee from **idolatry**”, Verse 14. “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.” Verse 13. I listed verse 13 first for emphasis of a temptation that God is able to help us escape or endure the temptation.

**Galatians 5:19-20:** “Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, **idolatry**, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,” etc. **Idolatry** is listed as one of the deeds of the flesh.

**Colossians 3:5:** Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to **idolatry**. Notice that greed is **idolatry**. Greed is defined in the American Heritage Dictionary as: “An excessive desire to acquire or possess more than what one needs or deserves, especially with respect to material wealth”

**1 Peter 4:1-3:** “Therefore, since Christ has suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same purpose, because he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. For the time already past is sufficient {for} {you} to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable **idolatries**.”

So, where are we in our spiritual journey in relationship to **idolatry**? We need to keep on the watch for things in this world system that would lead us to **idolatry** and not doing God’s will for our lives. Everywhere we look in our culture (Television, newspapers, magazines, movies, internet, etc.) are temptations crying out that, “you want me!” We need to continue to arm ourselves with the Word of God to resist **idolatry** temptations.

“Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **fixing our eyes on Jesus**, the author and perfecter of faith”

**Hebrews 12:1-2a:**

# BURLEY BIBLE MEN'S NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4 – Issue 3

March 2011

Psalms 119:9,11 –“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 6  
PAGE 2

## MEN'S EVENTS

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### DAY BY DAY

Author: - Lina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903 - Hymn

Music: - Oscar Ahnfelt, 1813-1882

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

The waves of revival that swept the Scandinavian countries during the latter half of the nineteenth century were greatly influenced by the wealth of fine hymns which flowed from the pen of Lina Sandell, born on October 3, 1832 at Froderyd, Sweden. She was a daughter of the pastor of the parish church of that community. Being a frail youngster, she usually preferred to spend her time in her father's study rather than to join her comrades in play.

When she was twenty-six years of age, she accompanied her father on a journey to Gothenburg, but tragedy occurred before the destination was reached. The ship gave a sudden lurch and Lina's father fell overboard and drowned before the eyes of his devoted daughter. Although she had written hymns prior to this tragic experience, more songs began to flow out of her broken heart which reflect a simple, child-like trust in Christ and a deep sense of His abiding presence in her life.

The remarkable popularity attained by her hymns has been due, to a large extent, to the simple but melodious music written for them by such musicians as Oscar Ahnfelt. He was known as a "spiritual troubadour" in his day. Not only did he possess the gift of writing pleasing melodies that caught the fancy of the Swedish people, but he also traveled from place to place throughout the Scandinavian countries singing these folk-like songs to the accompaniment of his home-made ten-string guitar. Miss Sandell once said, "Ahnfelt has sung my songs into the hearts of the people."

Article From Osbeck's 101 Hymn Stories

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

Our last breakfast was on February 5<sup>th</sup>. There were about 32 men who attended the breakfast. Come for a great breakfast at the next breakfast on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM. We encourage you to invite other men to attend our breakfast. Pictured below are some of the men who attended on February 5<sup>th</sup>.



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## WHAT IS OUR SPRING CLEANUP?

March 20<sup>th</sup> at 2321 will be the Spring Equinox. With Spring comes flowers blooming, trees budding out, etc. Most of us will do Spring cleanup where we live. It also gives us the opportunity to do some Spring spiritual review in our lives to see if we need a Spiritual Spring Cleanup. A simple spiritual checklist is found in the following verse.

"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Philippians 4:8

## **GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 6 (Article By Mr. G.)**

This month we will take a look at a subject that all of us will be or are tempted. **GREED!** The American Heritage Dictionary defines greed as: “An excessive desire to acquire or possess more than what one needs or deserves, especially with respect to material wealth”. A related word for greed is craving (To have an intense desire for.)

How many of us when shopping see something that we would like to have. We might say, it is not a bad thing and I have enough cash money to buy it. I would be the first one to raise my hand, and say, Me! When we are tempted with greed, it can lead us to a temptation that comes from Satan's world system. In 1 John 2:16 one of the world temptations is, “lust of the eyes”. Who knows, we might even think of the item as, “my precious” like Gollum who was consumed by passion for, “the ring” in the Hobbit. Okay, maybe we would not think or look at an item as, “my precious”. But the picture is clear, to have something driven by greed.

A short story from my past would be a good illustration of greed. I got my first computer in 1988. Little did I know where that would lead me in the world of greed. All computers have software programs (Like the one I am using just now to write this article). I did not realize that software programs usually have a newer version with more bells and whistles. So when I received an offer to have the latest version of the software, I had to have it, so I bought it. Most of the time the new version did not really add any feature that I needed.

