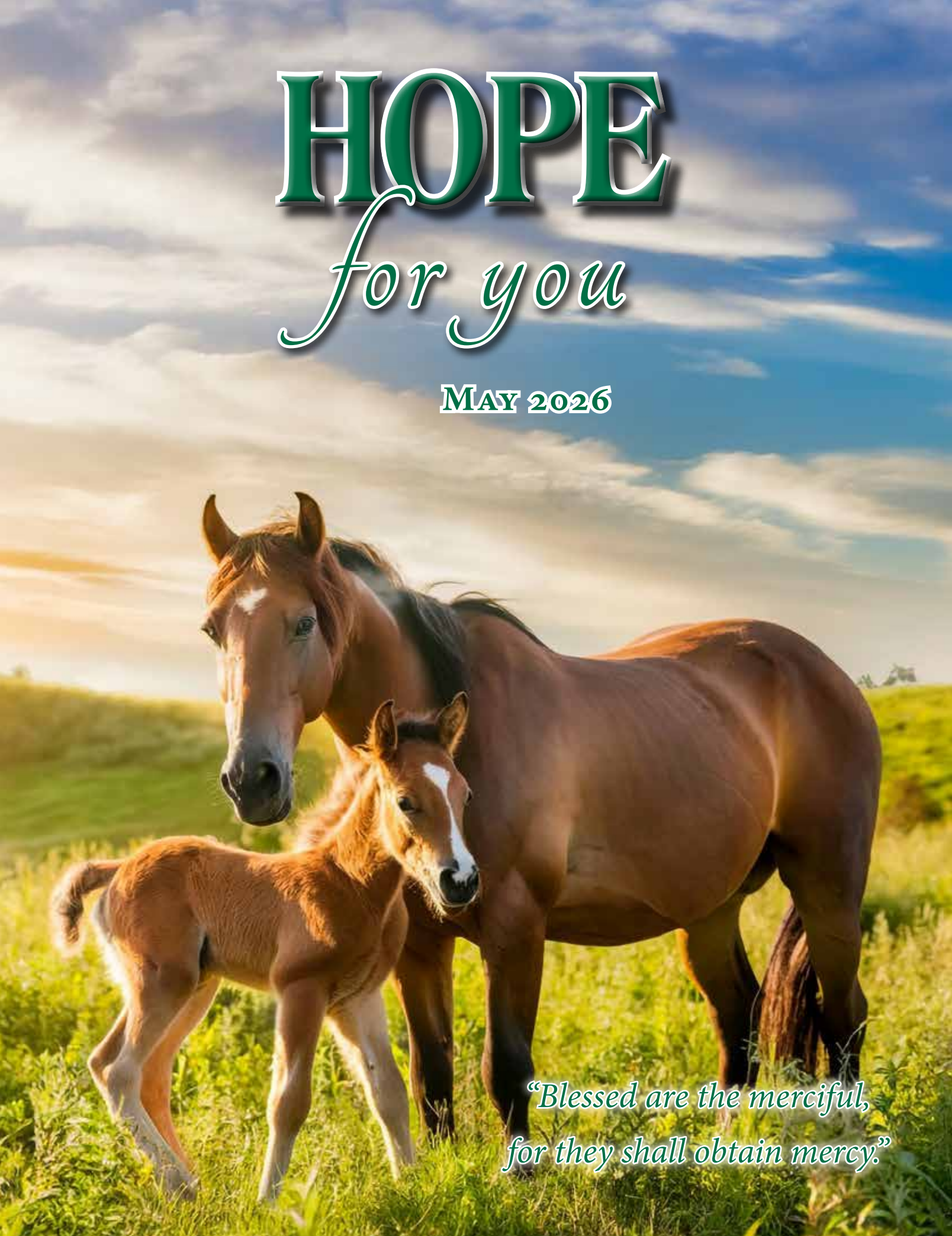
HOPE *for you*

May 2026



"Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall obtain mercy."

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!

I imagine that it was a busy day. A business man, perhaps loaded with goods to take for sale or trade, hurried along the path to Jerusalem. He was rapidly traversing a dangerous area of the road—one frequented by bands of robbers—when he heard it: a cry. *"Help me,"* called a weak voice.

Despite his hurry, despite the danger, despite his need to reach Jerusalem in a timely manner, the man stopped. He got off his animal, and he examined the poor, bleeding specimen of humanity that was lying alongside the road. This poor man had already experienced the danger of the road—he had been robbed, beaten, and left for dead.

Instead of retreating quickly to avoid suffering the same fate, this man got out his first aid kit, and did all he could to make the suffering stranger comfortable. When he had stabilized him enough so he could be moved, he placed him on his own animal, and brought him to Jerusalem. He stopped at an inn, paid for a room, and made the stranger comfortable. He also left money ahead, and promised to pay more when he returned, if it was needed.

His story resounds through history as the story of the Good Samaritan. The racial tension between God's chosen people and all other races make this story even more interesting. If the positions had been reversed, it is highly unlikely the Jew would have stopped to help the Samaritan. He might even have been glad that a Samaritan was injured. Yet, this man, this Samaritan, chose mercy. Regardless of whether it would ever be reciprocated, he chose mercy. I can guarantee he had no idea that Jesus would re-tell his story, that his choice would have a place in the Holy Scriptures, and that his act of mercy would inspire countless thousands to "go and do likewise." He merely chose to be merciful—in a dangerous place—without show or pretense. A deed he may have thought went unnoticed started a revolution of people choosing to follow his example of kindness and mercy.

In this issue of HOPE *for you*, we are focusing on the fifth Beatitude: *Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.* God offers us the free gift of His mercy. He offers freedom from the guilt of our past, and power to be transformed into His image. As you read through this issue and consider the different aspects of mercy, may your heart be inspired to accept God's amazing gift. He holds it out to you "without money and without price." As we accept this gift, we can share it with others—showing mercy to many whose hearts are sick with sadness, suffering, and the disease of sin.

Blessings! *The 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.

office@hopeint.org • www.hopeforhealthusa.com

Order Line: 1-800-468-7884 • Local Office Line: 828-649-1984

Managing Editor: Dan Olson • Assistant Editor: Beth Barnes • Layout & Design: Barnes Printing - www.barnesprinting.com

In This Issue...

Words of Inspiration:	*Blessed Are the Merciful*	4
	"I Need Thee, Precious Jesus" - Poem	11
Words for Health:	*All Season Support*	8
Words of Wisdom:	*They Shall Obtain Mercy*	12
Words of God:	Bible Study: *God's Mercy*	16
Words of Inspiration:	*"Be Ye Kind"*	18
Words of Testimony:	*James White, part 16: Seeker of the Backslidden*	20
Words for the Young at Heart:	*Deacon Barker's Conversion*	22
Words of the Pioneers:	*Mercy Rejoiceth Against Judgment*	27
	Selected Thoughts on Mercy	28

Andrea Olson, CH, 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.

"Every word or deed of unselfish kindness is an expression of the love of Christ for lost humanity."

—*E. G. White* (Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, 23)

Blessed Are the Merciful

by Ellen G. White

"Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy."

