

HOPE *for you*

MAY 2019

*“The Lord,
our Righteousness”*

Thoughts from Hope...

THE IMMUTABLE LAW OF GOD • CHRIST OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS • THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH
THE THREE ANGELS' MESSAGES • THE NON-IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL • THE SANCTUARY

Greetings, Friends!

We pray this finds you rejoicing in the love and mercy of our Saviour! His limitless love and the sacrifices He has made to give us hope should daily fill our hearts with thankfulness and praise.

A friend recently shared how much she had struggled with fear as she thought of the trials and tribulations that may come to God's people as we stand for what we believe is right. While these are solemn thoughts, I believe it is so vital to understand that God gives us strength for every day. We are not asked to look ahead and key ourselves up to a certain level of certainty that we are ready for tribulation. God asks us today to give Him our hearts, to be His children, and He promises that He will never allow more to come to us that we can, through His power, handle in His strength. When Paul says that he counted all things "but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord," he didn't say this because he forced himself to feel this way, but because of the amazing work of conversion that God had wrought in him. Paul continues, "For Whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ" (Philippians 3:8).

The goal is to "win Christ." As we daily give ourselves to His guidance, and accept His leading and will in our lives, we can be confident that He will walk us through every circumstance of life. Like the three brave Hebrews in the fiery furnace, God never leaves His children—if we are called to walk through the fire, He is at our side. What an amazing privilege and source of peace to know that God, our Father, never sleeps, never leaves, and is always there to sustain and keep us!

As you read this issue of *HOPE for you*, focusing on the amazing gift of the "Lord our Righteousness," may you be drawn closer to our Father, who loves us with "an everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3).

Blessings,

Hope International Team

About Hope for You...

HOPE for you is a monthly publication of Hope International. We are a non-profit ministry, seeking to share the love of God through active ministry in our community and beyond.

We believe that God has a plan and purpose for His people in these tumultuous times, and we seek to spread an encouraging word to uplift Christ and His truth. We have an extensive health ministry, and believe that God's will is for all His children to "Prosper and be in health," (3 John 2) even as our souls prosper in following His will and guidance.

We joyfully accept tax-deductible donations to advance the cause of Christ.

HOPE for you is free of charge for all who donate or order products.

We would be delighted to send your friends or family a complimentary three-issue trial subscription. Just email or send us their names and addresses.

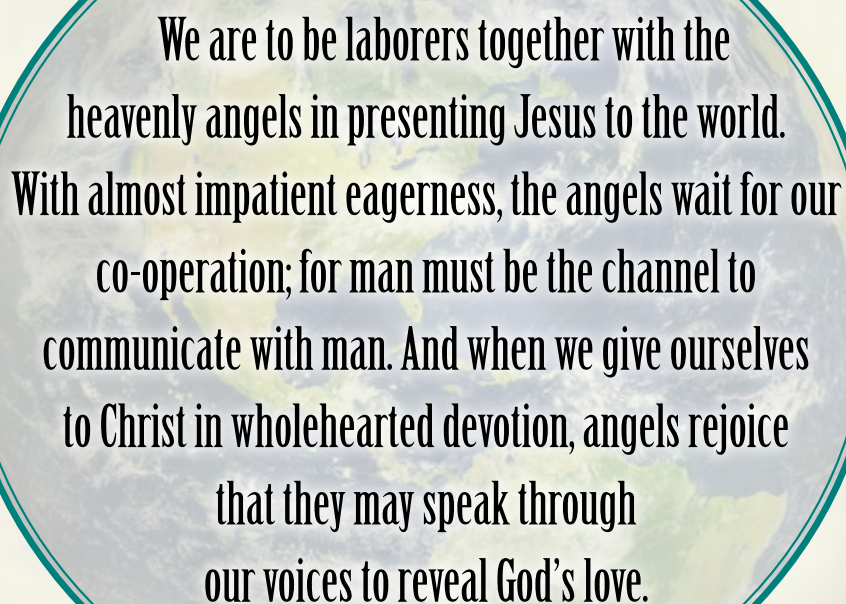
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We are to be laborers together with the heavenly angels in presenting Jesus to the world. With almost impatient eagerness, the angels wait for our co-operation; for man must be the channel to communicate with man. And when we give ourselves to Christ in wholehearted devotion, angels rejoice that they may speak through our voices to reveal God's love.

—E. G. White

Accepting His Righteousness

by E. G. White

We left Battle Creek for Chicago, accompanied by Sister Fanny Bolton, March 28. We have up to this time, April 7, been having meetings almost continuously. Elder A. T. Jones has labored faithfully to instruct those assembled, and in breaking to their souls the Bread of Life. We have felt sorry that not only every Seventh-day Adventist church but every church, whatever their faith and doctrines, could not have the precious light of truth as it has been so clearly presented. I know it would have been a rich feast to very many souls not of our faith to see the plan of salvation so clearly and simply defined. We must remember that the Lord has very many souls in all the churches throughout the world who are living up to the very best light they have; and could these hungry souls, as well as those of our own faith, have the instructions that have been given here for the last

ten days, and their hearts accepted the light and truth of the gospel, they would have been greatly blessed.

The religion of Jesus Christ has not been as clearly defined as it should be, that the souls who are seeking for the knowledge of the plan of salvation may discern the simplicity of faith. In these meetings this has been made so clear that a child may understand that it is an immediate, voluntary, trustful surrender of the heart to God—a coming into union with Christ in confidence, affectionate obedience to do all His commandments through the merits of Jesus Christ. It is a decisive act of the individual, committing to the Lord the keeping of the soul. It is the climbing up by Christ, clinging to Christ, accepting the righteousness of Christ as a free gift. The will is to be surrendered to Christ. Through faith in the righteousness of Christ is salvation.

We have seen evidences in this meeting how far apart has been faith and the righteousness of Christ, from the religious life of those even who claim to be keeping the commandments of God. There has been the great want of a knowledge of Jesus Christ. The want in the religious experience is the acceptance of Jesus Christ as presented in the gospel. Many have not yet received Christ. They have accepted a theory of the truth, and have been in a large degree left to this kind of experience. And how hard it has been to impress the minds with the necessity of justification by faith! “As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.” John 1:12.

Faith in Jesus Christ's righteousness in the behalf of every individual soul should be held before the people for their study and for them to contemplate

thoroughly. This theme cannot be dwelt upon too often and too earnestly. The people are suffering for the gospel of Christ. The mind and heart need to be informed and educated to believe in Christ. Truth must be communicated and through patient, painstaking effort the people must learn to take advanced steps in faith. All who have teachable minds, all who are unprejudiced, will see the simplicity of faith in Jesus Christ.

It has seemed really discouraging at first to see how hard it was for some to give up their dependence on their own merits. But as minds were fastened upon the truth presented we were hopeful that the palsy of unbelief which paralyzes all the powers of mind and soul would be broken, and that the words so fitly spoken would not be to the hearer as idle tales. Jesus spoke of those who heard Him, having ears but hearing not, having eyes but seeing not, lest they should be converted and He should heal them. Attentive hearing, with desire to know the truth, will be the opening of the understanding that the soul may really have possession of the truth, that it may be sanctified through the truth. The individual soul must itself accept the truth which the Lord has sent through His messenger to him. You accept the gracious words and thus show honor to God who has sent you a message in love.

This work was being accomplished for the hearers, and wrongs and sins were confessed. Their hearts began to be softened, self-righteousness was seen to be worthless. They cannot understand the great mystery of godliness. They cannot understand how our sins can be removed by the Substitute, and Christ's righteousness imputed to sinners deserving of wrath. The mind faints in its effort to define it, to comprehend it. But has not God said it? Has He not plainly stated in His Word that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ does expiate human guilt? "Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in His blood, to declare His righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; to declare, I say, at this time His righteousness: that He might be just, and the Justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." Romans 3:24-26.

Is not this a true declaration of God? We must take it as such. We may not understand how it can all be, and theologians may try to explain it, but we can see it no better and can do no better than to believe God is true. He says it and it must be so. Take the gracious gift in the promises of God, believe all the Scripture tells us, although you cannot explain it and no one can explain it to you. Herein is faith put to the stretch. Christ died for the ungodly.

We have been earnestly and steadily at work to encourage faith in our brethren. This seemed to be as difficult as to teach a child to take its first steps alone. But thank the Lord, all this labor has not been thrown away. The gracious Spirit of God has witnessed to the words spoken, and those who have heard could only understand as they moved in faith. "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:10. Souls are depending on the promises of the gracious power of Jesus Christ to combine with human effort. They move by faith, not by feeling. Such efforts God owns. The Holy Spirit has been convicting the hearts of men and women, convincing them that "Without Me, ye can do nothing."

