

# The Amish Voice



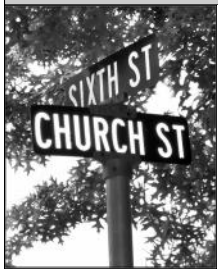
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November 2007

## PART II—What is the church:

# The Church Explodes!



We learned from our previous study that Jesus called a meeting with his 12 apostles and in that meeting He introduced a brand new concept, called the church. All throughout

the Old Testament, the church had not been mentioned once. But as we know from before, the New Testament mentions the church 128 times.

Upon hearing Peter's words in Matthew 16:16-17, "***Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God***", Jesus made a very important announcement in vs. 18—"***I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it***".

Please note that at this point, Jesus had ONLY introduced the church—that's it! The church would not go into action until some time later—the book of Acts. And without further a-do, let's just go there now and listen in on Jesus' words as he addresses over 500 believers in one final meeting before lift off and going back to heaven.

*Acts 1:4 says, And, [Jesus] being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not*

***depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father...***

In a sense Jesus was saying. Dear believers, this is what I want you to do—I want you to go back to Jerusalem, and now please listen closely, **don't you leave Jerusalem until the promise appears.**

So what was the promise? Verse 5b tells us...

*For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost, not many days hence.*

**Christ knew that man needed a super natural power—the power of God Himself.** He knew that the very presence of God's Spirit had to *enter into* the very heart of man and...

- Pass on the divine (heavenly) nature of God (2 Peter 1:4)
- Completely re-create man's being (2 Cor. 5:17)
- Live within his body (1 Cor 3:16), giving the believer the power to control his life for God and to boldly proclaim the gospel to a world that would consider it foolishness and often react in violence

Ok, let's keep moving on. It is getting more and more exciting now because the church is getting closer to the point of being born.

*But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1:8)*

And then the Bible says,

*And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. (Acts 1:9)*



Next we are told that 120 people returned back to Jerusalem where the eleven apostles (Judas was dead), men, women and some of Jesus' earthly family gathered together to pray in the upper room. And just like Jesus had asked them to do, they waited for the *promise of God* to come.

## **AND ... THE CHURCH IS BORN!**

Before we go any further in the book of Acts, let me draw your attention way back to the beginning of time—the book of Genesis. Genesis 2:7 tells us how God created the first man, Adam. If you are asking, what in the world does this have to do with the

church—hang tight, we will come back to that.

**Genesis 2:7a** *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground...*

At this point in Gen 2:7 we have a completely formed body that is totally lifeless, lying in front of us. In the second half of verse 7 we are told that God breathes into

the lifeless form and when He does, it comes to life. Look what it says.

**2:7b** *...and [God] breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*

In some sense you could compare the creation of man to the creation of the church. You see, by now—the church was in it's complete form. It had a real head—JESUS CHRIST and it had a real body—BELIEVERS

but it was lifeless. God had not yet breathed LIFE into the church. But wait, that is all about to change. He is going to breath LIFE into the church and it is going to become a LIVING organism. Look what happens as the believers are waiting, watching and praying in the upper room.