I don't remember how long before the spiritual light of greed came on, but it was God reminding me that I really did not need the latest version of the program. We have an awesome God because with every temptation He will provide a spiritual escape door to avoid the temptation. What God gave to me was very simple. When I received an upgrade offer, I would set the offer aside for at least one week. Then by the time I came back and looked at the offer I would really evaluate whether I needed the upgrade. Boy Howdy, did God's escape door to the temptation work. Since that time, I have done some upgrades to operating systems for the computer (Sort of like the engine in your car, which is necessary to make the car go) but hardly ever have upgraded an end use software program. Praise God!

So, what stories of past greed in your life has God provided a spiritual escape door? It is good to look at our past to see how God has led us when tempted with greed.

The following verses might help when the temptation of greed comes our way. Remember that God has promised to provide all that we need, without succumbing to the temptation of greed.

1 Corinthians 10:13. “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.”

Philippians 4:19. “And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”

Matthew 6:8. “So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.”

Matthew 6:30-33. “But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is {alive} today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, {will He} not much more {clothe} you? You of little faith! “Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ “For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

Hebrews 4:16. “Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

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Vol. 4 – Issue 4

April 2011

Psalms 119:9,11 –“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 7  
PAGE 2

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### **HE AROSE – Robert Lowry**

**Robert Lowry (1826 – 1899)** was an American professor of literature, a Baptist minister and composer of gospel hymns. Lowry studied theology at the University at Lewisburg (now Bucknell University) and on graduating, in 1854, became ordained as a Baptist minister. He had charge of churches in a number of places including New York; Brooklyn; West Chester, Pennsylvania; and New Jersey.

In 1869 he returned to Lewisburg as a faculty member (having previously served as a professor of literature) and later went on to become its chancellor.

He is most remembered as a composer of gospel music and a hymn writer, and also worked as a music editor at the Biglow & Main Publishing Company. He was responsible for around 500 compositions, including "Nothing But the Blood," "Low in the Grave He Lay" [**He Arose**] (words and music)," "Shall We Gather At The River?," and "How Can I Keep From Singing?" He also wrote the music and refrain for "Marching to Zion" (words by Isaac Watts).

Despite his success as a hymn writer, it was as a preacher that Lowry would have preferred to be recognized. He once stated: "Music, with me has been a side issue... I would rather preach a gospel sermon to an appreciative audience than write a hymn. I have always looked upon myself as a preacher and felt a sort of depreciation when I began to be known more as a composer. "But, however, it is as a hymn writer that he remains renowned."

Lowry was married with three sons and died in Plainfield, New Jersey on 23rd November 1899. He is interred in Hillside Cemetery. Lowry was a member of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and served as the second national president, preceded by Joseph Benson Foraker, Governor of Ohio.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Our last breakfast was on March 5<sup>th</sup>. There were 23 men who attended the breakfast. Come for a great breakfast and good fellowship at the next breakfast on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 AM. We encourage you to invite other men to attend our breakfast. Pictured below are some of the men who attended on March 5<sup>th</sup>.



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## **RESURRECTION POWER**

April 24<sup>th</sup> is Easter when we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Jesus will return again and the world will see His power at His second coming.

"But immediately after the tribulation of those days **THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL** from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. "And then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the **SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY** with power and great glory."

Matthew 24:29-30

## **GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 7 (Article By Mr. G.)**

We continue to look into God's Spiritual Mirror by addressing a **"Critical Spirit"**. So, what is a **critical spirit**? The American Heritage Dictionary cites critical as: "Inclined to **judge severely** and **find fault**," or "tending or marked by a tendency to find and call attention to **errors and flaws**". Another part of a **critical spirit** is being captious which is: "A disposition to find and point out **trivial** (Of little significance or value or ordinary; commonplace) **faults**."

At sometime or another we all would have to raise our hand and say, "Yes I have had a **critical spirit**." The emphasis here should be, "have had" or past tense. It is far too easy to find fault with something or someone. Once we cross the spiritual threshold of being critical, we also have moved in our spiritual walk from light to darkness. 1 John 1:7 makes it quite clear when we are walking in the light, we are in fellowship with each other. Notice the absence of a **"critical spirit"** in the verse.

It is of utmost importance to be sensitive and aware of the spiritual attack of a **critical spirit**. This attack is very subtle (sneaky, or stealthy) and all too easy of being trapped by casual conversation. When we say something critical about someone else we have succumbed (given into) the spiritual attack of being critical.