—Matthew 5:7

The Lord Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy." There never was a time when there was greater need for the exercise of mercy than today. The poor are all around us, the distressed, the afflicted, the sorrowing, and those who are ready to perish. Those who have acquired riches have acquired them through the exercise of the talents that were given them of God; but these talents for the acquiring of property were given to them that they might relieve those who are in poverty. These gifts were bestowed upon men by Him who maketh His sun to shine and His rain to fall upon the just and the unjust, that by the fruitfulness of the earth men might have abundant supplies for all their need. The fields have been blessed of God, and "of His goodness He hath prepared for the poor." In the providence of God events have been so ordered that the poor are always with us, in order that there may be a constant exercise in the human heart of the attributes of mercy and love. Man is to cultivate the tenderness and compassion of Christ; he is not to separate himself from the sorrowing, the afflicted, the needy, and the distressed. Job declares: "When the ear heard me, then it blessed me; and when the eye saw me, it gave witness to me; because I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me; and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy."

How many there are who claim to be followers of Christ, yet who do not follow him in truth. They do not manifest the sympathy and love of Christ by being merciful and compassionate. They do not make the widow's heart sing for joy; they treat the fatherless with coldness, indifference, or contempt. Said Job: "I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my judgment was as a robe and a diadem. I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor; and the cause which I knew not I searched out." This was an evidence that Job had righteousness that was after Christ's order. Through Jesus men may possess a spirit of tender pity toward the needy and distressed. They may have the mind of Christ. He was the Son of God, rich in heavenly treasures, yet for our sake He became poor, He descended to the lowest humiliation and was obedient unto death, even the death of the cross, that He might exalt us to be joint heirs with Himself. The whole world was in need of that which Christ alone could give them. …

Jesus says, "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father which is in heaven is merciful." To pursue the course that Jesus did, to follow in his divine footsteps, is not in harmony with the feelings of the natural heart; but if we are Christians, we shall practice the words and works of Christ, who gave himself in order to ransom an apostate race.

The Source of Mercy

The heart of man is by nature cold and dark and unloving; whenever one manifests a spirit of mercy and forgiveness, he does it not of himself, but through the influence of the divine Spirit moving upon his heart. "We love, because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19, R.V.

God is Himself the source of all mercy. His name is "merciful and gracious." Exodus 34:6. He does not treat us according to our desert. He does not ask if we are worthy of His love, but He pours upon us the riches of His love, to make us worthy. He is not vindictive. He seeks not to punish, but to

redeem. Even the severity which He manifests through His providences is manifested for the salvation of the wayward. He yearns with intense desire to relieve the woes of men and to apply His balsam to their wounds. It is true that God "will by no means clear the guilty" (Exodus 34:7), but He would take away the guilt.

The merciful are "partakers of the divine nature," and in them the compassionate love of God finds expression. All whose hearts are in sympathy with the heart of Infinite Love will seek to reclaim and not to condemn. Christ dwelling in the soul is a spring that never runs dry. Where He abides, there will be an overflowing of beneficence.

To the appeal of the erring, the tempted, the wretched victims of want and sin, the Christian does not ask, Are they worthy? but, How can I benefit them? In the most wretched, the most debased, he sees souls whom Christ died to save and for whom God has given to His children the ministry of reconciliation.

The merciful are those who manifest compassion to the poor, the suffering, and the oppressed. Job declares, "I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. I put on righteousness, and it clothed me: my judgment was as a robe and a diadem. I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

There are many to whom life is a painful struggle; they feel their deficiencies and are miserable and unbelieving; they think they have nothing for which to be grateful. Kind words, looks of sympathy, expressions of appreciation, would be to many a struggling and lonely one as the cup of cold water to a thirsty soul. A word of sympathy, an act of kindness, would lift burdens that rest heavily upon weary shoulders. And every word or deed of unselfish kindness is an expression of the love of Christ for lost humanity.

The merciful "shall obtain mercy." "The soul of blessing shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself." Proverbs 11:25, margin. There is sweet peace for the compassionate spirit, a blessed satisfaction in the life of self-forgetful service for the good of others. The Holy Spirit that abides in the soul and is manifest in the life will soften hard hearts and awaken sympathy and tenderness. You will reap that which you sow. "Blessed is he that considereth the poor. . . . The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth: and Thou wilt not deliver him unto the will of his enemies. The Lord will strengthen him upon the bed of languishing: Thou wilt make all his bed in his sickness." Psalm 41:1-3.

He who has given his life to God in ministry to His children is linked with Him who has all the resources of the universe at His command. His life is bound up by the golden chain of the immutable promises with the life of God. The Lord will not fail him in the hour of suffering and need. "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19. And in the hour of final need the merciful shall find refuge in the mercy of the compassionate Saviour and shall be received into everlasting habitations.

A Word to Parents

As parents who profess to love the Lord Jesus Christ, we should see to it that the spirit of peace is in our households. God commands us to take our children and fashion them after the divine similitude. From their earliest life children should be taught to obey their parents, to respect their word, and to reverence their authority. But many allow Satan to take their children under control, and in their early life the spirit of Satan manifests itself in the little ones in passionate screams or in sullen manners. One child under the control of this evil disposition will disturb the whole household, and banish peace from its borders. Parents should take time to discipline their children. Our most precious time belongs to our own flesh and blood. Never let your child hear you say, "I cannot do anything with you." As long as we may have access to the throne of God, we as parents should be ashamed to utter any such a word. Cry unto Jesus, and he will help you to bring your little ones to him, and to keep them out of the power of the enemy. If Satan cannot succeed in ruling the fathers and the mothers, he will try with all his power to control the children, and make them rebel against God, and become disturbers of the peace of a family.

Parents, you have a solemn responsibility resting upon you. It is your duty to co-operate with Christ in aiding your children to form right characters. Jesus can do nothing without your co-operation. It is not mercy or kindness to permit a child to have its own way, to submit to its rule, and to neglect to correct it on the ground that you love it too well to punish it. What kind of love is it

that permits your child to develop traits of character that will make him and every one else miserable? Away with such love! True love will look out for the present and eternal good of the soul.

How much corruption we see in the world because parents neglect to do their duty, and sin lies at their door. Satan stands by exulting as you permit your children to pass into his hands. Do not indulge your children in evil ways, but from their very infancy let them see that you love the Lord, and that you mean to train them up as He would have you. Our blessed Saviour taught us to pray, "Our Father, which art in heaven. Hallowed be Thy name." Do we realize what is the meaning of this prayer? Do we realize that we must hallow that name in our families, and that if we allow our children to manifest the attributes of Satan, that name is not hallowed in our households? If we want the holy angels to take charge of our little ones, we must bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and teach them to hallow the name of God. We teach them to say, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." But do you teach them the meaning of this prayer? Do you teach them that the kingdom of God must be seen in your household, and that the will of God must be done by them and you? Do you break the force of this petition by shaking them, by striking them in anger, by speaking harsh words, and by manifesting passion? Do not do this, but be merciful, kind, and tender-hearted. Let the will of the Lord be done in your family, not the will of the enemy. ... Do you wonder that God does not walk through the midst of us when we allow Satan to work his way in our households, and when we neglect the solemn obligations that God has placed upon us? Of what avail will be a list of church resolutions, if we have not the Spirit of God in our homes? Christ is watching to see who are training their families for the great family above. …

What are we to do? Let us look carefully, and begin to catch up our dropped stitches. Let us break down the strongholds of the enemy. Let us mercifully correct our loved ones, and keep them from the power of the enemy. Do not be discouraged. Eternal interests are at stake. Do not feel downcast by the rebuke; for the Lord says, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten." The church needs men of a meek and quiet spirit, who are long-suffering and patient. Let them learn these attributes in dealing with their families. Let parents think a great deal more of their children's eternal interests than they do of their present comfort. Let them look upon their children as younger members of the Lord's family, and train and discipline them in such a way as will lead them to reflect the divine image.