*Acts 2:1-4 says, And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And*

What is Prayer?	From My Heart To Yours	
<p><b>Prayer is our direct line with heaven.</b> Prayer allows us to talk to God! He wants us to communicate with Him, like a person-to-person phone call.</p> <p><b>What Do I Say?</b> Praying is like talking to your best friend!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and make you new in Him! (Acts 3:19).</li> <li>◆ Tell Him your needs! (1 Peter 5:7).</li> <li>◆ Thank Him for He dying on the cross for you (John 3:16).</li> </ul> <p><b>People in the Bible prayed in the following ways.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Standing (Gen 24:12-14)</li> <li>◆ Lifting the hands (1 Tim 2:8)</li> <li>◆ Sitting (Judges 20:26)</li> <li>◆ Kneeling (Mark 1:40)</li> <li>◆ Looking upward (John 17:1)</li> <li>◆ Bowing down (Exodus 34:8)</li> <li>◆ Placing the head between the knees (1 Kings 18:42)</li> <li>◆ Pounding on the breast (Luke 18:13)</li> <li>◆ Facing the temple (Dan 6:10)</li> </ul> <p><b>Matthew 17:20</b>...I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; <b>and nothing shall be impossible unto you.</b></p>	<p>I have truly appreciated the honest responses that have come back to us from our last “Heart to Heart”. We had discussed the issue of laying our prayer books aside and coming together as small groups for some real, from the heart, crying out to God, prayer time. Wow! Some of you who responded were all for getting together to pray and excited to hear that others felt the same way; others felt quite the opposite and used <b>Matthew 6:6</b> to back up why they were against group prayer. And you are right, Jesus Himself said in <i>Matthew 6:6</i> <b>But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.</b> And obviously this is true, because Jesus said so—BUT—you have to understand why He said so. The only way to know that, is by reading the previous verses (particularly verse 5).</p> <p>The flip side of praying in secret is that we are encouraged and shown over and over that God's family <u>did come together to pray</u>. For instance...In Acts 12 we can read where the persecution of Christians had become very great—Herod had James killed with the sword and Peter thrown into prison. And look what the church did...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Acts 12:5</b> ...but prayer was made without ceasing <b>of the church unto God</b> for him [Peter].</li> <li>• <b>Acts 12:12</b> ...he [Peter] came to the house of Mary ... <b>where many were gathered together praying.</b></li> <li>• <b>Acts 1:13-14</b> And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room...<b>These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women...</b></li> <li>• <b>2 Chronicles 6:13-14</b> For Solomon ... kneeled down upon his knees <b>before all the congregation of Israel</b>, and spread forth his hands toward heaven ... And said, O LORD God of Israel...</li> </ul> <p>These are only a couple examples of God's family, coming together to pray—there are many, many others. Maybe we need a good dose of persecution before we can get serious enough about our need as a church to cry out to God.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">— Joe Keim, Editor for the Amish Voice</p>	
	<p>W H O  W E A R E</p>	<p>This publishing work is registered as a charitable organization in the USA and is supported through freewill offerings. We welcome your articles, testimonies and questions. We reserve the right to edit or decline any material and are not responsible for the return of any articles. Mission to Amish People and it's subsidiaries are operated under the authority of a 15 member board.</p> <p>Since our beginning in 2000, many people have written to us, asking to be added to our mailing list while others have send us names of their friends and family members. <i>The Amish Voice</i> is a free subscription and is totally funded by readers from across our great country, who appreciate the ministry and care to support it.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Executive Editor: Joe Keim, Savannah, OH Contributing Editor I: Barbara (Borkholder) Keim, Belton, TX Contributing Editor II: Andy Geesey, Elverson, PA Contributing Editor III: Eli Stutzman, Ontario, Canada</p>



*suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues [languages], as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

### **THE CHURCH HAD BECOME ALIVE!**

Note the word "suddenly." The Holy Spirit came suddenly, abruptly, unexpectedly, the kind of abrupt happening that jolts and startles a person.

#### **1. There was a mighty sound that filled the room.**

- a. The sound was from heaven, that is, from God.
- b. The sound was not a rushing wind but like a mighty rushing wind.
- c. The sound filled all the house, that is, it was localized upon the house where they were *sitting*.

A friend of mine once shared his experience of a tornado. It did not destroy their home but came within two blocks of it. He said, "The first thing we noticed was a sound like a thousand freight trains coming into town." Friend, that was a rushing, mighty wind, and that was the sound. It was that kind of sound that they heard on the Day of Pentecost.

#### **2. There was the appearance of cloven tongues**

- a. The tongues were not fire, but *like fire*; that is, they only looked like fire.
- b. The tongue of fire that first appeared, pictured the presence of the Holy Spirit which was to dwell in the midst of God's people as a whole. (1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19-20.)

### **3. The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit**

a. **When a man understands the gospel and believes**, really believes, the Holy Spirit enters his life. He *comes upon, falls upon, pours, fills, baptizes* (immerses) Himself into the life of the believer. This is a personal experience.

b. **When a man grasps the gospel and believes**, really believes, the Holy Spirit takes him and *baptizes* or immerses, and places him into the body of Christ, which is God's Church. It is an act of God that takes place in heaven. The believer is *counted* as a child of God. He is *counted* as a member of the body, of the church. This is a *position*, not an experience, which the believer feels. The believer is adopted as a child of God and might I add, it is an eternal *position*.

