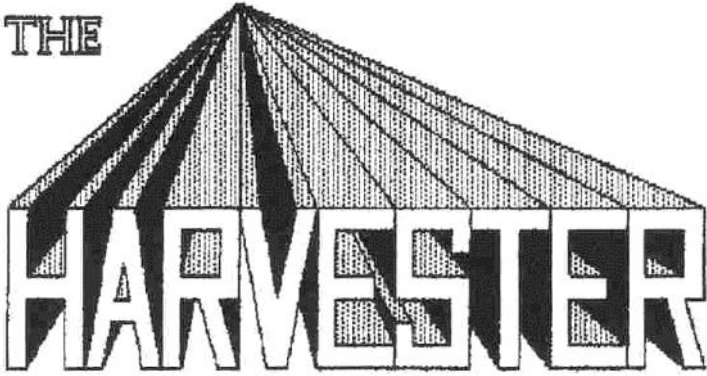


THE



“The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest” (Luke 10:2)

September 2015

No. 357

“BECAUSE OF THE ANGELS”

“For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels” (1 Cor. 11:10). This verse has for centuries been the object of much uncertainty. What is meant by the terms, “power on her head” and “because of the angels”?

In these verses Paul refers either directly or indirectly to the hair some fifteen times. As water in baptism is the element through which a beautiful symbol is depicted, and as bread and fruit of the vine serve beautifully as the symbols through which we partake of Jesus’ death in communion, even so does the hair serve as

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a symbol of subjection. To make any other application of Paul's teaching would be to disallow his reasoning. Man honors God by wearing his hair short, while woman honors God by wearing her hair long.

The phrase "*power on her head*" is a most effective way of expressing the woman's ability to demonstrate her subjection. As Jesus in John 10:18 expressed power over His own life to "*lay it down*" and to "*take it again,*" so does the woman with her hair have power to demonstrate her will to submit to the will of God. This idea is also found in Acts 5:4 where the word "*power*" is used to speak of the ability of Ananias and Sapphira to sell their land and in Romans 9:21 where Paul speaks of the potter's control over the clay.

As to angels, the Scriptures give us insight through Jesus' statement,

Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven. (Matt. 18:10)

Early disciples acknowledged the presence of angels in the incident regarding Peter and Rhoda. "*And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel*" (Acts 12:15).

Much comfort is to be found in Hebrews' explanation, "*Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*" (Heb. 1:14). We can be confident, therefore, that God's people are watched over by His angels set for our well-being.

To further understand the verse in question, it would be well that we first understand two others: Luke 15:7 and Ephesians 4:30. Jesus states in Luke, "*I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in*

heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.” and Paul in Ephesians says, “*And grieve not the holy Spirit of God*”. If joy exists in heaven when a sinner repents, and if grief to the Spirit of God results from disobedience, so must the angels who minister unto us be made joyful when we obey God and grieve when we disobey. When Christian women (or men, for that matter) wear their hair improperly and thus disregard God’s will, it surely brings grief to their ministering angels. Because of this and in appreciation of God’s kindness in providing angels to minister to us, Christians should carefully adhere to Scriptural teaching regarding their hair.

HARRY COBB

Deceased

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APOLOGIA

QUESTION: Why do we sing in our church assemblies?

ANSWER: Singing is an important part of the Christian assembly. Two different but similar passages address the subject - Colossians 3:16 and Ephesians 5:19.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Col. 3:16)

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. (Eph. 5:18-20)

The one passage states “*speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs*” while the other states “*teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs*”. Notice that this singing is to one another. These passages do not specifically say that this singing is in the assembly, but what better place to sing to each other than in the assembly? One of the primary purposes for the singing is to speak to, teach and admonish one another – in other words, to build each other up and encourage each other. Congregational singing can do that. It is a special way that we speak to each other and encourage each other based upon our common faith and common mission in life.

While we sing to one another, we also sing to the Lord: “*Singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord*” and “*making melody in your heart to the Lord*”. Any thanksgiving or praise should be heartfelt and addressed to the Lord. Singing is one way we worship the Lord from our heart. Let us not be guilty of “going through the motions” and not paying attention to what we are singing.

What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also. (1 Cor. 14:15)

It is important that our singing be from the heart, with our spirit, and with understanding of what we are saying.

No mention is made of choirs or performances by soloists or small groups. No mention is made of bands. The purposes are to encourage each other and worship God and not to be entertained by a performance.

It is interesting to note that after the last supper, Jesus and His apostles sang together. “*And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.*” (Matt. 26:30)

Remember that you have a great opportunity to encourage your

fellow Christian AND worship God with your singing.