What is the spiritual follow when we are made aware by the Holy Spirit when we have had a **critical spirit**? The first spiritual recovery step is to confess our sin of a **critical spirit** to God (1 John 1:9) and then go to the person we were critical of by asking their forgiveness. Notice, we ask their forgiveness after receiving forgiveness by God. Be careful how you ask for forgiveness. The words could be something like: "God has shown me that I was wrong when I offended you by the hurtful words I said to you. Will you forgive me?" The polite expression of, "I apologize", "I'm sorry", do not get to the root of what moved us to ask for forgiveness. The, "root" is taking responsibility for our sin because the Holy Spirit has started the spiritual recovery process when He showed us we have sinned against our Holy God!

The following areas of Scripture will be helpful to avoid the spiritual trap of a **critical spirit**. I also suggest and encourage you read each of the following areas of scripture everyday for 30 days. This will allow the Holy Spirit to implant these areas of scripture in your mind and spirit (new man) and will make you more aware of the spiritual attack of a **critical spirit**.

Ephesians 4:29-32: "Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such {a word} as is good for edification according to the need {of the moment,} so that it will give grace to those who hear. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."

Romans 12:1-3: "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, {which is} your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith."

Philippians 4:6-8: "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 comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell (or think) on these things."

# BURLEY BIBLE MEN'S NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4 – Issue 5

May 2011

Psalms 119:9,11 –“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

**MEN'S EVENTS**  
**Men's Breakfast – 7:30 AM**  
MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>, JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>, JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>  
AUG. 6<sup>TH</sup>, SEPT. 3<sup>RD</sup>

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## **MEN'S MINISTRY CONTACTS**

E-mail: [halfnelson2@comcast.net](mailto:halfnelson2@comcast.net)

### **Men's Leadership Team**

**Don Nelson – (Men's Ministry Director), Dennis Williams**

### **Blessed Assurance**

Author: - Fanny J. Crosby, Composer: - Phoebe P. Knapp

**Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Hebrews 10:22**

Gospel music as an important form of Christian hymnody had its beginning in the latter half of the nineteenth century and is associated with such well-known names as Moody, Sankey, Bliss and Frances Jane Crosby. Crosby, perhaps more than any other writer, however, truly captured the spirit of the American gospel song movement. Gospel hymnody has been a plough digging up hardened surfaces of paved minds.

It is estimated that Fanny Crosby wrote more than 8,000 gospel song texts in her lifetime. Her hymns have been and are still being sung more frequently than those of any other gospel hymn writer. Her many favorites have been an important part of evangelical worship for the past century. It is truly amazing that anyone, and especially a blind person, could write on this variety of spiritual truths and experiences with such proliferation. For a considerable period during her life, while under contract to a music publisher, she wrote three new hymns each week. She used over 200 pen names besides her own.

Many of her original texts are still being uncovered and no doubt will be published in the near future. Often the themes for her hymns were suggested by visiting ministers wishing to have a new song on a particular subject. At other times musician friends would first compose the music and then ask Fanny Crosby for the words.

Such was the case for the hymn, Blessed Assurance. The music for the hymn was composed by Mrs. Joseph Knapp, an amateur musician, wife of the founder of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, and a close personal friend of Fanny Crosby. One day Mrs. Knapp played this melody for the blind poetess and asked, What does this tune say? Fanny responded immediately, Why, that says: 'Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine.'

Fanny Crosby died at the age of ninety-five. Only eternity will disclose the host of individuals who have been won to a saving faith in Jesus Christ or those whose lives have been spiritually enriched through the texts of her many hymns. Engraved on Fanny J. Crosby's tombstone at Bridgeport, Connecticut, are these significant words taken from our Lord's remarks to Mary, the sister of Lazarus, after she had anointed Him with costly perfume, **SHE HATH DONE WHAT SHE COULD.**

**Article From Osbeck's 101 Hymn Stories**

## **MEN'S BREAKFAST**

Our last breakfast was on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were 33 men who attended the breakfast. Come for a great breakfast and good fellowship at the next breakfast on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 AM. We encourage you to invite other men to attend our breakfast. Pictured below are some of the men who attended on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.



## **MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP CLASS**

The Burley Bible Men's Discipleship class is currently in session. The subject is: "**Standing On The High Ground**", which is a discussion and life application Bible study. The is held in the **education building in Room 105 from 9 AM to 10:15 AM.** All men are welcome and encouraged to attend.

## **MEN'S INTERNET RESOURCES**

The Burley Men's Newsletter can be found on Burley Bible's Web page. The link is: <http://www.bbccl.org>. Click on the Ministries link then Current Newsletter by the bulleted Men's Ministry listing.