**Galatians 4:5-6** says, *To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.*

It get's even better, my friend. The Bible tells us that the believer becomes a member of God's Church when the Holy Ghost enters in—and are you ready for this? Are you sure? Ok, here goes... God is not concerned about your color, race, background, sex or denomination. He does not care if you were born Amish or English; He is not concerned whether you drive a horse and buggy or fly an airplane. Look what Paul writes...

**1 Corinthians 12:13** says, *For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.*

Ok, back to Acts chapter 2 where the church has now been born and is in full operation. The Bible says...

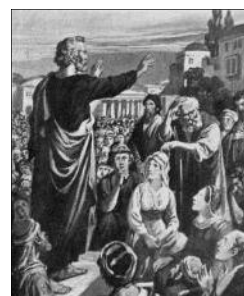
**Acts 2:5**, *And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.*

In Acts 2:6—13, we are told that at least 16 different language speaking nations were

present in Jerusalem when all this stuff from heaven started happening. And every man heard and understood in his own language.

**Acts 2:6-8** *Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?*

### **THE CHURCH EXPLODES IN ALL DIRECTIONS**



In **Acts 2:14-36**, the same Peter who had several months earlier, lied about Jesus three times before the rooster crowed, got up and filled with the Holy Spirit, preached his

very first sermon. It was in that very same sermon that Peter preached the following words...

**Acts 2:21** *And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

**Saved from what?** Sin and the lake of fire.

**Vs. 41:** *Then they that gladly received his word (or became believers) were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.*

**Vss. 46-47:** *And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

True to his word, Jesus is continuing to build His church even to this very day. And might I add, His church is not limited to only one group of people. It is made up of all people, from all over this world who have called on His name and were saved.

## HOW MUCH IS THE CHURCH WORTH TO CHRIST?

**Ephesians 5** tells us that His love for the church was/is so great that He gave Himself for it. Another words, He gave "A-L-L" He had to give. Look what Paul had to say.

**Ephesians 5:25-29:** *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.*

*So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his*

*wife loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:*

**Written by Joe Keim**



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### Simple Thoughts From Eli

#### Gifts and Rewards

When I was a youngster, one of the Christmas gifts I remember most is when Dad gave me a BB gun for Christmas. You may say that was a risky thing to give a fourteen



-year-old. Yes, there are gifts that carry risk because of the potential to do harm. What do you suppose would have happened if I had chosen to shoot BB's at a barn window or any of the farm animals? I am certain Dad would have quickly separated the gun from me. However, fear is not what kept me from misusing the BB gun. It was love and respect for the family.

Now I'd like to draw attention to the difference between a gift and a reward. A true gift is given without conditions of performance attached. In other words, I did nothing to earn such a gift. A reward has conditions of performance. Rewards are offered for many things, such as lost items, or information leading to an arrest. In or-



der to collect the reward, I have to do something first. A gift is totally free. If I were to come up with a plan to save people from sin, I would demand some effort on their part. But when God says eternal life is a gift, I believe it because the Bible says so. We are totally unable to pay, even in part. I found it hard to believe at first that could be true, but a close look at scripture showed it to be true. If we were to pay in part, it would become a reward.

For example, Romans 6:23—*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

And also; Ephesians 2:8-9—*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*

When you are given a gift, all you have to do is receive it. We would tear the wrappers off our presents on Christmas morning and see what was inside. A thank you would express appreciation to the giver. If I have a package at the post office, I have to go there and sign for it, then I



have received it. Receiving it makes it mine. Receiving a person into my home means I make him/her welcome into my home and offer to meet the needs of a guest. Receiving Jesus Christ is more than just having a guest. He wants to stay around, not to make life miserable, but to help us to succeed.

Even though we as humans may give and take back gifts, God does not do so. Paul writes...

*For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance. (Romans 11:29)*

He was writing about Israel's calling and how that is ongoing, and not removed due to bad behavior. God's Word also includes gifts as ongoing and not pulled away from us because of our bad behavior. That sounds risky, doesn't it? Let us choose to use God's gift through love and respect for the sake of our brothers and sisters, and for the giver who is God. When I speak of a gift as great as eternal life, grace comes to mind. I hope to write more on that another time.

