

Praise the LORD!

THE INSPIRED WRITER says, "Let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, . . . the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." (Heb. 13:15) And how appropriate is such a course! The rendering of praise indicates appreciation, gratitude, and thankfulness. In order to render praise, however, one must have a knowledge of God's favors and blessings. The knowledge attained, devotion should follow, with praise and thanksgiving. It is well, therefore, that we count our blessings daily. Those who so do will find themselves the richer. They may have no more blessings than before, but they will the more appreciate them and be disposed to offer praise, worship, and thanksgiving.

The Bible assures us that many of God's favors are common to all the human family, and not especially limited to those who have become his children through a complete consecration of themselves to him. Thus Jesus declared, the Father "maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."—Matt. 5:45

All should render some acknowledgement for the blessings that are common to all; but there is a difference between giving thanks to God and offering

prayer—petition. The LORD grants the privilege of prayer only to those who have come into his family as children—through Christ. The Christian has special grounds for thanksgiving and praise to God; and his causes for praise multiply as the days go by, while he abides in the LORD.

The Scriptures indicate that the heavenly hosts give praise to God, recognizing his goodness toward them and toward us. The poet well says that “all who see and share his love” should have the desire to render unto him praise and thanksgiving. An unthankful heart cannot enjoy in full measure the LORD’s blessings.

Our praise to the LORD depends very largely upon our development in Christian faith and knowledge. We see God’s provision in Christ for the sins of the whole world. We see his mighty power displayed in the course of events and, as our eyes of understanding open more widely, we perceive his providence and his interest even in the smallest affairs of our lives as Christians. The Master’s words figuratively imply this, saying, “The very hairs of your head are all numbered.”—Matt. 10:30

Not merely when singing with our voices are we praising the LORD! The Scriptures tell us to sing and make melody to him in our hearts. (Eph. 5:19) This singing in the heart—this praising the LORD from the depths of our soul—is an experience that comes only to the fully consecrated and considerably developed children of God. Our whole life should be a song of praise to the LORD, and will be, if we are walking faithfully in the narrow way. ■

ENCOURAGING LETTERS

TRUTH IN THESE LAST DAYS

Dear Sirs: I write in appreciation of the contents of *The Dawn* monthly booklet, and to express my personal enjoyment of the scholarship and translation of both Hebrew and Greek manuscripts.

Congratulations also on the “Sleeping Giant” article [March 2006]. How up-to-date you are on Napoleon’s words regarding China.

Please accept my good wishes. I’m retired six years and your periodical reminds me of the continual unfolding of God’s Truth in these last days. Yours faithfully—ENGLAND

TOUCHED BY BROTHER RUSSELL’S TEACHINGS

Dear Dawn Bible: I have left Jehovah’s Witnesses again, this time formally and properly because of the gulf I have seen in

not only some of the teachings, but also behavior and organization involved.

My wife and I have been Witnesses for 2 years (studying for 2-3 years), and we have been searching for a long time for Truth.

I have always been very impressed and touched at the heart by Brother Russell’s teachings from the Bible. How things went wrong after he died! Until recently, I thought Charles was the founder of Jehovah’s Witnesses; but after some research, I have found major differences (lovely ones) in his teachings and that there was a terrible wrongdoing after his death in regard to the Society.

Of course, due to their shunning rule they no longer talk to me and I cannot talk to them. We have lost our entire community, but it is worth it to seek and worship

Christ as he desires.

Due to all this, I was wondering what groups there are in the UK and how we may get involved. Thank you for your website. Christian love—ENGLAND

GOD'S TRUTH REFRESHING

Dawn Bible: How refreshing to hear God's Truth from his Word. My grandmother was a Dawn Bible student back in the 1940s. I am now in my 74th year of life—better late than never. God bless—NC

TAUGHT AS CHILDREN

Dawn Bible: I wanted to send you an e-mail to let you know that I am very happy that I have found the Dawn Publications online. I am a 57-year-old woman. My grandfather, who passed away when I was a baby, read your materials; and when my mother asked him about how to teach her children the Bible, he said

that he found the Dawn publications to be very helpful. My mother subscribed to them all her adult life, and taught me and my five sisters from your books. The one I remember as our bedtime storybook was *God's Promises Come True*. My Mom passed away in November of 2002, and my father passed away last year in February 2005. When we cleaned up my father's estate, my oldest sister asked if she could have some of *The Dawn* magazines that were my Mom's. I will let her know that you are online, too!

Now, I want to pass this faith on to others. I am going to begin reading your materials regularly, and hope my husband will too, and maybe God can use us to influence the next generation to read the Bible and to understand God's plan for all mankind.

Thanks to God for your work—LP