The testimonies from Thursday had a different ring. The tame, lukewarm tone was gone. They were characterized by deep, earnest feeling. Men and women confessed how destitute of the love of Christ in the soul and of love for their brethren their religious experience had been. They humbly and thankfully expressed their gratitude for the light received. They had been clinging closely to their own righteousness; now by faith they trust in Christ's might and His power and His righteousness. They can do literally nothing without divine help. Their prayers now are filled with earnest, simple faith that takes God at His word. All now seem to have warm hearts. The love of Christ is assurance to them of their acceptance, and they long to speak and acknowledge the great goodness of God in providing them a righteousness which is pure, spotless, efficacious. Well may we trust in Jesus. Who is so worthy of honor and confidence as He who suffered and died for us?

We are glad in the Lord that our brethren and sisters have begun to see and to understand what Jesus is to them. Just in proportion as they humble themselves will be their discernment and appreciation of Jesus Christ. The Lord is in our midst. Praise His holy name.

Friday was a precious day. The rubbish has been removed from the door of the heart and they have opened it to Jesus. Everything has been without excitement or extravagance. The leaven of Christ's righteousness has been introduced into the experience and has energized the soul. Oh, that it may continue to work in its mysterious power until its diffusive influence quickens the lukewarm souls with whom it is brought in contact. Softly and silently the power of the divine Spirit does its work, wakening the dulled senses, quickening the soul and arousing its sensibilities, until each member of the church shall indeed be the light of the world.

When the Sabbath came to us, with the going down of the sun, we assembled to welcome its sacred hours with thanksgiving and praise. Many bore precious testimonies that they never loved Jesus, never viewed Him in the character of such a Friend and so gracious as they now did.

In the morning all nature seemed to be full of joyfulness. We assembled at half past five for social meeting. The Spirit of the Lord was in our midst. Many stated that they came to the meeting with hearts as hard as a stone, but as soon as they opened their lips to confess their faith in the love of Jesus, the light came in and their hearts were melted and subdued with the love of Jesus. One brother said he would bear his testimony for he knew it to be right, but he had no feeling. But his heart was broken; he fell upon the Rock and he was so impressed with the love of Jesus that he wept aloud. Ministers bore testimony that when they came to the meeting they were cold and their hearts hard, but when by faith they confessed to God their backslidings they knew Jesus forgave their sins and they were happy, newly converted, and they now bear a testimony that is free and joyful. "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins."

—The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials, 280-284

*"But unto you that fear My name
shall the Sun of righteousness
arise with healing in His wings..."*

—Malachi 4:2



“Thy Will be Done”

“Thy will be done,” though I may not know
The way it is best that my feet should go.

I walk in the valley, and cannot see
The things that ahead in my pathway be.
But God from the mountain top looks o’er
The valley, and knoweth what lies before.

He leadeth me, and I follow on,
Ever repeating, *“Thy will be done.”*

“Thy will be done,” blessed Lord, not mine.
May the light of Thy favor upon me shine.

Thy fullness of peace to me impart,
And fill with gladness my lonely heart.
Be more than all earthly friends to me,
And help me to trust and rest in Thee.
I know that for me Thou hast victory won;
May it be my *will* that Thy will be done.

“Thy will be done.” Oh Father above,
I know that Thou leadest me on in love.
Though dark and thorny my path may be
That leadeth me nearer, my God, to Thee.

In loving faith I would onward go
Wherever Thou leadest me here below.
Oh, help me in patience life’s race to run,
And evermore say, *“Thy will be done.”*

—J. S. Thorp

Stone Crusher



CAPSULES
90

PRICE
\$13.99

Suggested Adult Usage:

Take 2-3 capsules twice a day on an empty stomach. May increase to 3-4 times a day for increased pain relief.

If you've ever suffered through kidney stones or gallstones, you know how excruciatingly painful they can be! If you haven't, you are fortunate, but that doesn't mean you aren't at risk. We now have an all-natural, herbal product that not only helps prevent stones, but also helps break up existing stones for easy, safe, and most importantly: **PAIN-FREE** elimination!

Benefits Of Stone Crusher:

- Balances and improves digestion
- Stimulates healthy menstrual flow
- Helps detoxify the liver and kidneys
- Provides relief from pain and inflammation
- Assists in eliminating foreign particles, mucous, and other obstructions throughout the body

Doctors Use Worldwide:

Dr. Wolfram Wiemann of Nuremberg, Germany has used Chanca Piedra in his medical practice in Germany. He reported that 94% of all the cases he encountered among his patients with gallstones or kidney stones were "completely eliminated" within one to two weeks.

Another Amazon physician interviewed about the use of Chanca Piedra for his patients said that the plant worked 100% of the time without any side effects. (While not characterized as a side effect, it is noted that for several hours during the actual process of elimination of the stones, some patients experienced stomach cramps.)

SUPPLEMENT FACTS

Serving Size: 2 capsules	
Servings Per Container: 45	
Amount Per Serving	%DV
Chanca Piedra (Powder)	1000 mg. *
*Daily Value not established.	
Veggie Capsule Ingredient: Pine Tree Pulp	

Stone Crusher & Pain Relief

Brazilian researchers have discovered powerful, long-lasting pain-blocking activity in the roots, stems and leaves of several different species of *Phyllanthus*, including *Phyllanthus niruri* (Chanca Piedra). In fact, one extract proved to be about four times more potent than a popular NSAID and three times the strength of morphine against inflammatory pain (for post-operative pain). The pain blockers in *Phyllanthus* have been identified by the Brazilians as gallic acid, ethyl ester, and the steroidal compounds as beta-sitosterol and stigmasterol.

Gallstones & Kidney Stones

Gallstones and kidney stones are a major health problem in the United States. In fact, it is estimated that around 20,000,000 people in the U.S. suffer from these conditions each year, with around 600,000 of them receiving therapy. With the introduction of Chanca Piedra, health care practitioners have acquired a powerful plant ally in helping their clients maintain optimal kidney, gallbladder, liver, and bladder health.

Kidney stones form when certain substances, calcium oxalate, calcium phosphate, magnesium ammonium phosphate, uric acid, or cystine - become so concentrated in the urine that they form into hard, solid lumps. This is usually due to chronic dehydration, infection, various kidney disorders, deficiencies in magnesium, or excess purines or oxalates in the diet. The main symptom of kidney stones is pain in the left or right lower back or pelvic area that becomes excruciating as the stone attempts to leave the kidney through narrow tubes called ureters.

Chanca Piedra Studies

Since the 1960's a growing body of scientific studies have been published on Chanca Piedra, with over **300 studies carried out to date!** Indian and Brazilian research groups were the first to conduct these studies since the plant was indigenous to their areas, with a long history of use by their inhabitants. The Brazilian researchers have summarized their research stating, "Pre-clinical and clinical studies carried out with the extracts from these plants support most of their reported uses for a wide variety of pathological conditions."

- Research done on Chanca Piedra in Brazil at the Federal University of Santa Catarina revealed an alkaloid (phyllanthoside) in the leaves and stem with strong antispasmodic activity. It served as a smooth muscle relaxer, and they concluded that its spasmolytic action probably accounted for its mastery at expelling stones.
- In a 1999 study, researchers confirmed that Chanca Piedra has a potent and effective inhibitory effect on the formation of calcium-oxalate crystals and decreases the size of existing stones. Not only that, but also this effect was found even at very high levels of calcium oxalate, which indicates that it might be a useful preventative aid for people with a history of kidney stones.
- In a 2002 study, researchers seeded the bladders of rats with calcium oxalate crystals and treated them for 42 days with a water extract of Chanca Piedra. Their results indicated that Chanca Piedra strongly inhibited the growth and number of stones formed over the control group.
- In 2003, scientists studying the inhibition of calcium oxalate crystal formation in urine samples found that Chanca Piedra could help prevent the formation of kidney stones stating, "It may interfere with stone formation and may represent an alternative form of therapy and/or prevention of urolithiasis (urinary tract stones)."

FACT: The name Chanca Piedra literally means "Stone Breaker". It got its name because of its innate ability to break up and expel both kidney and gallstones. It is believed to help stimulate the production of bile and to promote healthy liver and gall bladder function.

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Stone Crusher

by Dr. Kaye Olson, ND

Our featured product this month is Stone Crusher, also known as chanca piedra. Chanca piedra, literally translated, means “stone breaker,” which is how we chose the name for this remarkable product.