**Eli Stutzman s R.R. 1 Straffordville  
Ontario, Canada N0J 1Y0**

## More Noteworthy News

### Remembering the Families Nickle-Mines School Shootings



On October 2, just one year ago, we were all shocked when the news spread of a shooting at the Amish school in Nickle-Mines, PA. As the anniversary of this horrible tragedy nears, let's continue to pray for the families who were left behind, including the widow of the gunman who was left with three children.

None of us can fathom what it is like to lose

a child, especially not in such a brutal way, unless we have had to go through it ourselves. Let's continue to pray for the children who undoubtedly will never forget the terror of that awful day, especially those 5 girls who survived. Prayer is the only thing we have been given by God that can have an impact on people's hearts no matter how many miles away we are. God is our Comforter and God is our Healer.

### Sheriff Dept Storms an Amish School In OH

On September 13, 2007 several sheriff deputies and a SWAT team entered an Amish school in Bergholz, OH. There reason was to

take the two troyer children away from their mother.

According to a recent news article, Bishop Samuel Mullet had threatened sheriff Abdalla's life earlier in the summer and he was not going to take any chances. Abdalla also said there are some very serious talk of molestation in that Amish community. And he showed a stack of letters from Amish people who he claims left the Bergholz community and are begging him to step in. In addition, he said the Amish in that community are being threatened psychologically by the Bishop Mullet.

## From A Woman's Stand Point

### What Is Faith?

#### Part II

(Romans 1:16, 17) *For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, **The just shall live by faith.***

**Living  
Faith**

In the last edition of the Amish Voice I referred to Romans Chapter 10. My prayer is that you took time to read the whole thing; because of space I can only refer to some of the main verses that direct us to putting our faith in Christ.

(Rom. 10:1-4) *Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God. For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.*

(Rom. 10:8-13) *But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thine heart: that is, the word of*

*faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God has raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

*For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

(Rom. 10:17) *So then **faith** cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God.*

One thing is very obvious, if we have put our belief and faith in Christ Jesus, he is the end of the law for righteousness.

**1** *There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. (Ephesians 4:4-6)*

This is why a Christian from America can go to Brazil, Guatemala, England, Australia, or anywhere in the world and have fellowship with

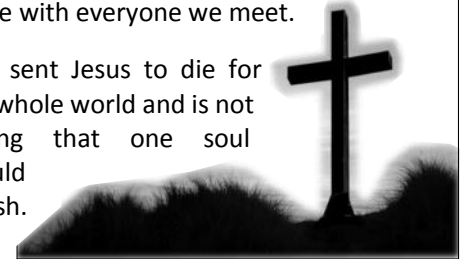


Christians, no matter what their culture, background, or church affiliation. True believers share the same the Lord, the same faith, the same baptism, the same God, the same Father, and the same Spirit.

In Romans 10:15 and Isaiah 52:7 it talks about, *How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!*

What Jesus did for you and me on the cross at Calvary is the greatest thing that has ever happened. This is the one thing we should share with everyone we meet.

God sent Jesus to die for the whole world and is not willing that one soul should perish.



(Rom. 10:14) *How shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?*

I encourage you, if you have put your faith in what Jesus has done for you on the cross, as a Christian you are called to share the good news with everyone who God puts in your path.

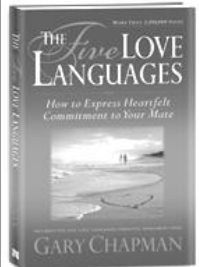
**Barbara Kay (Borkholder) Keim  
1903 Liberty Hill Drive s Belton, TX 76513**



## The Must Have—Book Section

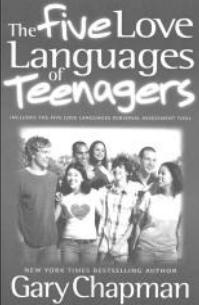
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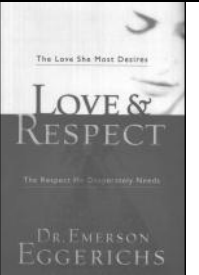
### The Five Love Languages By Gary Chapman—\$11.99

Unhappiness in marriage most often leads to a simple root cause. According to Gary Chapman, we speak up to 5 different love languages. How do you discover your spouse's or your own love language? Chapman's short questionnaires are one of several ways to find out.