—Taken from *Signs of the Times*, June 13, 1892; *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing,* pp. 21-24; *Review and Herald*, July 16, 1895

Free Book Offer!

The Mount of Blessing expounds on the Sermon on the Mount, sharing insights and challenging readers to look beneath the surface.

If you do not have this book in your home, Hope for You would like to gift you with a free copy.

Would you like a Free Copy?

Simply call or visit our website today!

Call to Order: 1-800-468-7884 or 828-649-0278

Visit Us Online: www.hopeforhealthusa.com

Allergy Support • Respiratory Aid • Immune Booster • Headache

ALL SEASON SUPPORT

If you have ever suffered with allergies that keep you from enjoying a lovely picnic, bike riding or working in a garden, you will be thrilled with ***All Season Support****. The relief it gives you as it clears airway passages and supports normal healthy breathing! Breathe deep and enjoy!!*

90 Tablets **$31.99**

Suggested Adult Usage:

Take 3 tablets on an empty stomach up to two times a day , in the presence of seasonal allergies, or 3 tablets daily year round.

Ingredients:

- **Seasonal Seven Comfort Blend** (660mg) – is a special blend of Amla, Fruit Extract, Chebulic Myrobalan Fruit Extract, Beleric Myrobalan Fruit Extract, Astragalus Root, Ginger Root, Reishi Mushroom, and Black Pepper Fruit. This unique blend will provide you with a high concentration of vitamin C, it may support and protect the immune system, help with constipation, calm the respiratory system, reduce inflammation, and lastly but never the least, it acts as an antioxidant that maximizes nutrient absorption.
- **OptiMSM™** (1500mg) – the purest MSM available is a potent source to lower inflammation, decrease allergy symptoms, and boost the immune system.
- **Quercetin** – reduces inflammation, relieves the risk of infections, and relieves allergies.
- **Stinging Nettle Leaf Extract** – provides a wide variety of nutrients, it has also been shown to inhibit inflammation that can trigger seasonal allergies.
- **Tumeric Rhizome Powder** – provides help with respiratory infections and allergies.
- **VitaBerry® Organic Fruit Blend** – it does not get any better than this amazing blend of Organic Strawberry, Organic Blueberry, Organic Raspberry, Organic Tart Cherry, Organic Pomegranate, and Organic Cranberry. Both blueberry and pomegranate are considered to be the healthiest of all fruits, which will allow you to enjoy all the seasons!
- **Ginger Rhizome Powder** – contains antioxidants. These molecules help manage free radicals, which are compounds that can damage cells when their numbers grow too high.
- **Bromelain** – reduces pain and swelling in the nose and sinuses.
- **Feverfew Herb Powder** – powerful help with headaches.

SUPPLEMENT FACTS

Serving Size: 3 Tablets
Servings Per Container: 30

	Amount Per Serving	% Daily Value
Vitamin C (as ascorbic acid)	100 mg	111%
Methylsulfonylmethane**	1500 mg	*
Seasonal Seven Comfort Blend	660 mg	*
Amla (*Emblica officinalis*) Fruit Extract, Chebulic Myrobalan (*Terminalia chebula*) Fruit Extract, Beleric Myrobalan (*Terminalia bellirica*) Fruit Extract, Astragalus (*Astragalus membranaceus*) Root, Ginger Root, Reishi Mushroom, Black Pepper Fruit		
Quercetin	300 mg	*
Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica*) Leaf Extract (Standardized to contain 1% silicic acid [2mg])	200 mg	*
Turmeric Rhizome Powder	50 mg	*
Ginger Rhizome Powder	35 mg	*
Bromelain (*Ananas comosus*) Stem (2400 GDUs/g)	25 mg	*
Feverfew Herb Powder	25 mg	*
Organic VitaBerry® (Organic Strawberry, Organic Blueberry, Organic Raspberry, Organic Tart Cherry, Organic Pomegranate, Organic Cranberry)	25 mg	*

*Daily Value not established

Other Ingredients: Cellulose, vegetable stearin, dicalcium phosphate, silica, magnesium stearate.

What Are Allergies?

Allergens, like pollen, are nothing more than foreign plant antigens. When they get released into the air, you can see and hear the result. When allergens first encounter nasal tissue, sneezing is triggered. This is part of the body's immune defense. Pollen allergens then encounter the plasma cells in the nose, which respond by producing antibodies. These antibodies attach to mast cells, which are white blood cells containing the chemical histamine. As more antibodies are produced, they cause the mast cells to release histamine, which produces allergy symptoms such as a stuffy and runny nose, sneezing, and watery eyes. These help to remove the invading pollen.

Over 30 million Americans suffer from seasonal allergies that affects the respiratory system. This is primarily caused by the hypersensitivity of the immune system toward environmental allergens such as pollen, animal dander, dust, and mold. The key to solving the hypersensitivity is to deactivate or reduce the body's over-reaction to the foreign compounds before significant symptoms occur. **All Season Support** is a powerful blend of nutrients and botanicals that is capable of helping to control the body's response to environmental "debris". This response involves helping to support the normal, healthy release of biochemicals that cause inflammation, and other symptoms associated with allergies and exposure to environmental allergens.

Stay Well Year-Round with All Season Support

Your Herbal Ally for Every Season

In a world that moves fast and never takes a break, your body shouldn't be slowed down by seasonal sniffles, environmental stressors, or lingering inflammation. Whether it's spring pollen, summer fatigue, fall colds, or winter sluggishness, your immune system deserves daily reinforcement. That's why we created **All Season Support**—a thoughtfully formulated herbal supplement designed to help your body thrive every day of the year.

All Season Support isn't just another vitamin on the shelf—it's a comprehensive, plant-powered defense system. With a synergistic Seven Comfort Blend at its core, bolstered by a potent dose of vitamin C, MSM, turmeric, stinging nettles, bromelain, ginger, and a robust organic fruit blend, this supplement works to nourish, protect, and revitalize your body from the inside out.

Harnessing Nature's Wisdom with the Seven Comfort Blend

At the heart of **All Season Support** lies our signature **Seven Comfort Blend**—a proprietary fusion of natural botanicals chosen for their time-honored roles in supporting respiratory comfort, easing inflammation, and promoting immune balance. While the exact components of the Seven Comfort Blend are proprietary, the formulation is designed to help you breathe easier, move more freely, and face the day with confidence—whatever the weather brings.

These carefully selected botanicals work in harmony to soothe the body's overactive responses to environmental irritants and seasonal changes. Whether it's congestion, itchy eyes, or aching joints, the Seven Comfort Blend supports a calm, balanced response, helping you stay in control of your wellness journey.

Vitamin C: The Antioxidant Powerhouse That Does More

Vitamin C is widely known for its immune-boosting abilities, but its role in **All Season Support** goes far deeper. This high-potency antioxidant not only strengthens your immune system—it also enhances **nutrient absorption**, ensuring your body gets the most out of every herbal component included in the formula.

But that's not all. Vitamin C also supports collagen production, aiding in skin health and joint flexibility. It neutralizes free radicals that contribute to cellular aging and oxidative stress, and it helps keep inflammation in check—an especially important function during allergy season or times of physical stress. When combined with the other plant-based ingredients in **All Season Support**, vitamin C becomes a catalyst for resilience.

MSM: Mobility, Recovery, and Relief

Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM) is a natural sulfur compound best known for its role in supporting joint health and reducing inflammation. But its benefits extend even further. MSM helps maintain healthy connective tissues, including cartilage, tendons, and ligaments, making it an excellent ally for those who want to stay active and agile—especially when seasonal discomforts might otherwise slow them down.