When Hope for Health moved from Illinois to North Carolina in 2012, some of our staff were in North Carolina supervising the building projects while the rest of the staff were still working out of Illinois. One of the construction workers mentioned that he was having considerable pain from kidney stones, and was supposed to have surgery the next day. He indicated how much he wanted to avoid the surgery, but did not know what else to do.

The staff in North Carolina had an assortment of Hope for Health products with them for just such an opportunity, so they offered Stone Crusher to the worker to try.

The next day this worker came back and said that he canceled his surgery appointment because he felt so much better and had no pain. He said it was the first time in many years that he had no pain, and he was amazed.

A week later, he went in to see his doctor, who took x-rays. The doctor was stunned to see that the stones were gone...completely gone! It was as if he had never even had the kidney stones. As you can imagine, he told everyone he knew.

The pain from stones is so severe that people must seek relief; you cannot ignore this type of pain! People describe the pain as similar to being stabbed—it often doubles a person over. Women compare it to giving birth! Usually, people don't know that they are having symptoms of kidney or gallstones until they start to feel the unbearable pain.



To be on alert for the possibility of stones, here are some symptoms that you may want to watch out for:

- Sudden need to urinate
- Pain that can be felt from your side to your back and lower abdomen
- Nausea and/or vomiting
- Blood in the urine
- Acidic smell and cloudy appearance of urine
- Fever or infection

Stone Crusher has been shown to give almost immediate relief to the pain and can crush the stones to allow for easier elimination. It also has the ability to relax urinary and bile tracts, thereby allowing a much easier passage of foreign particles through the body.

Uric acid is a chemical your body produces to digest purines, which occur naturally in most foods. Oxalates also naturally occur in foods.

Maintaining low uric acid levels through restricting purines and limiting oxalate-rich foods may help guard against certain types of kidney stones.

According to the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, flour products, including whole-wheat flour and breads, crisp breads, fiber-rich cereals, and snack foods, such as cakes and baked chips, are considered high-oxalate because they contain 10 milligrams or more of oxalates per serving. Each serving supplies roughly one-quarter of your recommended daily maximum intake of oxalates. Although flour is not high in purines, many flour-based foods contain yeast, which is purine-rich. Common sources of yeast include: sandwich bread, bagels, dinner rolls, pizza crust, pastries, and pretzels. To maintain low oxalate and uric acid levels, substitute yeast-free and flour-free starches, such as rice, oats, quinoa, pearled barley, and popcorn, as often as possible.

Stone Crusher has also been found to be an effective herbal supplement for gallstones. Gallstones form when cholesterol and bile pigments become so concentrated that they form lumps inside the gall bladder. They can be as small as a pinhead, or as large as a golf ball.

Stones that remain in the gallbladder rarely cause problems, but if one of them blocks either the cystic duct (*the tube that leads from the gallbladder to the bile duct*) or the bile duct (*the tube running from the liver and gallbladder into the intestines*), you can be in for some trouble!

The most common symptom is upper abdominal pain on the right side of the body, where the liver and gallbladder are situated. The pain may start suddenly and be intense, it may be a slow, dull pain, or may occur intermittently. The pain may also shift from the abdominal area to the upper back or shoulders.

Prolonged blockage of a bile duct can cause a buildup of waste products in the biliary tract and in the bloodstream, leading to an infection. It can also prevent the release of bile into the small intestine to help digest food or cause a serious bacterial infection in the liver. A blocked bile duct may result in inflammation of the gallbladder, or possibly cause the pancreas to be compromised.

Stone Crusher has been used successfully for a number of other health conditions, including:

- Prostate disorders • Bladder infections
- Diuretic needs • Poor circulation
- Helping to ease painful joints
- Inflammatory conditions of the liver
- Aid in digestion
- Viruses of the reproductive tract
- Inflammation of the rectal lining
- Excessive phlegm • Chest infections and coughs
- An anti-spasmodic and muscle relaxant to the urinary tract
- A pain reliever • An appetite stimulator
- A stimulant for menstrual flow

Hope for Health's Stone Crusher could be the first herb your family may try, but we assure you it won't be the last! Once you see the amazing results, with no debilitating side effects, you will want to continue to discover these God-given herbs as a healthy alternative to dangerous drugs!

* See page 8 for more details about Stone Crusher

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• Dr. Kaye Olson and the Hope for Health staff are
• ready and willing to answer any product or health
• questions you may have. We are also happy to consult
• with you regarding any diet or lifestyle changes.
• Please call 828-649-0278.
• If you wish to order or would like a free copy of our
• informative catalog, please call, visit our website or
• fill out the order sheet at the back of this publication.
•

Bitter Melon



CAPSULES
100

PRICE
\$11.99

Suggested Adult Usage:

Take 1-3 capsules, three times a day with meals. Start with the smaller amount and increase as needed.

Are you trying to keep your blood sugar levels in check? When it comes to blood sugar health, Bitter Melon is one of the best herbs known! Actually a fruit, Bitter Melon has been shown to help improve the health of the pancreas, aid digestion, and help maintain a healthy blood sugar balance. And what is even better? There are NO harmful side effects!!

Full Of Powerful Nutrients

- **Bitter Melon** contains a wide variety of vitamins and minerals! Rich in iron, **Bitter Melon** has twice the beta-carotene of broccoli, twice the calcium of spinach, twice the potassium of bananas, and contains: vitamins A, B1, B2, B3, and C, phosphorus, and dietary fiber.
- **Bitter Melon** contains a substance called charantin - an insulin-like peptide and also lectins - non-digestible sugar-binding proteins which reduce the amount of sugar absorbed by the digestive system. Both of these work together to help promote a healthy blood sugar level!

Bitter Melon traditionally grows in tropical areas, including parts of the Amazon, east Africa, and the Caribbean, and is cultivated throughout South America and Asia as a food and a remedy. It's applications in traditional herbal supplements span a long list of uses including as a antibiotic, promoting healthy cell growth, reducing inflammation, and cleansing the blood.

SUPPLEMENT FACTS

Serving Size: 2 capsules		
Servings Per Container: 50		
Amount Per Serving		% DV*
Bitter Melon	1000 mg	†
Momordica Charantia L.		
*Percent Daily Value based on a 2,000 calorie diet.		
†Percent Daily Value not established.		
Vegetarian Capsule Ingredient: Pine Tree Pulp		

How Soon Will I See Benefits With Bitter Melon?

While other popular over-the-counter or prescription products may provide instant, temporary symptom relief, they often do not address the underlying problem responsible for the health issue. **Bitter Melon**, like many other natural herbal supplements, provides progressive, long-term benefits by helping the body correct the underlying problem rather than only alleviating the symptoms.

There are certain classes of herbs that work well in acute conditions to provide quick relief; however, herbs like **Bitter Melon** need to be taken for at least 3-4 weeks before the benefits of taking it can be experienced. It can take anywhere between 3 months and a year to experience the full range of benefits **Bitter Melon** can provide. This product works best when taken as part of a health maintenance program that includes a sensible diet and moderate exercise regimen.

What Is Bitter Melon?

Bitter Melon, also known as balsam pear, is a tropical fruit (sometimes called a vegetable) widely cultivated in Asia, Africa, and South America, and has been used extensively around the world as a natural remedy to help maintain healthy blood sugar levels.

- In Turkey it has been used as a folk remedy for a variety of ailments, particularly stomach complaints.
- Along with other bitter foods, **Bitter Melon** can help stimulate digestion, making it a useful addition to the diet in individuals with constipation or sluggish digestion. It also helps boost metabolism and nutrient absorption!
- Studies indicate that **Bitter Melon** may help protect the heart and nervous system by reducing inflammation throughout the body.
- **Bitter Melon** helps stimulate the breakdown of fat in the body and assists in managing weight gain related to fluctuations in blood sugar levels.
- Studies also suggest that **Bitter Melon** may play a role in controlling the production of insulin by the body, thus promoting healthy blood sugar control. In fact, to date, nearly 100 scientific studies have demonstrated the powerful effects of this fruit! Some of the documented studies show that **Bitter Melon** enhances cells' uptake of glucose, promotes insulin release, and enhances the effect of insulin on the body.
- **Bitter Melon** has an "exercise-like" effect on the body! When you exercise, it activates an enzyme called AMPK (a protein well known for regulating fuel metabolism and enabling glucose uptake) in muscle, which in turn, helps move glucose transporters to the cell surface. This is a very important step in the uptake of glucose from circulation into the tissues of the body, and is a major reason that exercise is recommended to help promote healthy blood sugar levels. Here's where it gets interesting! **Bitter Melon** contains four very promising compounds that appear to work the same way on AMPK, in that, when you ingest them, they activate this enzyme, just like if you had gotten up and done aerobics! (However, **Bitter Melon** is not a substitute for regular exercise.)