### The Five Love Languages of Teenagers By Gary Chapman—\$11.99

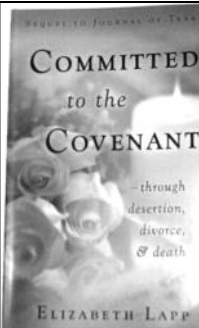
Believe it or not, those tough-looking teens are like "love tanks with a leak" - just like the rest of us. Learn which of the five "love languages" most effectively communicates parental affection to your teenagers, and how your loving input can nurture their sense of responsibility, spiritual identity, and security in Christ.



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## Amazing Facts In The Bible

### "What happens after death?"

The Bible is not completely clear on when a person will reach their final destiny in eternity. The Bible does tell us that at the moment of death, a person is taken to Heaven or Hell based on whether he or she had received Christ as his or her Savior.

For believers, after death is to be "**absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord**" (2 Corinthians 5:6-8; Philippians 1:23).

For unbelievers, after death means everlasting punishment in Hell (Luke 16:22-23; II Thess 1:8-9).

Revelation 20:11-15 describes all those in Hell will be cast into the lake of fire. Revelation chapters 21-22 describe a New Heaven and New Earth. Therefore, it seems that after death, a person resides in a "temporary" Heaven and Hell. A person's eternal destiny will not change, but the exact "location" of a person's eternal destiny will change.

At some point after death, believers will be sent to the New Heavens and New Earth (Revelation 21:1).

At some point after death, unbelievers will be thrown into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:11-15). These are the final, eternal destinations of all people - based entirely on whether a person had trusted Jesus Christ alone for the salvation of their sins.

### Can people in heaven look down and see us?

Hebrews 12:1 states, "**Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses ...**"

Some understand the "cloud of witnesses" as being people looking down on us from Heaven. That is not the correct interpretation. Hebrews chapter 11 records many people whom God commended for their faith. It is these people who are the "cloud of witnesses." They are "witnesses" not in that they are watching us, but rather in that they have set an example for us...they are witnesses for Christ, and God, and truth. Hebrews 12:1 continues, "**...let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.**"

The Bible does not specifically say whether people can look down on us who are still on the earth. It is highly likely that they cannot. Why? (1) they would sometimes witness us sinning. (2) they would sometimes see things that would cause them grief. (3) people in heaven are so occupied with worshipping God and enjoying the glories of Heaven that they truly have no interest in what is happening here on earth. The very fact that they are free from sin, in heaven, and in God's presence is enough for them to be happy. While it is possible that God allows people in heaven to look down upon their loved ones, the Bible gives us no reason to believe this actually occurs.

### Hungering & Thirsting After God

Do you ever find yourself not being able to sleep at night because you want more of God in your life? Do you find yourself hungering and thirsting for a much deeper, stronger, and a more real relationship with the Lord? Has it ever become so important to you that you laid down on the floor and wept until the floor around you was wet?

David also experienced these same kind of desires and emotions: In Psalms 42:1-2, he writes, *As the deer panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?*

In this portion of scripture, we can sense the deep cry of a man that can't seem to

get enough of His Lord. It is the voice of a believer, under depressions, longing for the renewal of the heavenly presence, struggling with doubts and fears, and yet holding his ground by faith in the living God. With out a doubt, most of the Lord's family has sailed on the sea which is so clearly described in this chapter of Psalms.

In **Psalms 61:1-2**, David continues to cry out to God: *Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.*

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When Jesus preached the sermon on the mount, He said...*Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.*

Righteousness is the only thing that will fill and satisfy man's innermost need. Food and drink will not. Any honest and thinking person knows there is nothing anywhere on this earth that can meet his deep need for life (permanent life, life that never ends). Only God can fill a life and satisfy the deep need for permanent life.

I love what Isaiah 55:1 says: *Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye...*

How wonderful it is to know that we can come to the waters of the Living God, just as we are—imperfect, undeserving, and unworthy—and drink.