MSM also contributes to detoxification processes in the body, binding to and helping remove waste and toxins that can build up over time. It promotes better circulation, speeds post-workout recovery, and works in tandem with the turmeric and bromelain in **All Season Support** to provide a powerful, natural approach to managing aches and inflammation.

Stinging Nettles: A Natural Antihistamine and Anti-Inflammatory Hero

Often regarded as a weed, stinging nettles are actually one of nature's best-kept secrets for seasonal support. This humble herb is rich in vitamins, minerals, and phytonutrients that help stabilize the body's inflammatory response—particularly when faced with seasonal irritants like pollen, dust, and mold.

Studies suggest that nettles can help inhibit the histamine response that causes sneezing, itching, and sinus pressure. Instead of masking symptoms, nettles work with the body to moderate its reaction, offering long-term comfort without the drowsiness or side effects often associated with synthetic antihistamines. Combined with ginger, MSM, and turmeric, nettles make All Season Support a powerful ally during allergy season and beyond.

Turmeric: The Golden Root of Wellness

No herbal formula aimed at total-body support would be complete without turmeric—the golden spice with centuries of beneficial tradition behind it. Turmeric contains curcumin, a potent anti-inflammatory and antioxidant compound that's been shown to help with joint pain, digestive issues, skin conditions, and immune function.

In **All Season Support**, turmeric helps reduce systemic inflammation, keeping tissues healthy and resilient even during times of stress or exposure to allergens. It's especially beneficial for those dealing with seasonal joint stiffness or inflammatory flare-ups. When combined with MSM and bromelain, its effects are not only enhanced but extended, providing sustained relief and nourishment.

Organic Fruit Blend: Phytonutrient-Rich Immune Fuel

Fruit isn't just delicious—it's medicinal. The organic fruit blend in **All Season Support** offers a spectrum of naturally occurring antioxidants, enzymes, and plant compounds that work to strengthen immunity, support gut health, and defend against oxidative stress.

Our blend includes a variety of superfruits—think berries and cherries—that are rich in flavonoids, vitamin C, and polyphenols. These compounds combat cellular aging, protect against environmental damage, and help the body maintain equilibrium even when conditions are less than ideal. Importantly, this fruit blend also supports a healthy microbiome, which is increasingly recognized as a cornerstone of immune health and overall vitality.

Ginger: Calming, Cleansing, and Circulation-Boosting

Ginger is more than a kitchen staple—it's a dynamic herbal remedy with wide-reaching benefits. In **All Season Support**, ginger plays a triple role: it calms the digestive tract, boosts circulation, and supports immune defenses.

Its natural warming effect promotes detoxification and relieves tension in the sinuses and respiratory system. As an anti-inflammatory, ginger helps reduce the discomfort associated with seasonal shifts, while also aiding in nutrient absorption—making it a perfect partner for vitamin C and the Seven Comfort Blend. Whether you're navigating spring allergies or a winter cold, ginger helps keep you grounded and resilient.

Bromelain: Nature's Inflammation Fighter

Derived from pineapple, bromelain is a proteolytic enzyme that helps reduce swelling, improve digestion, and ease sinus pressure. It works synergistically with turmeric and MSM to address both acute and chronic inflammation in the body.

Bromelain is especially effective in supporting sinus and respiratory function—areas that often become stressed during seasonal transitions. It helps thin mucus, reduce nasal congestion, and calm overactive immune responses. For those prone to congestion or sinus headaches, bromelain provides a natural and gentle path to relief.

Why All Season Support?

What sets **All Season Support** apart is its commitment to whole-body wellness through nature's finest remedies. This is not a one-dimensional product—it's a daily tool for vibrant, energized living. It works preventatively, as well as responsively, supporting your body before, during, and after seasonal changes.

- **Clean, natural ingredients**
- **Vegan and non-GMO**
- **Formulated without fillers or artificial additives**
- **Backed by traditional wisdom and modern science**

Whether you're battling springtime allergies, stiff winter joints, or simply looking to stay ahead of immune challenges, **All Season Support** delivers targeted, natural support that adapts to your needs—season after season.

Make Every Season Your Strongest Yet

Don't wait for discomfort to slow you down. With **All Season Support**, you can face every day with clarity, energy, and ease. Let nature protect, nourish, and restore you—with every tablet, you're choosing resilience.

Eye Health • Allergies • Itching • Congestion

EYEBRIGHT

Eyebright *is a powerful, all-natural herb known for its remarkable ability to support eye health and alleviate symptoms of eye strain, irritation, and discomfort. Used for centuries in traditional medicine,* **Eyebright** *is rich in antioxidants and anti-inflammatory compounds that help to soothe inflammation and promote clear vision. Whether you're dealing with tired eyes from long hours of screen time or simply seeking to maintain overall eye health,* **Eyebright** *offers a gentle yet effective solution. It has a cooling and detoxifying property that makes it especially useful in combating inflammation and allergies.to form healthy blood cells and keep your pH level balanced.*

90 Capsules $12.99

Digestive Aid • Blood Purify • Central Nervous Regulate • Improves Vitality

SWEDISH BITTERS

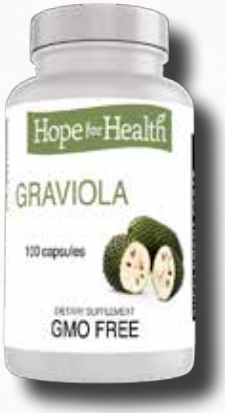
Swedish Bitters *is a time-honored herbal tonic known for its incredible ability to support digestion, detoxification, and overall well-being. This potent blend of 11 carefully selected herbs has been used for centuries to promote healthy liver function, soothe digestive discomfort, and boost energy levels. Its powerful rejuvenating properties are undeniable, helping to balance the body's systems, ease bloating, and support a healthy metabolism. Whether you're looking to improve your digestive health or just give your body a natural boost,* **Swedish Bitters** *is a trusted, all-natural remedy that has stood the test of time.*

90 Capsules	$19.99	8.45 oz. Extract *	$23.99	1 oz. Concentrate*	$41.99
180 Capsules	$31.99	16.9 oz. Extract *	$41.99	3.5 oz Tea	$22.99

*CONTAINS ALCOHOL

Healthy Cell Growth • Immune Support • Pain Relief • Calms Nerves

GRAVIOLA



Graviola, *also known as soursop, is a tropical super fruit renowned for its incredible health benefits. Packed with antioxidants, vitamins, and anti-inflammatory properties, Graviola is a natural powerhouse that supports immune function, promotes healthy digestion, and helps fight oxidative stress. Known for its soothing effects on the body, Graviola can help reduce inflammation, boost energy levels, and promote overall wellness. With its rich, unique flavor and centuries of use in traditional medicine, Graviola is an excellent addition to your health routine, offering a natural, gentle way to support your body's vitality and strength.*

100 Capsules $15.99

I Need Thee, Precious Jesus

I need Thee, precious Jesus,
For I am very poor:
A stranger and a pilgrim,
I have no earthly store.
I need the love of Jesus
To cheer me on my way,
To guide my doubting footsteps,
To be my strength and stay.

I need Thee, precious Jesus,
I need a friend like Thee,
A friend to soothe and pity,
A friend to care for me.
I need the heart of Jesus
To feel each anxious care,
To tell my every trial,
And all my sorrows share.

I need Thee, precious Jesus;
I need Thee day by day,
To fill me with Thy fullness,
And lead me on my way;
I need Thy Holy Spirit
To teach me what I am
To show me more of Jesus
To point me to the Lamb.