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The Gift of Obedience

by F. A. Barnes

“For if by one man’s offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.” Romans 5:17.

Righteousness is a gift—a free gift—received by faith. Now, we must ask ourselves what righteousness is, for what good is a gift if you don’t know what it is when you receive it? Suppose you make or purchase a special gift for a friend, but he has no idea what it is or what it is used for. The gift becomes useless to that person and will not be appreciated. Furthermore, you would not get the joy you anticipated in giving the gift.

Jesus has given us the precious gift of righteousness, anticipating that we will accept the gift with appreciation. When we do accept the gift with appreciation and put the gift to use, He experiences great joy. “He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in his love, He will joy over thee with singing.” Zephaniah 3:17.

So what is this gift of righteousness? We generally think of justification, which is certainly a good answer to our question. We generally understand that justification is the act of declaring us just or righteous. It is the forgiveness of our sins and the righteousness of Christ applied to our account. Praise the Lord for that unspeakable gift—and at what a cost! But is there more to this gift? Absolutely! Here is another definition of righteousness: “Righteousness is right doing, and it is by their deeds that all will be judged. Our characters are revealed by what we do. The works show whether the faith is genuine.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 312.

Someone objects, “That sounds like sanctification, not justification. Justification is the gift and my obedience is just a response to that gift.” No, no! Righteousness is the gift and righteousness includes both justification and sanctification. Righteousness is right doing and right doing is obedience. Therefore, Jesus has blessed us with the gift of obedience. A couple of verses will help to establish this fact.



“Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.” Acts 3:26. Yes, He offers pardon, but He also offers to turn you from your iniquities, which is the same as making you obedient. This is included in both justification and sanctification. If iniquities are transgressions of the law, then the turning away from transgressions is the keeping of the law. The next text will make it even more clear.

“For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.” Philippians 2:13. This is the gift of His righteousness, which is the gift of obedience. “Christ in you, the hope of glory” is the gift His righteousness, His carrying out His life of obedience within the believer.

How often we have been guilty of saying, “I cannot overcome this sin.” On the one hand, praise God that you realize that you cannot. Now you are ready to receive His gift of obedience. He will overcome the sin as He works in you both to will and

do of His good pleasure. Therefore, the next time you feel frustrated and insufficient to overcome, rather than say, “I cannot,” begin to say, “We can! Jesus and I can do it together, because I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me.” This is how you make use of the gift of obedience He has given.

The problem has been two-fold. First, we have not recognized the gift for what it is; we have not understood the gift of obedience, but merely the gift of pardon. Secondly, when we have recognized the gift, we have been reluctant or unsure how to use it. Let’s return to the idea of you purchasing a really nice gift, perhaps a tool, for a friend. He looks at it, but not knowing what it is, he politely replies with a puzzled look, “Thanks...it’s really nice.” Not knowing what the tool is used for or how to use it, he puts it away. Consequently, neither he nor you get any pleasure from the receiving or giving of the gift. Ah, but if he knows what the tool is and how to use it, he rejoices over it, and you receive great pleasure in seeing him use it. This is what Jesus



experiences all the time with His professing friends. He has given them this precious gift of obedience—the tool to overcome—but many don't appreciate or know how to use the gift. How disappointed must Jesus be? After all, the price He paid was His life! On the other hand, those who do appreciate the gift, and put it to use, bring great joy to Jesus and He rejoices over them with singing.

Another illustration is appropriate. Suppose the gift you give is a beautiful new suit of clothes. You know your friend appreciates it if you see him not only get excited about it, but actually see him wear it. On the other hand, if he puts it away in the closet and you never see him wear it, you will have little joy. Jesus has given us His white robe of righteousness, but He gets no joy unless we wear it.

Perhaps you are wondering just how to put the robe on. Here is another wonderful thing about the gift: you get your own personal valet to help you dress every day! Let's see this in the Scriptures.

“Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And He answered and spake unto those that stood before Him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him He said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of the LORD [Jesus] stood by.” Zechariah 3:3-5.

Jesus did not tell Joshua to go and clean himself up and put on the garments that were provided. No, no! Jesus tells His angels to act as valets, removing his old garments and dressing him in the new. So how do we make this practical? Every morning we need to call upon God to clothe us in the garments of Christ's righteousness. The Holy Spirit and the angels will be our valets. The work of the Holy Spirit is to keep our garments clean. He speaks to our hearts, convicting us of sin and of righteousness. All the while, the Angel of the Lord (Jesus) is standing by, ready to help and

empower us. He didn't give the gift and then leave us. “I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” Hebrews 13:5.

What part did Joshua play in this transaction? He simply had to be willing. He simply had to allow the removal of his filthy garments and to be dressed in the new garments. He didn't resist, but held out his arms and allowed the change of raiment to take place. Likewise, we must not resist. By faith, we simply hold out our arms and allow the work to go on. If the Holy Spirit directs us this way or that, we go where He leads. And how does He lead? Always according to the word of God. He directs us to the Scriptures where He leads us and guides us into all truth. He helps us hide the



word in our hearts that we not sin against God. He works in us both to will and do of His good pleasure, but never forces us against our own will. Therefore, as an inspired author said:

“What you need to understand is the true force of the will. This is the governing power in the nature of man, the power of decision, or of choice. Everything depends on the right action of the will. The power of choice God has given to men; it is theirs to exercise. You cannot change your heart, you cannot of yourself give to God its affections; but you can choose to serve Him. You can give Him your will; He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. Thus your whole nature will be brought under the control of the Spirit of Christ; your affections will be centered upon Him, your thoughts will be in harmony with Him.” *Steps to Christ*, 47.

Can you see, from beginning to end, that righteousness by faith is a gift? This brings us to the message to the Laodiceans. Here we are told to buy from the heavenly Merchantman three important items: 1) gold tried in the fire, 2) white raiment, and 3) eyesalve. The gold is faith that works by love. The eyesalve is spiritual discernment, especially the ability to see ourselves as Christ sees us. The white raiment is the garment of Christ’s righteousness. But what does it mean that we are to buy it? Isn’t that supposed to be a free gift? There is no contradiction here at all. The

gift is bought without money and without price (Isaiah 55:1). The power of purchase is in our surrender. We must surrender to the message, acknowledging that we are indeed wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. We must repent and give ourselves wholly to Christ. Here again is where the power of the will comes in—we make the choice and He provides the remedies—absolutely free! Our surrender and repentance is the acceptance of the gift.

Moreover, our spiritual savings account, which is opened with His gift as the principle, offers interest that is compounded daily. As we use the gift of obedience, we are earning interest. Note these words of Scripture: “And we are His witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey Him.” You see, not only are we given the Holy Spirit upon conversion, but as we exercise the gift of obedience we are blessed with a greater endowment of the Spirit.

The latter rain began with the message of righteousness by faith. What slowed the rain was the reluctance to receive the gift of righteousness from God. When we fully surrender and receive the gift—the gift of righteousness, the gift of obedience—we will experience the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and be empowered to give the final message to the world. Brothers and sisters, let’s receive the gift and allow Jesus to rejoice over us with singing!

Words from God

Righteousness and Life

1. What is assured to the believer in Christ?

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have *everlasting life*.” John 3:16.

2. What is revealed in the gospel?

“For therein is *the righteousness of God* revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.” Rom 1:17.

3. What has Christ brought to light through the gospel?

“Who hath abolished death, and hath brought *life and immortality* to light through the gospel.” 2 Tim. 1:10.

4. How closely are righteousness and life thus united?

“In the way of *righteousness* is *life*; and in the pathway thereof there is no death.” Prov. 12:28.

5. What does he find who follows after righteousness?

“He that followeth after righteousness and mercy findeth *life*, righteousness, and honor.” Prov. 21:1.

6. Through what does grace reign unto eternal life?

“That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.” Rom. 5:21.

7. What is the very life of the Spirit?

“And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of *righteousness*.” Rom. 8:10.

8. What are the commandments of God declared to be?

“All Thy commandments are *righteousness*.” Ps. 119:172.

9. What did Jesus declare God’s commandment to be?

“And I know that His commandment is *life everlasting*.” John 12:50.