Oh, and it's totally free and always plenty to go around for everyone.

— Joe Keim

### **Reflections With Andy**

#### Think On These Things

We have all been impacted with the cold hard reality of what can happen, when a person is not thinking clearly. Yes, I am referring to the tragedy that took place on Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> 2006 in Bart Township, Lancaster County, Pa. Personally my heart and prayers go out to and for the surviving victims, families and extended families, of those children and for the Roberts and Welk families.

I myself was impacted in a personal way, for several reasons 1) I also am a milk truck driver. 2) While I did not know Mr. Charles Roberts very well, his father in law is a friend of mine. 3) Through the course of time I have been blessed to know many of the families that were directly affected from this tragedy. 4) Any senseless act of violence hurts, but more so when it involves helpless young and tender children.

Over the last year I have been asked several times for some positive input, so I wish to leave you with two things that I have learnt. First of all and most important, **It is appointed unto man once to die and after this the judgment**, The truth is each of us **will come to our own appointed time**, it may be today or it may be tomorrow, and it would behoove each to honestly ask, am I prepared to stand before my Maker if today were to be my **appointed day**? If the answer is no then please find a bible and take a look at these verses, Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8, John 3:16, Romans 10:8-13.

Secondly **think on these things**, this was the Apostle Paul's advice to the believers in Philippi, he had just provided them with a positive list of things to be thinking on, meditating on and dwelling on.

The list that he gave was as follows: *whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*

Paul went on to say: *Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do.* Paul understood that when a person has right thoughts that it will lead him to right doing. This works the same in reverse, when a person thinks on the negative it will cause him to do that which is negative. When a person chooses to look at the pluses and the positives in life, the person will generally be a person who is thankful for the blessings that have been bestowed on them in spite of the negatives. When a person **can only see** the negative, and refuses to see the good that is all around them, then it becomes very hard for that person to be thankful at heart.


If you are a person who struggles with finding the good, then make yourself a list, in column one list the negative things, then in column two list the positives. I have had to do this from time to time and it really works. You may be amazed at how many good things you have to be thankful for, but if you still are struggling then get yourself some help, don't hold it inside until your negative feelings eat away and tear you up, this leads to bitterness, stress and unwarranted anger.



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## Noteworthy News

### They Caught the Thief



In September a man from New York was accused of pulling off more than 30 burglaries. Of the 30 break-ins, 19 were Amish homes and businesses. The state police said that 26 year old Kyle Dickerson took cash, dry goods, guns, and quilts. As of September 25<sup>th</sup>, he is being held in the Steuben County Jail.


### Amish Child Killed In TN

Also in September, 9 year old Benjamin Gingerich from Lewis County (TN) was walking home from school on Highway 20, when he noticed a squirrel on the road. Without thinking, he made a bee-line for the road and ran right in front of a fast moving van; the driver of the van was not able to stop soon enough and Benjamin was killed, as other family members and friends looked on.

*I can not begin to imagine the agonizing*

*pain that something like this would cause a person to feel. I remember so well when my best friend drowned at the age of 16. Leander was one of our best swimmers and of all people, we would never have thought it could happen, even in a 100 years. That dreadful accident still puts a knot in my stomach, 22 years later, when I think about it.*

### The Runaway Buggy



An Amish man was driving his horse and buggy in a small town in Canada when all of a sudden the horse took off and went off the road and into a lawn. The horse and buggy ran over a bicycle and almost ran a car off the road. The driver was charged for reckless driving.

### Horses' Shoes Stick to the Road

During August when the weather was hot, some horses from Ohio started losing their shoes in the sticky asphalt. One



horse even lost part of his foot. The Amish in Nelson County went to the township trustees meeting, looking to solve the problem.

It seemed to help when the Amish reminded the trustees that they pay an annual buggy fee of \$25 a year to help pay for the roads.

Part of the problem had to do with having too much tar and not enough stone mixed in with the tar. The township and county got together and added more stone and than ran their heavy rollers over top of the stone to press it down into the tar.

Too much tar also caused the country roads to become slippery in the winter time. Several horses in the community slipped and fell. One Amish man said that his horse fell five times and his cousin's horse fell eight times.

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