**Just a reminder,** The three web links below are good reference links. <http://www.Blueletterbible.org> is an on-line Bible with almost every resource you will need in your Bible study.

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## **NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

The Burley Bible Men's Newsletter is sent out via E-Mail and US Mail. Copies of the newsletter are at the Church Information Desk. Newsletter contact is Mr. G. at E-Mail at [whatnexthome@gmail.com](mailto:whatnexthome@gmail.com).

## **GOD'S GIFT OF LIFE**

For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath [of God] through Him. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation

Romans 5:6-11

## **GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 8 (Article By Mr. G.)**

Our look into God's Spiritual Mirror this month is Anger. The American Heritage Dictionary describes anger as: A strong feeling of displeasure or hostility and the International Standard Bible Encyclopedia describes anger as: selfish, malicious or vindictive personal feeling. In each description of anger, it centers on our feelings.

Is a feeling of anger wrong or sinful? Yes and No! God's Word has examples of righteous anger. When the Lord Jesus drove out of the temple area those who were buying and selling, i.e., the money changers and those who sold doves (Matthew 21:12), it was because of righteous anger. We see moral activities in our culture today that are sinful, and we might have a sense of anger. We must be careful not to let this type of anger take over and dominate our feelings and life. Remember that God is still in control and we are in the midst of spiritual warfare. This is Satan's world system and this is his time to influence the cultures of this world with his evil desires. A praise God here, because Satan is being restrained by the Holy Spirit of God so in part the Gospel of the Lord Jesus is still being spread around the world.

The anger issue that strikes home in our heart is the sinful anger. The two definitions of anger in the first paragraph really describe sinful anger. We could actually summarize sinful anger as: it's all about Me! All of us are prone to sinful anger because of our old nature. The old nature (Me!) always wants control of everything in our lives. One of the spiritual responses when the old Me does not get their way is anger. The spiritual fallout of sinful anger is always bad.

When we loose our temper and lash out at someone, we can be assured the person we expressed our anger to will be hurt and offended. The person might also respond in an angry manner. We must remember the Holy Spirit is well aware of our sinful anger. One indication of the Holy Spirit knows about our anger is the anguish we feel in our spirit after our outburst of sinful anger. When we give in to sinful anger, the Holy Spirit is grieved and quenched (This simply means that while under the influence of sinful anger, the Holy Spirit cannot help us in our service for the Lord Jesus.).

Now, the Praise God part. Anger is but one area of sin that we can experience. The spiritual response to our sin (Or any sin for that matter) is to agree with God that we have sinned by confessing that specific act of sin. Once we confess our sin then God forgives us of that act of sin based on the shed blood and resurrection power of the Lord Jesus. The Holy Spirit is now able to come along side us in our service for the Lord Jesus.

God gave us His Word because it is packed with spiritual tools that help us not to sin. The following are some spiritual tools to help us with the issue of sinful anger.

**James 1:19-20** – “{This} you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak {and} slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.” Please note the spiritual process that helps us to resist and not give in to sinful anger. **Quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.**

**Ephesians 4:25-27** – “Therefore, laying aside falsehood, **SPEAK TRUTH EACH ONE {of you} WITH HIS NEIGHBOR**, for we are members of one another. **BE ANGRY, AND {yet} DO NOT SIN**; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity.” **Notice the emphasis of speaking truth and don't let the sun go down on your anger.**

**Ephesians 4:30-32** – “Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.” **Great spiritual counsel in these verses. Don't grieve the Holy Spirit, Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other.**

# BURLEY BIBLE MEN'S NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4 – Issue 6

June 2011

Psalms 119:9,11 –“How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.”

**MEN'S EVENTS**  
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JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>, JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>  
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**GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 9**  
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## **MEN'S MINISTRY CONTACTS**

E-mail: [halfnelson2@comcast.net](mailto:halfnelson2@comcast.net)

### **Men's Leadership Team**

**Don Nelson – (Men's Ministry Director), Dennis Williams**

### **HOW GREAT THOU ART**

**Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable. Psalm 145:3**

The original Swedish text was a poem entitled "O Store Gud," written by a Swedish pastor, the Reverend Carl Boberg, in 1886. In addition to being one of the leading evangelical preachers of his day, Boberg was also the successful editor of the periodical Sanningsvitnet.

His inspiration for this text is said to have come from a visit to a beautiful country estate on the southeast coast of Sweden. He was suddenly caught in a midday thunderstorm with awe-inspiring moments of flashing violence, followed by a clear brilliant sun. Soon afterwards he heard the calm, sweet songs of the birds in nearby trees. The experience prompted the pastor to fall to his knees in humble adoration of his mighty God. He penned his exaltation in a nine-stanza poem beginning with the Swedish words "O Store Gud, nar jag den varld beskader."