NOTE: Life and righteousness are thus shown to be inseparable.

10. What does the prophet Jeremiah declare Christ to be?

“And this is His name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.” Jer. 23:6.

11. What does Christ declare Himself to be?

“I am the way, the truth, and the *life*.” John 14:6.

12. How is righteousness received?

“For if by one man’s offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of *the gift of righteousness* shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.” Rom. 5:17.

13. How is eternal life bestowed?

“For the wages of sin is death; but the *gift* of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Rom. 6:23.

14. What did Moses set forth as the basis of righteousness?

“And *it shall be our righteousness, if we observe to do all these commandments* before the Lord our God, as He hath commanded us.” Deut. 6:25.

15. What did Christ indicate as essential to eternal life?

“And He said unto him, Why callest thou Me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but *if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments*.” Matt. 19:17.

NOTE: The righteousness of God, which is obtained by faith in Christ, brings with it the life of God, which is inseparably connected with righteousness; and the life of God, which is bestowed upon man as a gift through his faith in Christ, is a life of righteousness, the righteousness, or right-doing, of Christ.

Words — Powerful Words!

by Dan Olson

The words that we choose to use have a very, very powerful impact. They can mean the difference between life and death—for ourselves, and for those who hear them. They will either draw the hearer closer to Christ or turn them away from His love.

Do you ever wish that words were just neutral? That we didn't have to carefully weigh everything that comes out of our mouths? For better or worse, everything we say has an impact.

As followers of the Saviour, we have a responsibility. Our responsibility is to watch every single word that comes out of our mouths.

It is a scary thing to think of losing our own soul, but to think that by the words we choose we could cause the loss of another's soul is a devastating thought. It is so

important to be constantly on guard. We should always think through our words before we open our mouth.

When we approach someone, we need to be asking ourselves, "Is what I am about to say going to lift them up or tear them down?" Words aren't neutral—the answer to this question will always be one option or the other, never a gray middle ground.

Our tongue is a powerful instrument. Consider the Bible story of Saul and David:

Saul was the king, and David was next in line for the throne. Saul knew that David had been anointed to be the next king, and he was not very happy about it. He realized that he was about to lose everything, so he did all in his power to destroy David.

David learned about Saul's threats, and he ran to the city of Nob. While in the city, he went to see Ahimelech, the high priest. The story that David chose to tell, the words that he used, ended up with devastating consequences to many people.

1 Samuel 21:1 tells us, "Then came David to Nob to Ahimelech the priest: and Ahimelech was afraid at the meeting of David, and said unto him, 'Why art thou alone, and no man with thee?'"

David responds: "The king hath commanded me a business, and hath said unto me, 'Let no man know anything of the business whereabout I send thee, and what I have commanded thee: and I have appointed my servants to such and such a place' (1 Sam. 21:2).

This response was not true. David's friend, Jonathan, the king's son, had told David of the plot to kill him, and had warned him to leave. King Saul had nothing to do with David's departure. The words that David chose that day were lies. These lies devastated a whole family.



When King Saul found out that David had been helped by Ahimelech, he asked Ahimelech, “Why have ye conspired against me, thou and the son of Jesse, in that thou hast given him bread, and a sword, and hast inquired of God for him, that he should rise against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?” (1 Sam. 21:13).

The priest didn’t know anything about what was going on. He said, “Did I then begin to inquire of God for him? be it far from me: let not the king impute any thing unto his servant, nor to all the house of my father: for thy servant knew nothing of all this, less or more” (1 Sam. 21:15).

King Saul’s response to Ahimelech’s apparent denial was brutal: “And the king said, ‘Thou shalt surely die, Ahimelech, thou, and all thy father’s house.’

“And the king said to Doeg, ‘Turn thou, and fall upon the priests.’ And Doeg the Edomite turned, and he fell upon the priests, and slew on that day fourscore and five persons that did wear a linen ephod” (1 Sam. 21:16, 18).

The words that David chose to use caused the death of an entire family. Eighty-five people died that day! They had nothing to do with what was going on between David and Saul. They were innocent. Unfortunately, because of David’s poor choice, and Saul’s vicious retaliation, many people lost their lives.

I wish this were an isolated incident, that history showed how others learned from this sad story, and had chosen not repeat the same mistake. Unfortunately, it is no different today. Words have started many wars. Millions of people have died because of ill-advised words that have been spoken.



A rough estimate calculates that 243 million people have died in war since the early 1800s. Many times, you can trace the cause of these catastrophic tragedies back to the leaders who chose to use their words and their influence for evil.

In my research, the residual effects of a war—the famine, loss of jobs, schools, and hospitals, often cause the suffering and death of at least as many people as were killed in the war itself. Consider that the number of lives lost since the early

1800s because of war and its effects may be closer to 500 million. That’s like wiping out every single person in the United States, Canada, and Mexico! Many of these altercations could have been avoided had people in leadership chosen their words more carefully, chosen to be humble and to work together rather than to sacrifice so many innocent lives.

While we can look with disdain upon those in power not using their words for good, are we any less responsible for our words, and how they affect the people close to us?

Consider this inspired thought: “That our influence should be a savor of death unto death is a fearful thought, yet it is possible. One soul misled, forfeiting eternal bliss—who can estimate the loss! And yet one rash act, one thoughtless word, on our part may exert so deep an influence on the life of another that it will prove the ruin of his soul.”¹

What a solemn thought! Once our words are spoken, there is no taking them back. We may repent and apologize for our words, but they can never be erased from the heart and mind of those whom we may have hurt.

It may make you feel like never opening your mouth again! However, there is hope, and God has promised that the words we choose can lead someone to live forever in heaven with Him.

Just as our words can be cutting and damaging, so they can be a savor of life unto life. They can help

to save a discouraged soul, and lead them to the arms of Jesus. Don't we all want that?

Someday, we each long to hear these words from our Saviour:

"Well done, my good and faithful servant. Enter into the kingdom. Enter into eternal bliss. Come with Me," He says, "and live forever with Me."

We need help. We can't do this on our own. We need our Lord to help us tame the powerful tool of our tongues.

God has given us this gift of speech so that we can speak words that will encourage. We can lift a friend up, and help them in their walk with Jesus.

From the same inspired author comes this thought: "The voice and tongue are gifts from God, and if rightly used, they are a power for God. Words mean very much. They may express love, devotion, praise, melody to God, or hatred and revenge. Words reveal the sentiments of the heart. They may be a savor of life unto life or of death unto death. The tongue is a world of blessing, or a world of iniquity."²

God will always give us the help we need. But we must spend time with Jesus in order to open our hearts to His promptings, to be kept by His grace when we speak and interact with others. To be a Christian means to be like Christ. But if we don't know Him, how can we be like Him? It is so important for us to spend time in His word, time in prayer, and time listening for His still, small voice.

Every morning, we have the privilege of asking Him to come into our hearts. He can help us to control our every thought, and to control every word that comes out of our mouths.

By reading and studying His word, we will receive the life He longs to give us.

Amy Carmichael, missionary to the poor in India, says, "A cup brimful of sweetness cannot spill

even one drop of bitter water, no matter how suddenly jarred."³

If we are full of Jesus, our words will automatically reflect His love and His goodness. Our words will naturally be a blessing to all around us. Isn't that what we all want? Don't we all want to be like Jesus?

The tongue is a powerful tool. Let us all look to Jesus and learn from Him. Let us open our hearts and ask Him to teach us how to tame the powerful instrument He has given us.

One last inspired thought: "Then let us take heed to our ways, that we do not offend God with our lips. Let all coldness and variance be put away. Let the heart melt into tenderness before God, as we recall His merciful dealings with us. Let the Spirit of God, like a holy flame, burn away the rubbish that is piled up at the door of the heart, and let Jesus in; then His love will flow out to others through us, in tender words and thoughts and acts. Then if death parts us from our friends, to meet no more till we stand at the bar of God, we shall not be ashamed to have the record of our words appear."⁴

We all have a choice. Let us take hold of God's strength, to make sure that the words we choose will build up and encourage those people God puts in our pathway. Let us choose to be ministers of grace for Him!

References

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When the Shoe is On the Other Foot

by Kathleen Vess

I have been actively homeschooling my son for almost a year. During this time, we've had our ups, our downs, our triumphs, and our *"let's try this agains."* I have learned that you have to laugh at yourself sometimes. Almost every day, except for Sabbath, I sit my son down to do his letters and numbers. Well, one day he grabbed a book and started asking me all kinds of questions — things I always ask him! I played along as though I didn't know, and he started to name the letters on the page, looking at me to repeat them.