I need Thee, precious Jesus
I hope to see Thee soon
Encircled with the rainbow
And seated on Thy throne.
There, with Thy blood-bought children,
My joy shall ever be
To sing Thy praises, Jesus,
To gaze, my Lord, on Thee.

—Frederick Whitfield

They Shall Obtain Mercy

by Dustin Pestlin

"Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy."

—Matthew 5:7

While these words certainly apply to this life, it is clear that the ultimate mercy shown to once-sinful man is the promise of eternal life in Heaven.

Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Jude 21.

While our hearts are filled with hope and wonder about the realities of Heaven, many fail to realize that there are 5 things that we WON'T be doing in Heaven! All five are a display of mercy.

While Heaven will be a glorious place beyond our wildest imaginations – there are some things that we will NOT do there! Let's discover them now!

Number 1, in Heaven, we will not get sick. Yes, it's true! All of the sickness, ailments, and deformities of this life will be gone! God tells us:

And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity. Isaiah 33:24

Do you know anyone who is blind, deaf, or in a wheelchair? Or perhaps you have a loved one with cancer, or maybe they just don't have the strength and endurance they once had. Friends, in Heaven, these things will be no more! That's mercy! Listen to this thrilling Bible promise:

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing: for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. Isaiah 35:5-6

What's more, the Bible reveals that we will be given perfect immortal bodies!

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself. Philippians 3:20-21

We don't know exactly what this body will be like, but we think that Adam and Eve may have been about 15 feet tall. Whatever the size, it will be indestructible and perfect in every way. That's mercy!

The next thing that we will not do in Heaven may surprise some of you. Number 2, in Heaven, we will not eat meat.

Yes, it's true. Think about, in Heaven:

…there shall be no more death… Revelation 21:4

Since there will be no death in Heaven, then we will not be able to kill and eat animals. That's mercy!

They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. Isaiah 11:9

Just like it was in the Garden of Eden, we will have a plant-based diet. Consider the diet of Adam and Eve, our first parents, because this will be the diet of Heaven:

And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat. Genesis 1:29

God, our Creator, knows exactly which food is best for the human body. Studies, referenced at the close of this article, have shown that a plant-based lifestyle leads to healthier gut profiles,[1] lower blood pressure,[2] reduced incidents of heart disease,[3] less cancer,[4] a lower risk for diabetes,[5] and increased life expectancy.[6]

While the Bible does allow the eating of clean meats, the plant-based lifestyle is the ideal. Why not consider trying this Heavenly diet?

Now, for the next thing we will not do in Heaven. Number 3, In Heaven, we will not feel pain.

All of us have suffered heartache and pain – some of us more than others. Seeing tragedies happen, losing a loved one, and so much more. Friends, these things will be no more in scenes of eternity. God promises:

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away. Revelation 21:4

That's mercy! Only eternal bliss and joy await us! We can look forward to that land with no more pain – a place that God has prepared for us! Doesn't this motivate you to be there?

The next thing we will not do in Heaven has deep meaning for us today – in Heaven, we will not win souls.

Yes, it true. In Heaven, there will be no more evangelism. Every case has been decided. Every soul has made their final decision for or against Christ. In mercy, there will be no unconverted sinners there to witness to!

Friend, the time to win souls is now. There are precious people all across the world whose eternal life is hanging in the balance, and each of us has a circle of influence – a group of people that God has put within our reach. Will we share good news with them? Let's share with them the mercy of God. Christ has commanded us:

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matthew 28:19-20

In these last days, the gospel is being spread around the world, in mercy, in preparation for the soon return of Jesus. In fact, the Bible predicted this:

And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come. Matthew 24:14

Now is the time to win souls for Christ. Imagine that reunion in Heaven – approaching someone that you have helped bring to Christ. Think of greeting them on Heaven's sea of glass! With tears streaming down your faces, you will know that every sacrifice was worth it.

Finally, number 5 – in Heaven, we will not sin.

This one is perhaps the most important. In Heaven, we will not be sinning:

And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. Revelation 21:27

Imagine that! A place where there is no more sin! And it will last for all eternity! In your minds eye, picture a world where no one will ever envy, or steal, or argue and fight. No one will lust or commit any other sin. In this new paradise, there is no need to even lock your doors! That's mercy!

But don't miss this next point friends – only those who obey Jesus on this earth will make it to heaven. Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." This is the will of the Father along with keeping His commandments:

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven. Matthew 7:21

Yes, it will be those who obey God's commandments – and not break them, that will be allowed into Heaven:

Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. Revelation 22:14-15

While it is true that our works do not save us, we are saved by grace alone, our works are the evidence or proof that we ARE saved!

In fact, there is only one thing that we will bring with us to Heaven – our character. And in order to have a character fit for Heaven, we must start building it today. Every day we are faced with trials and tests – what to watch, what to listen to, how to spend our time, what to eat, etc. Every decision is a chance to either drift further from God or to obey God – and build a character fit for Heaven.

And if we have sin in our life, it's not too late to surrender to Jesus today and make a change. He promises:

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:9

Not only that, but if we give our lives to Him, Christ will give us the power to live a holy life and be prepared for eternity! That's mercy!

But 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

Heaven awaits you, friend. Nothing is worth missing out on eternity. Did you know that Christ has prepared a place there just for you?

In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. John 14:2-3

I hope you will join me in those Heavenly courts, my friend. If it is your desire to repent of your sins and give your life to Jesus, or if you would like to re-affirm your commitment to Jesus today, He is ready to receive you and you shall receive mercy.

Will you make that decision today? Will you receive the mercy that Jesus freely offers?

And remember, friends, keep your eyes on Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith!

Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. Jude 21.

—Dustin Pestlin is the founder and director of *Hope Through Prophecy*. For more information, visit hopethroughprophecy.org.

References

1. Glick-Bauer, M. C., & Yeh, M. (2014). The health advantage of a vegan diet: Exploring the gut microbiota connection. Nutrients, 6(11), 4822-4838.

2. Yokoyama, Y. D., Takegami, M., Miyamoto, Y., Barnard, N., Nishimura, K., Watanabe, M., Okamura, T. (2014). Vegetarian diets and blood pressure a meta-analysis. JAMA Internal Medicine, 174(4), 577-587.

3. Huang, Tao, Yang, Bin, Zheng, Jusheng, Li, Guipu, Wahlqvist, Mark L., & Li, Duo. (2012). Cardiovascular Disease Mortality and Cancer Incidence in Vegetarians: A Meta-Analysis and Systematic Review. Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism, 60(4), 233-240.

4. Dinu, M., Abbate, R., Gensini, G., Casini, A., & Sofi, F. (2017). Vegetarian, vegan diets and multiple health outcomes: A systematic review with meta-analysis of observational studies. Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition, 57(17), 3640-3649.

5. Vang, A., Singh, P., Lee, J., Haddad, E., & Brinegar, C. (2008). Meats, Processed Meats, Obesity, Weight Gain and Occurrence of Diabetes among Adults: Findings from Adventist Health Studies. Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism, 52(2), 96-104.

6. https://www.veganfoodandliving.com/vegan-diet/why-do-vegans-live-longer/

Want a digital copy of the magazine?

Download them today from our website,
or sign up for them to be
delivered to your inbox via monthly emails

www.hopeforhealthusa.com/newsletters/

God's Mercy

1. How does the dictionary define mercy?

Mercy is "the disposition that tempers justice, and induces an injured person to . . . . inflict less than law or justice will warrant."— *Webster's Dictionary.*

It is undeserved favor. God's mercy to us is a gift of inestimable worth.