ED ANDERSON
Sierra Vista, AZ

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. What Egyptian name did Pharaoh give to Joseph?
2. At what place did the Israelites arrive only to find the water was too bitter to drink, whereupon God caused it to become sweet?
3. How many years did the Lord add to Hezekiah's life after being healed of his sickness?
4. Who did Jesus say was not far from the Kingdom of God?
5. How long did Paul spend in Ephesus?
... and remember last month's questions?
1. Which son did Jacob not send to Egypt for grain during the famine? BENJAMIN (Genesis 42:4)
2. What test did Elijah set the prophets of Baal, which failed, proving their god to be false? LIGHTING A FIRE UNDER THE SACRIFICE ON THE ALTAR (1 Kings 18:23-24)
3. In which city in Judah did Cyrus tell the Israelites to build the temple? JERUSALEM (Ezra 6:3)
4. Where was Jesus baptized? THE JORDAN RIVER (Matthew 3:13, Mark 1:9)
5. The men of what two sects of philosophy encountered Paul in Athens? EPICUREANS AND STOICS (Acts 17:16,18)

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DID YOU CATCH IT LAST MONTH? The address of *The Harvester* has changed. The Sun Hill Road Congregation and specifically, Ken and Nell Cobb have gathered up all the address corrections and paid fees for almost thirty years. The staff of *The Harvester* is most grateful for their assistance. We have so many people to thank for the success of this “little paper”:

- Those who contribute the articles which many of you have said you enjoyed.
- Those individuals and congregations who have contributed financially.
- Those who have sent names to be added to the mailing list.
- The group of Christians who meet each month to prepare the paper to mail.

As always, please pray that the glory and honor and efforts that come from *The Harvester* be given to our Heavenly Father and that this paper will continue to serve His needs, not ours! “*To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.*” (Jude 1:25)

The Editors

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Must I Go, and Empty-handed?

Charles Carroll Luther was a journalist and lay evangelist. Though not a prolific composer, he authored this hymn in 1877 when he heard A.G. Upham relate the story of a young man who was about to die. This young man had been a Christian for only

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one month. Though thankful to the Lord for granting him salvation during his final hour, he was nevertheless grieved that he'd had no opportunity to serve the Lord nor to share Him with others. He explained, "I am not afraid to die; Jesus saves me now. But must I go empty handed?" Upon hearing this account, Luther wrote the following hymn.

"Must I go, and empty handed,"
Thus my dear Redeemer meet?
Not one day of service give Him,
Lay no trophy at His feet?

Chorus:

"Must I go, and empty handed?"
Must I meet my Savior so?
Not one soul with which to greet Him,
Must I empty handed go?

Not at death I shrink or falter,
For my Savior saves me now;
But to meet Him empty handed,
Thought of that now clouds my brow.

O the years in sinning wasted,
Could I but recall them now,
I would give them to my Savior,
To His will I'd gladly bow.

O ye saints, arouse, be earnest,
Up and work while yet 'tis day;
Ere the night of death o'er take thee,
Strived for souls while still you may.

Thankfully, many Christians have come to know the Lord at an earlier and more opportune time than this young man. At death's

Gospel Meetings

DATES	PLACE	SPEAKER
Sept. 3 - 6	Summit Big Clifty, KY	Joe Hill Hager Hill, KY
Sept. 4 - 6	Liberty Liberty, KY	J.D. McDonald Woodbury, TN
Sept. 6 - 11	Mt. Zion Crab Orchard, KY	Joe Hill & J.D. McDonald
Sept. 11 - 13	Fayetteville Road Fairburn, GA	Sam Dick Cave City, KY
Sept. 18 - 20	Mt. Carmel Road Gay, GA	Wilbur Bass Auburn, AL
Sept. 25 - 27	Van Lear Van Lear, KY	Hunter Bulger Prattville, AL

advent, may we be spared from sharing his lament. Sadly, because of the anxieties of this age and the deceitfulness of riches (Mat. 13:22), many dear Christians are stupefied by the lure of the world and consequently languish in their personal walk with Christ. This explains the prevailing state of spiritual barrenness among many of today's Christians. Let us heed this hymn's counsel to stop wasting our years in sin and instead to give them to our Savior, to strive for the salvation of souls while we still have breath. May we pray to be spiritually energized to take up the burden of sharing the gospel, so that rather than living a life of vanity to later be regretted, we may redeem our time (Eph. 5:16) and bear fruit unto eternal life (John 4:36).

<http://hymns.net/stories/luther.htm>