Trying not to smile, I repeated them, and he started to praise me. I had to hide my face before I burst out laughing at my suddenly serious son. A verse came to mind: "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones" *Proverbs 17: 22*. So, I let myself laugh and I rejoiced that my son was learning even when it sometimes feels like he just isn't getting it.

The reason I named this post *"When the Shoe is on the Other Foot"* is because I have been trying to teach my son his numbers and letters for quite awhile. It seemed to me that he just wasn't getting it. But, when he brought me that book and showed me that he knew his ABCs by asking me what they were and telling me what they were, I realized he did know and he was learning. It was such an encouraging moment!

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Kathleen Vess writes a monthly column for SDA Homeschool Moms. You can find more encouragement at: [www.sdahomeschools.org](http://www.sdahomeschools.org)



# Words for the Young at Heart

## *His Reward*

by Willa May Mitchell

EDITOR'S NOTE: *This story was originally published in The Youth's Instructor, a magazine published weekly for youth. This story was included in an issue published in 1931. It gives a stark picture of the care that was available for orphaned children, and the work that was expected from them. While \$2.80 seems paltry today, to an orphan in the 1930's, it was close to a fortune!*

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A few weeks ago, I was seated in the congregation of a large church in a Southern city. On this particular day, the annual offering was for the support of an orphanage which was supported by this and several other churches in the area. As a special incentive to the givers, the children of the orphanage were brought to the service and seated in a reserved tier of seats, in full view of the congregation.

The minister, after the usual formalities of opening the service, rose, and introduced the superintendent of the Orphans' Home, Dr. Graham. He explained the great work they were doing. He told how many needy, homeless children were cared for each year, and how many hundreds of them had, during the years, passed through its doors to live lives of usefulness and happiness. In the course of his talk, he told the story of a child, eight years old, who had been orphaned in his babyhood by tragic circumstance. His only home had been this institution. He related how

this child, since he had been large enough, had worked several hours each day in the laundry, and in this way had earned twenty cents a week. By doing such tasks, many of the children were able to earn money for small extras which are not provided with their free board and keep.

"About three weeks ago," he said, "this child brought to the matron two dollars and eighty cents, and asked her to keep it for him, as he had heard that soon a special offering was to be taken for the support of the home. Since it had done so much for him, he had saved



this money to give. But, as the holiday season was near, he was afraid, if he kept it in his possession, he might be tempted to spend it.”

Some of the readers of this incident may not realize just what it meant to an orphan child to save this money. These children are not given any delicacies, as are children who have parents. Only the very plainest and barest of necessities are provided for them: never candy or chewing gum, ice cream, roller skates, or lovely big dolls for which childhood seems naturally to yearn. No! All this is practically unknown to the orphan child, except as he is able to buy it out of his meager little earnings. But this boy of eight had saved his small pittance from week to week all these months, to give to the support of the home which had done so much for him.

The matron was very much touched by his request, and told him what a fine and beautiful thing she thought he was doing. But she told him also that she knew how hard he had worked for many, many weeks to earn that money, and that she felt he should keep some of it for himself to spend at Christmas time. However, he insisted that she should take the entire amount and keep it for him until he might, himself, place it in the offering plate. So on this special day, he was proudly making his offering to his beloved home.

When Dr. Graham had finished telling the story, there were tears in many eyes. As he sat down, the young pastor rose quickly and said, “Dr. Graham, that is a wonderful story, and I would like to see the little eight-year-old man who’s done such a fine and noble thing.”

The superintendent stood again, and turning toward a boy seated near him, said, “Charles, these people would like to meet you. Come, and I will introduce you to the congregation.”

A handsome, manly-looking child, flushed with embarrassment, walked toward the platform. He dropped his eyes, and dug the toes of his heavy shoes into the deep carpeting of the rostrum. The superintendent put an arm around his shoulder, and said, “Friends, this is Charles Wade, and I feel that he has probably made the largest offering which will be made here today. We are proud of boys who are as loyal as our Charles.”





With those remarks, they both took their seats, and the service continued. It came to a close with a liberal offering.

I'd almost forgotten the incident, when a few days later I happened to meet the pastor of that church. "Of course you remember about Charles Wade last week," he said, after greetings were over. I could see that he was excited.

"Certainly," I answered. "A very touching story, and such a charming child."

"Well," he said, "there is a sequel to the story, and if you have a few minutes to spare, I certainly want you to hear it."

I said that I was happy to spare a few minutes.

"As you know, after each service I always greet personally as many of my congregation as is

possible. As I was doing this last week, a man whom I had never seen before approached me, and without introducing himself, put something in my hand, saying, 'Give this to Charles Wade.' Then he was lost in the crowd. On reaching my study, I looked to see what he had given me, and found it to be a ten dollar bill.

"The next morning I had scarcely reached my office when I was summoned to the telephone, and a man's voice asked if I could come to a certain address, as the speaker desired to have a talk with me. This I gladly consented to do, and made an appointment for early the next afternoon. Upon reaching the address given, I found a home of evident wealth and culture, surrounded by spacious lawns and perfectly tended gardens and shrubbery. I rang the bell,

and was admitted by a maid who ushered me into a large and tastefully furnished room.

“In a few minutes a man and a woman, whom I judged to be in their late forties, entered the room. The man came forward, and extending his hand, said, ‘Pastor, my name is Charles Wade, and this is Mrs. Wade.’ I immediately recognized the man who had pressed the money into my hand.

“Then they told me a long and intensely interesting story of how they had been in the city only a few months, and though not members of my church, had, by a strange coincidence, decided to attend the week before. They told of how lonely the last few years had been for them because they had no children, and how ardently they longed for a son to be a joy and comfort to them as they grew older. They were people of evident culture, and as they told me this, I thought of how many worthwhile things of life they could give to a son.


“Then came the real purpose of the visit. Mrs. Wade spoke quickly, and her face was bright with animation: ‘Doctor, the moment I saw that child at church, I knew that all our longing and prayers for a son had been answered. When the superintendent called his name, and it was Charles Wade, it seemed almost too much to bear, and it was such a perfect fulfillment of all our dreams. Here was the son we had pictured as our own all these years, and not even in our

boldest imagination had we pictured him of finer character or handsomer face than that child whom we saw for the first time last week. We want to take this boy from the Orphan Home to be our very own son, and as his name is already Charles Wade, he will simply be Charles Junior, just as our very own boy would have been. We feel that we can be making no mistake in adopting such a child. We can give him every advantage, and many of the luxuries which have been denied him, but which are surely the birthright of every child. Won’t you please arrange with the Home at once, so that we may have our boy as soon as possible?’

“‘We have already made so many plans for him,’ Mr. Wade added. ‘We shall try not to spoil him, but I already have decided that he must have a pony, a dog, and a bicycle. Those are things no boy should grow up without. I believe that with his noble, unselfish character, he will be a very hard boy to spoil.’

“We were all three in tears when the interview was ended, and I could only grasp their hands and say fervently, ‘God bless you, and Charles Junior, and give you many years of happiness together.’

“And,” concluded the young minister, “do you know, I believe it is all the reward of a little boy’s unselfishness and faithfulness.”



*Behold, what manner of love
the Father has bestowed upon
us, that we should be called
the sons of God!*

—1 John 3:1

The Gift of Righteousness

—E. J. Waggoner

“Being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Romans 5. 1.

I do not purpose to tell you what you already know, that there is no other way of salvation except through faith in Christ. You yourself could tell any seeker for peace and pardon that he has but to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved; that however good his intentions, however strong his efforts, however good his present connection, nothing will avail for the sins he has committed already; that when he has committed a sin the thing is done, and he cannot change it. Nothing that we can do today will undo what we did yesterday. It is fixed. Therefore, we must find pardon—a free pardon—from God, and this is obtained through the Lord Jesus Christ Who is set forth as the Righteousness of God. That is to say, in Christ, God gives us His own righteousness.

The assurance of the fact that we may obtain this free gift of righteousness through our Lord Jesus Christ is that we live. No one needs any more assurance than that. That is proof that God wishes to save us. We know very well that we are under the curse—we feel it within our own bodies. We know that death has passed upon all men because of sin, and we have felt the workings of death, yet we live. Some of us may have been at times looking as it were into the very grave, and felt that it was the next step for us. Especially do people feel this when old age creeps on. Then they realize something of the workings of death, and appreciate the fact that the body is but feeble at best. That is evidence that the curse is here, and we see it in everything else as well as in man. Nevertheless, in spite of it all, we live. This fact shows that God is long-suffering. Although men have sinned and merited death, God is still bearing with them, and all this that they may have time to repent.