2. Is mercy an attribute of God?

"The Lord is longsuffering, and of *great mercy*, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty." Numbers 14:18.

3. How has God shown great mercy toward the human race?

"Through the tender mercy of our God; *whereby the Dayspring from on high hath visited us*." Luke 1:78.

4. How is God's mercy seen in conversion?

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but *according to His mercy* He saved us." Titus 3:5.

5. How is God's mercy seen when He bears with us in our sin?

"It is of the Lord's mercies *that we are not consumed*, because His compassions fail not." Lamentations 3:22.

6. Is God merciful even when His people have sinned?

"To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, *though we have rebelled against Him.*" Daniel 9:9.

7. Is mercy the hope of God's people?

"Let Israel hope in the Lord: for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption." Psalm 130:7.

8. Does God delight in mercy?

"He retaineth not His anger for ever, because He *delighteth in mercy.*" Micah 7:18.

9. Should we seek God's mercy for ourselves?

"God be merciful to me a sinner." Luke 18:13.

10. Should we seek mercy for others?

"And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God." Galatians 6:16.

11. Should we praise God because of His mercy?

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good; for His mercy endureth for ever." 1 Chronicles 16:34.

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever." Psalm 107:1

12. Are God's people expected to be merciful?

"Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." Luke 6:36.

13. How should mercy be shown among God's people?

"He that showeth mercy, with cheerfulness." Romans 12:8.

14. How should mercy be shown toward brethren?

"Execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassions every man to his brother." Zechariah 7:9.

15. How should mercy be shown toward the poor?

"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again." Proverbs 19:17.

"He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth Him hath mercy on the poor." Proverbs 14:31.

16. How should mercy be shown toward animals?

"A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast: but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel." Proverbs 12:10.

17. What does a merciful person gain?

"The merciful man doeth good to his own soul." Proverbs 11:17

"Mercy and truth preserve the king: and his throne is upholden by mercy." Proverbs 20:28..

18. What promise is given to the merciful?

"Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." Matthew 5:7.

19. What is the warning to those who neglect God's salvation?

"We ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip." Hebrews 2:1.

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" Hebrews 2:3.

20. What should our response be to God's mercy?

"If we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7.

Note: God's mercy is not just an idea; it is revealed in His character, His patience, His salvation, and His call for us to show mercy to others.

Mercy

God's free mercy streameth over all the world,

And His banner gleameth, by His church unfurled;

Broad and deep and glorious, as the heaven above,

Shines in might victorious His eternal love.

—*William Walsham*

Mercy is kind, pitiful. Mercy and the love of God purify the soul, beautify the heart, and cleanse the life from selfishness. Mercy is a manifestation of divine love and is shown by those who, identified with God, serve Him by reflecting the light of heaven upon the pathway of their fellow creatures.

—Ellen White (*In Heavenly Places*, 238)

"Be Ye Kind"

by George Wright

That the apostle Paul possessed a kind heart in an eminent Christian sense, none who are familiar with his history will deny. And that he faithfully and affectionately enjoined this heaven-born principle on the churches he planted, is equally true. Hear him speak to the church at Ephesus: "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice, and be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted," etc. The saints and faithful brethren at Collosse he exhorts to put on bowels of mercies, kindness, etc.; and to his brethren at Corinth he writes, Charity, or love, suffereth long, and is kind. One round, as the Christian ascends Peter's ladder of holiness, is brotherly kindness, and next to the last, or crowning grace, love. This binds all together, and without this all is but sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal.

The truly kind man is a blessing to all around him. Like begets like; and he that would be beloved must show himself lovely. Kindness has a power that cruelty and tyranny never has possessed, and never can. The cruel man is despised. The tyrant may be feared, but never loved. How often has my heart been pained at scenes of cruelty to animals, especially to that noble and faithful animal, the horse. Often have I seen them neglected, and allowed to suffer for want of food, cruelly beaten, and taxed beyond their strength; and this, too, by some professing to be Christians. O shame, where is thy blush!

Isaiah, in visions of future glory in the new earth, saw there many of the animals with which we are surrounded, whether by a resurrection or new creation, we will not now stop to consider, though it would seem from Psalm 104:29, 30 that it is by the latter. I believe that every creature that God pronounced good when He finished creation's work, will be represented there. Such was the faith of John Wesley, and a host of others, and such the Bible clearly teaches; and think you God will approbate us, or permit us to enjoy the glories of His holy mountain where they shall not hurt nor destroy, if we are cruel or unkind to the creatures He has placed in our care here? Never.

The Bible recognizes but two classes. This is clearly set forth in the following: "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast, but the tender mercies of the wicked are cruel." Proverbs 12:10. The line is drawn straight here, reader, and which side are you on? "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." Here again the path of duty is made plain. If we would obtain mercy in the great day just before us, we must apply these tests of holy writ to our lives now.

Many exhibit great kindness of heart, and are ready to relieve suffering, and exercise a forgiving spirit to those they love and respect. This is comparatively easy. Thousands who know nothing of experimental religion will do this; but the humble child of God who is striving to walk in obedience to the faith of Jesus, will love his enemies, pray for them that despitefully use him, and be kind to the unthankful and the evil. This the carnal heart revolts at. Here is where the true Christian is distinguished from the worldling, among the thousands that are crying, Lord, Lord.

There is a remnant who are striving to walk with God, both in and out of Babylon. The voice of God will be heeded as proclaimed by His faithful servants, "Come out from among them and be ye separate." Such are despised by the world, and the proud, arrogant professor, and are counted as the filth and off-scouring of the earth, but they are really the sons and daughters of the Lord Almighty. To them the sweet promise is given, "He shall appear to your joy, and they shall be ashamed."

"Lord, help me to prove worthy of the fellowship of this dear people, be counted worthy to suffer with them for Thy name, and to share in their work and labor of love. Let such smite me, it shall be a kindness, and reprove me when I am wrong. Let me but share in the blessing attending their noble work in time and eternity, And I ask, O Lord, I ask for no more."

—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald*, August 12, 1862

Be Kind

A crippled beggar was striving to pick up some old clothes that had been thrown from a window, when a crowd of rude boys gathered about him, mimicking his awkward movements, and hooting at his helplessness, and rags.

Presently a noble little fellow came up, pushing through the crowd, helped the poor cripple to pick up his gifts, and placed them in a bundle. Then, slipping a piece of silver into his hand,he was running away,when a voice far above him said, "Little boy with the straw hat, look up."

A lady, leaning from an upper window, said earnestly, "God bless you, my little fellow. God will bless you for that!"

As he walked along, he thought how glad he had made his own heart by doing good. He thought of the poor beggar's grateful look; of the lady's smile, and her approval; and last, and better than all, he could almost hear his Heavenly Father whispering, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."

—Selected

James White: Seeker of the Backslidden

by Micah Zummach

It is a frigid, snowy, December day in 1856, in Illinois. James and Ellen White are riding in a sleigh with Josiah Hart, the owner of the sleigh, on a trip to the town of Waukon, Iowa. Ellen had seen in a vision that several of the believers in Waukon, who had initially moved there because they thought it would benefit their ministries, were backsliding and losing their focus. They were beginning to become engrossed in making a living to the detriment of their spiritual lives.

As they journey on, the Mississippi River looms on the horizon. Slowly, they edge closer, and eventually the expanse of the mighty waterway stretches before them. The sleigh comes to a stop. They are blocked by the river.