This is a fine twentieth century hymn of praise that has become a favorite with God's people during the last three decades. Its popularity is due in large part to its wide use by favorite gospel singers, notably George Beverly Shea. Although introduced to American audiences when Mr. James Caldwell sang "How Great Thou Art" at Stony Brook Bible Conference on Long Island in 1951, it was not until Cliff Barrows and Bev Shea of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Team used it during the famed London Crusade in Harringay Arena that "How Great Thou Art" started to become universally well-known.

In 1933 the Reverend S. K. Hine and his wife, English missionaries, were ministering to the people of the Ukraine. It was there they learned the Russian translation of "O Store Gud" from a congregation of Ukrainians. They remember singing it as a duet in dark, unevangelized places and the telling effect it had on the unsaved. The thought of writing original English lyrics to this song did not then occur to them, that was to await their crossing into Sub-Carpathian Russia, where the mountain scenery was to play its part.

The thoughts of the first three verses in English were born, line upon line, amid unforgettable experiences in the Carpathian mountains. (The fourth verse was written later in England.) Thus, inspired partially by the Russian words, partially by the awesome wonder at the sight of "all the works thy hand hath made," the thoughts of the first two verses sprang into life in English. As Reverend Hine and his wife continued their evangelizing in the Carpathian mountains and distribution of gospels in village after village, verse three came into being.

When war broke out in 1939, it was necessary for Reverend Hine and his wife to return to Britain; now armed with these three verses, the writer continued his gospel campaigns during the "Blitz years." The fourth verse did not come until after the war.

**Article From Osbeck's 101 Hymn Stories**

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## **MEN'S MINISTRY**

Don Nelson is the Burley Bible Men's Ministry Director. The next time you see Don, why don't you thank him for his passion for serving the men at Burley. If you have any ideas that would help in the men's ministry, talk to Don or contact him via E-Mail at [halfnelson2@comcast.net](mailto:halfnelson2@comcast.net)

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## **WHERE IS OUR SALT?**

Salt is a preservative for food and used in scripture as a spiritual application. Jesus talked about salt in Matthew 5:13 when He said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty {again?} It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men." In Mark 9:50 the salt emphasis continues with, "Salt is good; but if the salt becomes unsalty, with what will you make it salty {again?} Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another." Finally in Colossians 4:6 it states, "Let your speech always be with grace, {as though} seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

So, brothers in the Lord Jesus, Where Is Our Salt?

## **GOD'S SPIRITUAL MIRROR – PART 9 (Article By Mr. G.)**

In God's Spiritual Mirror this month we will look at sexual immorality. I believe that this area is one that is a major spiritual attack for all men. We live in a society that promotes sex in television, movies, books, magazines, and probably the most wide spread (Besides television) and available is the internet. The old saying, "Look but don't touch" will not make it in our spiritual walk. Jesus made it quite clear that if a man looks on a woman and thinks of a sexual act, he has just committed the act and it is sin! Matthew 5:28. "but I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

Okay, that said, let us look as some ways to help us not fall to the temptation of sexual immorality.

First, if you have not received Jesus into your life as Savior, you do not have the spiritual tools to overcome sexual immorality which is by the power of the Holy Spirit of God through the Word of God. So your first step to overcome sexual immorality in your life is to admit that you are a sinner and in need of a Savior who paid the price for your sin on the cross of Calvary, the Lord Jesus Christ and ask the Lord Jesus into your life as Savior.

For those of us who have received the Lord Jesus as our Savior, the following areas of scripture will help us to not yield to sexual immorality.

**Romans 6:11-13.** "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin {as} instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members {as} instruments of righteousness to God."

**Romans 13:12-14.** "The night is almost gone, and the day is near. Therefore let us lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us behave properly as in the day, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual promiscuity and sensuality, not in strife and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to {its} lusts."

**1 Thessalonians 4:2-6.** "For you know what commandments we gave you by {the authority of} the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, your sanctification; {that is,} that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God;"

**James 1:13-16.** "Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren."

**Philippians 4:8.** "Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things."

**1 Corinthians 10:13.** "No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it." Note: See verses listed above!

Finally, if you have not been successful when sexual immorality attacks come, I would strongly encourage you to memorize the scripture listed above. When a sexual immorality attack occurs, run the scripture listed above through your mind. The Holy Spirit will do the rest to overcome this spiritual attack. Let's keep our focus on the Lord Jesus!