This is not a bare theory; it is not speculation. It is fact, and a very practical fact, and what we want you to see is how very practical this truth is. It is an everyday, practical experience. The fact that we live is proof that God is keeping us, that we may lay hold upon eternal life. If God had not had that design for us, then He would have let us go—let all mankind go—to destruction long since. But God has not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, and if we meet His appointment, we shall find the salvation. God is bearing with us. Christ bearing the curse is prolonging our lives that we may lay hold upon the eternal life that is given to us. The Word is nigh us, even in us, and thus God is longsuffering. What a wealth of meaning there is in that word, *longsuffering*. God is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

God is what He wishes us to be. His love is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost who is given unto us. God’s love is the love that He wishes to be manifest in us, even as He puts it upon us. In 1 Corinthians 13, that wonderful chapter on love, some of the characteristics of love are given, and one of them is that it suffers long and is kind. We know something of what it is to suffer, to endure. The word itself implies something unpleasant—pain, sorrow, heaviness of heart. Love suffers. It receives chastisement, stripes, abuse, persecution, all manner of evil, and yet it is kind. God does not expect us to be anything that He is not, and so we find Him longsuffering. He suffers long with us. All our evil, all our sin, falls upon God. It is He who bears it, because He is our life, and thus we have made Him to serve with our sins. Although sin is distasteful to Him, yet He suffers it—suffers on our account. The suffering of Christ on the cross, the

thorns, the scourging, and the malicious accusations—all that was a visible presentation of that which God is obliged to suffer all the time, because of sin. The whole earthly life of Christ's was but a little section of His hidden life set forth that we may in that little period of time see who Christ is, what contradiction of sinners against Himself He is suffering, what He is enduring all the time, what the Godhead suffers on account of man's sins. Therefore God says, "I am He that blotteth out thy sins for Mine own sake." We can now more vividly realize how glad God is to cleanse a soul from sin. He Himself is thus relieved of the burden of it. "There is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth." So we do not have to wait until we get to heaven to swell the song of joy around the throne of God: but anyone now in this life, at this very time may help to swell the chorus of praise and joy in heaven; for when anyone repents he adds to the song, and to the joy not only of the angels, but of God Himself.

God waited long in the days of Noah, and He waits still. That is the longsuffering that bears reproach, abuse, false accusation, and yet says nothing. Oh, what has not God had to bear in all these thousands and thousands of years—false charges against Him, not alone by His bitter, out-spoken enemies, but even by His professed followers, who profess to know Him, but in works deny Him. In all this He has kept silent, waiting the outcome of the course of events, and allowing His own life to demonstrate to the world just what He is. When the time of judgment comes, when every secret thing comes to light, then even those who have not already found peace with God through believing, will see the ways of God, and every mouth will be stopped, because He will then have lived down accusation.

Here is one of the practical phases of this justification by faith. The apostle says that we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, and then goes on to show how this works out. "By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulation." Do we? Oh, so many of us do not—we sigh and complain under tribulation, but this is where we do not make a practical application of justification by faith. We are to glory in tribulation, "knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience experience; and experience hope: and hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts

by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Now mark: "We have peace with God," the peace of God that keeps the heart and mind through Jesus Christ. God's own peace, a calm in the midst of reproach, is the part of those who are justified by faith and who live by faith.

One would naturally think that a free pardon offered to everybody would be seized upon with avidity. Here the Lord who upholds everything offers a free pardon, and free access to His eternal kingdom to whomsoever will, and He does this by giving Himself. It would seem that everybody would seize that, but it is a fact that only a few do accept this offer of salvation. Men will fight against and repel their best good. They will begin making excuses for not accepting the pardon, and try to find some proof that it is not so. And why is all this? Why will men act so? The reason is plain when we think about it, and it will let us into the secret of why so many who profess to believe in justification by faith do not get the blessedness and peace out of it that they should, but go through life troubled, and full of unrest. The reason for all this is because the very acceptance of righteousness by faith implies a confession of our own unrighteousness. The natural man begins to doubt and question the statement, that "there is none righteous, no, not one," and that he must be justified wholly by Christ. He thinks there is some goodness in him—he knows some that are all unrighteous, but feels sure that there is one that is not all unrighteous—and that is himself. In his case, the Scriptures do not mean just what they say—ah, that is the way we all argue naturally. But it is not true.

"Being justified by faith." It is God that justifies. "Not he that commendeth himself, but he whom the Lord commendeth is accepted." So, do you not see, that in justification by faith, in accepting the Lord as our righteousness, we must absolutely and forever admit and hold to the fact that we have no goodness at all; that there is no good thing in us. It is so natural to justify self; to guard our own feelings, our own reputation. From childhood to old age it is the same; when reprov'd we try to shake off the offence, so as to make it appear not quite so bad as it is, to justify ourselves.

How was it with Christ? If there was one in the whole world who could with right justify himself and defend his own reputation, that one was Christ. He was

called a glutton and a drunkard, an associate of publicans and sinners, one who kept company with bad characters, men of bad reputation, and yet He never attempted to justify Himself. He made Himself of no reputation; “therefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name that is above every name.” He wasted no time trying to maintain His reputation. Suppose He had? How much else would He have done? not much. Some of His followers say that they cannot rest under false accusation, for it will hurt their influence! But He paid no attention to it, for He had not any reputation to maintain, as His influence came from what He was, and not from what people said about Him.

We sometimes have evil things spoken of us and have to suffer under accusation. We say, “That

hurts.” And sometimes people get so far lost and carried away with their sense of indignation at the injustice that they say, “What makes it so hard to bear is because of the injustice of it—the things that are said of me are not true.” Now let me ask, Would you feel better over the accusation if it were true? That is to say, would you rather be in the wrong, and have a good reputation than to be in the right and have a bad reputation? We know how the world chooses, how we have been ourselves: the thing that self-justification always looks to is appearance and not character. The natural desire is to present a fair exterior, no matter how bad we are, instead of to be pure in the sight of God regardless of what people think of us.

Every effort at self-justification, building up our own cause, trying

to make ourselves appear right in the eyes of the world, is a denial of justification by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, because if He justifies us, we have no need to justify ourselves. But if it depends upon me to present a right appearance before the world, to correct all false ideas and false impressions about me, to have people understand the exact facts in the case, then I am taking it out of the hands of the Lord, showing that I do not believe in His justification but in self-justification. But the fact is, God alone is righteous, and so He alone can justify; and whoever is not justified by faith in Him is unjust.

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Originally published in the magazine,  
*The Present Truth* [UK] July 26,  
1900, under the title, “The Practical  
Application of Justification by Faith in  
Everyday Life,” abridged.





# Pancreas Support



CAPLETS  
90

PRICE  
\$17.99

## Suggested Adult Usage:

Take 1 caplet, two to three times a day (about 30 minutes before each meal) or as needed.

*Do you suffer from hormonal problems or erratic blood sugar levels? We can help! Instead of taking dangerous drugs that can cause numerous side effects, try improving the function of your pancreas and eliminating symptoms naturally! Our Pancreas Support actually helps strengthen the pancreas which can reduce symptoms of blood sugar imbalances.*

## Ingredients:

**Bitter Melon** - Helps maintain a healthy blood sugar level, boosts the immune system, and improves digestion.

**Nopal Cactus Leaves** - Blocks absorption of sugar in the intestinal tract, which helps regulate blood sugar level. Supports liver and pancreatic function. Aids in normalizing insulin levels.

**Huckleberry Fruit** - Supplies extra oxygen to the blood, benefiting all capillaries in the body and improving circulation to the hands and feet. Is rich in fatty acids, bioflavonoids, iron, zinc, and phosphorus.

**Glucosol** - Supports the body's transport of glucose into the cells for more energy.

**Lipase** - An enzyme required to break down fats and lipids.

**Protease** - Helps break down protein so the body can use protein's building blocks (amino acids) more effectively.

**Spirulina** - Studies show that spirulina aids the body's ability to balance blood sugar, and supports a healthy immune system.

**Bromelain** - An enzyme that breaks down proteins in the body, has anti-inflammatory properties, helps reduce swelling, and promotes a healthy immune system.

**Papain** - Papain has a mild soothing effect on the stomach and is used as a digestive aid. Also has anti-inflammatory properties.

**Vanadyl Sulfate** - Aids in the transport of glucose and amino acids into muscle cells, which supports muscular growth and repair.