Being that this is December, this would normally not be a problem. A substantially thick layer of ice stretches from bank to bank and is more than enough to support the weight of the horses and sleigh. But at this time, there is an added element. About a foot of water covers the ice, making crossing the river a treacherous affair. The travelers stare at the scene in front of them in silence for a while.

Finally, the silence is broken by Brother Hart. "Is it Iowa, or back to Illinois? We have come to the Red Sea, shall we cross?"

Following the removal of the Review Office to Battle Creek, Michigan, James and Ellen White had to make a home for themselves. The first order of business was to find some housing. James was able find a house that they could rent for $1.50 a week, and once they secured this place, little trips around town were fruitful in find some furnishings for the little house. Not a single of the kitchen chairs in the White home were matching, but they served their purpose.

Perhaps the greatest of all the blessings in this new house was that it would not have to be shared with all the workers and equipment of the Review Office! Part of the deal that brought the paper to Battle Creek was that the brethren there would supply the funds to build a structure to house the Office, and they most definitely came through on that promise! Only a short while following the move, a little two-story building was constructed, and became the first dedicated building to house the press.

On top of all this, James' health, which had become very poor during the time in Rochester, New York, was now greatly improving. Soon, he was feeling more able to travel and speak. Many of his former responsibilities were given to other workers in the office as more help arrived, particularly Ellen's brother-in-law, Stephen Belden.

Yet, even this was not the most amazing part. Out East, they had had good friends, but they had had their share of individuals who did not view them in the most friendly manner. But here, though they didn't even know the believers that well, they knew they had a good support system. This was perfectly displayed when the brethren found out that James was looking for a home to purchase, so as to save money on rent. The brethren got together and purchased an acre and a half, about a mile from the from the Review Office, and in a short time the White Family had a two-story house to live in.

1855 soon turned into 1856, and with the new year came further blessings. The number of subscribers to the *Review* grew rapidly. The paper that had been a thorn in James' side, continually spreading lies about him and the work, fell apart, and the group scattered.

On multiple occasions, James made appeals in the *Review* for believers to consider moving West, as it would help further the work, as the population moved that direction. In response to this appeal, Elders J. N. Andrews, J. N. Loughborough, their families, and several other believers made the decision to move to Waukon, Iowa.

Now, however, in late 1856, things had changed. The work that they had expected to be easy, turned out to be much more difficult than imagined. The people were not as open, and the farms they had purchased were not as fertile as they thought. Soon, faith waned, and the group backslid, with Andrews and Loughborough practically giving up on the ministry in order to survive.

That was when Ellen White was shown the condition of the Waukon believers. Now they were in a sleigh, staring down the frozen, yet wet, Mississippi River.

Brother Hart's question hung thick in the air. Finally, Sister White answered, "Go forward, trusting in Israel's God."

They drove down the bank and into the river. The horses feet sloshed through the partly frozen layer of water on top of the ice, which creaked in protest with every step. The sounds were unnerving, but they must press forward. Soon a small crowd gathered on the opposite bank, waiting with baited breath, to see what would become of these brave souls. At last, they reached the other side.

Shouts rang out along the bank as the crowd pressed in to congratulate them. Apparently, a couple other teams of horses had tried to cross earlier that day, but had broken through the ice. God's hand had been over the sleigh as it crossed.

Finally, the travelers reached Waukon. As they arrived, they spotted Elder Loughborough and another Adventist brother, re-roofing one of the businesses in town. Elon Evert, another of the White's traveling companions called out to them and told them that the White's were there and wished to speak to them.

Loughborough knew that he was not fulfilling his duty to the Lord, so when he heard this, he was not exactly inclined to come down, but he did so out of respect. When he came down, he was met by Sister White. He greeted her, but instead of receiving a greeting in return, all that was said was:

"What doest thou here, Elijah?"

Loughborough sheepishly tried to give an explanation of how he was helping this brother with his carpentry business, but was again met with:

"What doest thou here, Elijah?"

Once more he made an attempt to give an explanation, but before he could get far, he was once again asked:

"What doest thou here, Elijah?"

This time, catching the reference to the story of Elijah when he ran from the duty the Lord had given him, Loughborough stood in silence.

Following this, James and Ellen held a series of meetings in Waukon, in which light broke through and the backslidden souls repented. A general revival among the Waukon believers ensued. Loughborough vowed to return to preaching the word, stating:

"I have laid up my hammer and driven the last nail!"

Andrews also repented of his neglect of the work, and promised to return to the preaching of the gospel as soon as his health would allow, and this he did.

Yet another crisis had been met, and the victory was won! But this was by no means the last crisis. The rosy times in Battle Creek were not to last forever. New problems would soon arise. The pressing question of what was to be done on the topic of organization was about to come to a head!

—To be continued…

Micah Zummach writes from Asheboro, North Carolina. He enjoys history, woodworking, gardening, and writing. He is currently working as a historical interpreter at Old Salem Museum and Gardens in Winston Salem, North Carolina. He is also working to start a handcrafted furniture business.

Deacon Barker's Conversion

by H. A. Berten

Editor's Note: This story was originally published in *The Advent Review and Sabbath Herald* on December 9, 1873. It comes to us from a time when churchgoers had to pay money to rent a pew in the church. People were expected to meet a certain standard of dress before even being welcomed in the church. While times have changed, the lessons shared in this story are timeless. May you be blessed!

Of all the pillars of the church at Pawkin Center, Deacon Barker was by all odds the strongest. His orthodoxy was the admiration of the entire congregation, and the terror of all the ministers within easy driving distance of the Deacon's native village. He it was who had argued the late pastor of Pawkin Center church into that state of disquietude which had carried him, through a few days of delirious fever, into the church triumphant. It was also Deacon Barker whose questions at the examination of seekers for the ex-pastor's shoes had cast such consternation into divinity schools, far and near, that soon it was very hard to find a candidate for the ministerial honors at Pawkin Center.

Nor was his faith made manifest by words alone. Be the weather what it might, the Deacon was always in his pew, both morning and evening, in time to join in the first hymn. On every Thursday night, at a quarter past seven in winter, and a quarter before eight in summer, the good Deacon's shoes could be heard coming solemnly down the aisle, bringing to the prayer-meeting the champion of orthodoxy.

Nor did the holy air of the prayer-meeting even one single evening fail to vibrate to the voice of the Deacon, in scriptural language, humble confession and tearful pleadings before the throne, or—still strictly scriptural in expression—he warned and exhorted the impenitent. The contribution box always received his sixpence as long as scheduled payments lasted, and the smallest fractional currency note thereafter; and to each of the regular annual offerings to the missionary cause, the Bible cause, and kindred Christian enterprises, the Deacon regularly contributed his dollar and his prayers.

The Deacon could quote Scripture in a manner which put Biblical professors to shame, and every principle of his creed so bristled with texts confirmatory, sustentive and aggressive, that doubters were rebuked and freethinkers were reduced to speechless humanity or rage. But the unregenerate, and even some who professed righteousness, declared that more fondly than to any other Scriptural passage did the good Deacon cling to the injunction, "Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness." Meekly insisting that he was only a steward of the Lord, he put out the Lord's money, that he might receive it again with usury; and so successful had he been that almost all mortgages held on property near Pawkin Center were in the hands of the good Deacon, and few were the foreclosure sales in which he was not the seller.