**Biotin** - Helps metabolize carbohydrates, which aids the balancing of blood sugar.

**Chromium Picolinate** - Improves blood glucose metabolism.

**GTF Chromium** - GTF Chromium is a trace mineral that plays an important role in regulating blood sugar levels. GTF works with insulin to transport glucose from the blood into the cells.

**Amylase** - A digestive enzyme that improves carbohydrate tolerance.

**Zinc Gluconate** - An essential mineral that has been shown to be low in most diets. Zinc helps with metabolizing glucose and balancing the level of glucose in the blood.

**Blueberry Fruit** - Promotes digestion and weight loss! High in antioxidants and helps detoxify the body.

**Fenugreek Seed** - Contains a soluble fiber that helps maintain healthy glucose metabolism and promote fullness. This type of fiber can slow the rate of postprandial glucose absorption (Levels of glucose after a meal).

## Pancreas FACT:

The pancreas (from the Greek meaning 'all flesh') is a large, pale, carrot-shaped rubbery gland which lies just below your stomach. It is responsible for the production of digestive juices and hormones. The pancreas is essential to every step of the processing of food, from digestion to absorption, storage, and even the utilization of nutrients.

## The Pancreas & Indigestion

Do you suffer from heartburn or indigestion? The pancreas secretes the body's own natural antacid, sodium bicarbonate, to settle an upset stomach!

## The Pancreas & Blood Sugar

The pancreas is responsible for secreting two important hormones: insulin and glucagon. These two hormones work together to regulate blood sugar levels, and keep everything in the body energized and fueled! Without a healthy pancreas, these hormones can get imbalanced, causing problems with your blood sugar levels! Protect your pancreas and your blood sugar levels with **Pancreas Support!**

## Pancreas Support Can Help:

- Promote weight loss
- Maintain a healthy blood sugar level
- Support healthy pancreas function
- Rejuvenate the digestive system
- Improve circulation to hands and feet
- Aid in improvement of all disorders of the pancreas
- Promote detoxification of body from harmful pollutants
- Provide naturally-occurring vitamins, minerals, and nutrients

| SUPPLEMENT FACTS                                    |         |       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|-------|
| Serving Size: 3 caplets                             |         |       |
| Servings Per Container: 30                          |         |       |
| Amount Per Serving                                  |         | % DV* |
| Biotin                                              | 300 mcg | 100%  |
| Zinc Gluconate                                      | 100 mcg | 667%  |
| Chromium Picolinate (12.5%)                         | 200 mcg | 167%  |
| Bitter Melon                                        | 300 mg  | †     |
| Nopal Cactus Leaves                                 | 300 mg  | †     |
| Blueberry Fruit                                     | 200 mg  | †     |
| Fenugreek Seed                                      | 200 mg  | †     |
| Huckleberry Fruit                                   | 200 mg  | †     |
| Glucosol (1%)                                       | 100 mg  | †     |
| Lipase (1,000 LAU/g)                                | 100 mg  | †     |
| Protease (75 HU/g)                                  | 100 mg  | †     |
| Spirulina                                           | 100 mg  | †     |
| Bromelain 600 GDU                                   | 60 mg   | †     |
| Papain                                              | 60 mg   | †     |
| Vanadyl Sulfate (31.3%)                             | 500 mcg | †     |
| Chromium (0.1%)                                     | 100 mcg | †     |
| Amylase (10,000 RAU/g)                              | 100 mcg | †     |
| *Percent Daily Value based on a 2,000 calorie diet. |         |       |
| †Percent Daily Value not established.               |         |       |

## Customer Testimonial:

*It works great! I can tell the difference. When I don't use it - I get heartburn and my food doesn't digest well.*  
~C.H.

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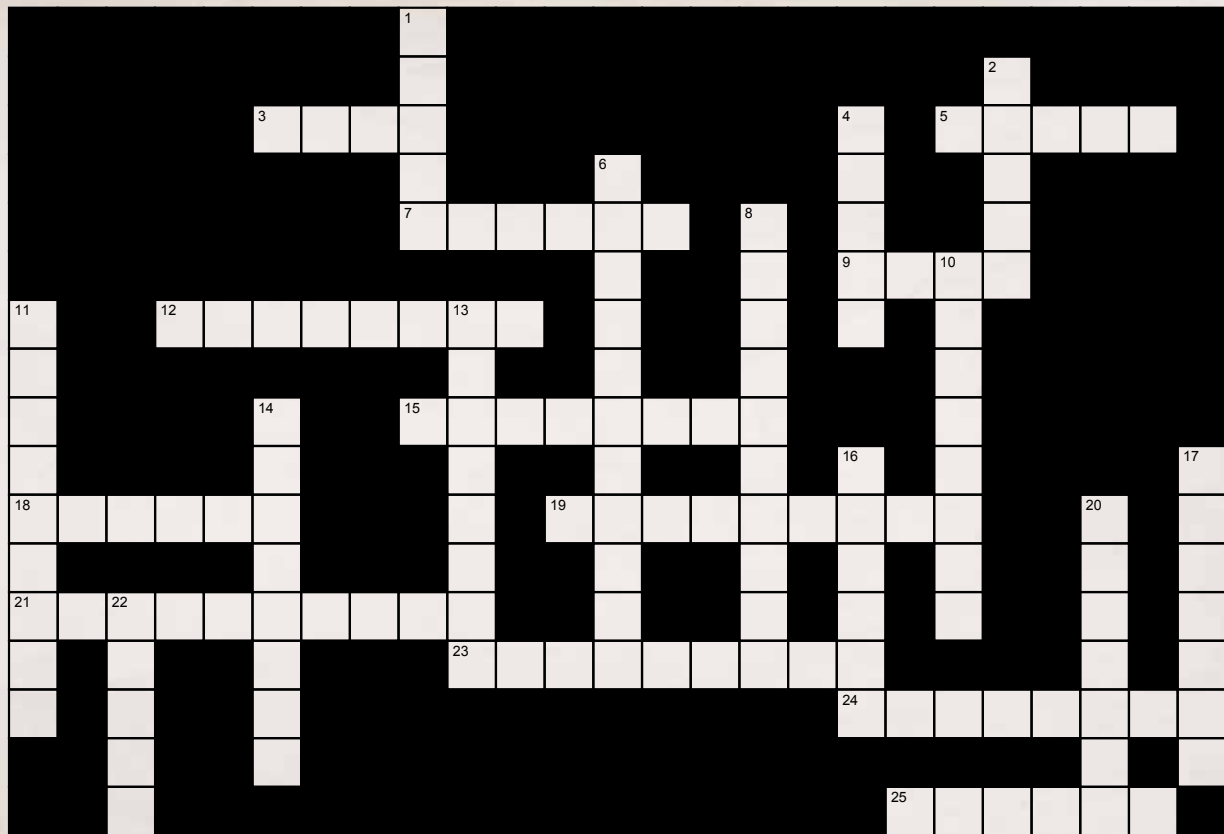
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# A Puzzle for You...

## Hebrews Crossword



### Across

3. The sons of who received the office of the priesthood?
5. Chapter 11 is the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter.
7. "\_\_\_\_\_ not your hearts."
9. "The fruit of our \_\_\_\_\_ giving thanks to his name."
12. In the past God spoke through \_\_\_\_\_.
15. "Let brotherly love \_\_\_\_\_."
18. The Son of God has superiority over \_\_\_\_\_.
19. "Without shedding of blood is no \_\_\_\_\_."
21. "It is \_\_\_\_\_ for God to lie."
23. "The Word of God is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the thoughts and intents."
24. "That ye be not \_\_\_\_\_."
25. "Come \_\_\_\_\_ unto the throne of grace."

### Down

1. With what does the gospel preached need to be mixed?
2. "The heavens are the works of thine \_\_\_\_\_."
4. "Exhort one another \_\_\_\_\_."
6. "An high priest after the order of \_\_\_\_\_."
8. "Hold fast the \_\_\_\_\_ of our faith."
10. "Let us run with \_\_\_\_\_ the race that is set before us."
11. "Not \_\_\_\_\_ the assembling of ourselves together."
13. "The Word of God is sharper than any \_\_\_\_\_ sword."
14. "Ye have not yet \_\_\_\_\_ unto blood."
16. "Be not carried away with \_\_\_\_\_ and strange doctrines."
17. "Consider the \_\_\_\_\_ and High Priest of our profession."
20. "What is man, that thou art \_\_\_\_\_ of him?"
22. "Make straight \_\_\_\_\_ for your feet."

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