The new pastor at Pawkin Center, like good pastors everywhere, had tortured himself into many a headache over the perplexing question, "How are we to reach the impenitent in our midst?" The said impenitent were, with few exceptions, industrious, honest, respectable, law-abiding people, and the worthy pastor, as fully impregnated with thrift as with piety, shuddered to think of the waste of souls that was constantly threatening. At length, like many another pastor, he called a meeting of the brethren to prayerfully consider this momentous question. The Deacon came, of course, and so did all the pillars, and many of them presented their views. Brother Grave thought the final doom of the impenitent should

be more forcibly presented. Deacon Struggs had an abiding conviction that it was the man of sin holding dominion in their hearts that kept these people away from the means of grace. Deacon Ponder mildly suggested that the object might perhaps be attained if those within the fold maintained a more godly walk and conversation, but he was promptly, though covertly, rebuked by the good Deacon Barker, who reminded the brethren that "it is the Spirit that quickeneth." Brother Flite, who hadn't any money, thought "the church ought to build a workman's chapel," but this idea was promptly and vigorously combatted by all men of property in the congregation. By this time, the usual closing hour had arrived, and, after a benediction, the faithful dispersed, each with about the same ideas he brought to the meeting.

Early the next morning, the good Deacon Barker, with his mind half full of the state of the unconverted, and half of his unfinished cow-shed, took his stick and hobbled about the village in search of a carpenter to finish the uncompleted structure. There was Moggs, but Moggs had been busy all the season, and it would be just like him to want full price for a day's work. Stubb was idle, but Stubb was low. Augur—Augur used liquor, and the Deacon had long ago firmly resolved that not a cent of his money, if he could help it, should ever go for the accursed stuff. But there was Hay—he hadn't seen him at work in a long time—perhaps he would be anxious enough for work to do it cheaply.

The Deacon knocked at Hay's door, and Hay himself shouted: "Come in."

"How are you, George," said the Deacon, looking hastily about the room, and delightedly determining, from the patient face of sad-eyed Mrs. Hay and the scanty furnishing of the yet uncleared breakfast table, that he had been providentially guided to the right spot. "How's times with you?"

"Not very good, Deacon," replied Hay. "Nothing much doing in town."

"Money's awful scarce," groaned the Deacon.

"Dreadful," responded George, devoutly thanking the Lord that he owed the Deacon nothing. "Got much to do this winter?" asked the Deacon.

"Not a d—day's job—not a single day," sorrowfully replied Hay.

The Deacon's pious ear had been shocked by the young man's imperfectly concealed profanity, and for an instant he thought of administering a rebuke, but the charms of prospective cheap labor lured the good man from the path of rectitude.

"I'm fixing my cow-shed—might perhaps a give you a job on it. S'pose you'd do it cheap, seeing how dull everything is?"

The sad eyes of Mrs. Hay grew bright in an instant. Her husband's heart jumped up, but he knew to whom he was talking, so said, as calmly as possible:

"Three dollars is regular pay."

The Deacon immediately straightened up as if to go.

"Too much," said he; "I guess I'd better hire a common laborer at a dollar and a half, and boss him myself. It's only a cow-shed, you know."

"Guess, though, you won't want the nails drove on less particular, will you, Deacon?" inquired Hay. "But I tell you what I'll do—I'll throw off fifty cents a day."

"Two dollars ought to be enough, George," reasoned the Deacon. "Carpentering is pretty work, and takes a sight of head-piece, sometimes; but there's no intellect required to work on a cow-shed. Say two dollars, and come along."

The carpenter thought bitterly of what a little way the usual three dollars went, and of how much would have to be done with what he could get out of the cow-shed, but the idea of losing even that was too horrible to be endured, so he hastily replied:

"Two and a quarter, and I am your man."

"Well," said the Deacon, "it's a powerful price to pay for work on a cow-shed, but I suppose I must stand it. Hurry up; there's the mill whistle blowing seven."

Hay snatched up his tools, kissed a couple of thankful tears out of his wife's eyes, and was soon busy on the cow-shed, with the Deacon looking on.

"George," said the Deacon suddenly, causing the carpenter to stop his hammer in mid-air, "think it over again, and say two dollars."

Hay gave the good Deacon a withering glance, and for a few moments the force of suppressed profanity caused his hammer to bang with unusual vigor, while the owner of the cow-shed rubbed his hands in ecstasy at the industry of his employee.

The air was bracing, the winter sun shone brilliantly, the Deacon's breakfast was digesting fairly, and his mind had not freed itself from the influences of the Sabbath. Besides, he had secured a good workman at a low price, and all these influences combined to put the Deacon in a pleasant frame of mind. He rambled through his mind which would piously express his condition, and texts brought back Sunday, and Sunday reminded him of the meeting of the night before. And here was one of those very men before him—a good man in many respects, though he was higher-priced than he should be. How was the cause of the Master to be prospered if his servants made no effort? Then there came to the Deacon's mind the passage, "he that converteth a sinner from the

error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." What particular sin of his own needed hiding the Deacon did not find it convenient to remember just then, but he meekly admitted to himself and the Lord that he had them, in a general way. Then, with directness and grace which were characteristic of him, the Deacon solemnly said:

"George, what is to be the sinner's doom?"

"I don't know," replied George, his wrath still warm; "it appears to me you've left that business till pretty late in life, Deacon?"

"Don't trifle with sacred subjects, George," said the Deacon, still very solemn, and with a suspicion of annoyance in his voice.

"The wicked shall be cast into hell with—"

"They can't carry their cow-sheds with them neither," interrupted George, consolingly.

"Come, George," said the good Deacon, in an appealing tone, "remember the apostle says, 'Suffer the word of exhortation.'"

"Excuse me, Deacon, but one suffering at a time; I ain't through suffering at being beat down yet. How about Deacons not being 'given to filthy lucre'?"

The good Deacon was pained, and he was almost out of patience with the apostle for writing things which came so handy to the lips of the unregenerate. He commenced an industrious search for a text which should completely annihilate the impious carpenter, when that individual interrupted him with:

"Out with it, Deacon—you had a meeting last night to see what was to be done with the impenitent. I was there—that is, I sat on a stool just outside the door, and I heard all that was said. You didn't agree on nothing—may be you've fixed it up since. Any how, you've set me down for one of the impenitent, and you are going for me. Well—"

"Go on nailing," interrupted the economical Deacon, a little testily; "the noise don't disturb me; I can still hear you."

"Well, what way am I so much wickeder than you be—you and the other folks at the meeting-house?" asked Hay.

"George, I never saw you in God's house in my life," replied the Deacon.

"Well, suppose you haven't—is God so small He can't be anywhere except in your little meeting-house? How about His seeing folks in their closets?"

"George," said the Deacon, "if you are a praying man, why don't you join yourself unto the Lord's people?"

"Why? Because the Lord's people, as you call them, don't want me. S'pose I was to come to the meeting-house in these clothes—the only ones I've got—do you s'pose any of the Lord's people would open a pew-door to me? And s'pose my wife and children, dressed no better than I am, but as good as I can afford, were with me, how do you s'pose I'd feel?"

"Pride goeth before a fall, and a haughty spirit before," groaned the Deacon, when the carpenter again interrupted.

"I'd feel as if the people of God was a gang of insulting hypocrites, and as if I didn't ever want to see them again. If that kind of pride's sinful, the devil's a saint. If there's anything wrong about a man's feeling so about himself and them God give him, God's to blame for it; but seeing its the same feeling that makes folks keep themselves straight in all other matters, I'll keep on thinking it's right."

"But the privileges of the blessed gospel, George," remonstrated the Deacon.

"'Don't you s'pose I know what they are worth?"continued the carpenter. "Haven't I hung around in front of the church on summer nights, when the windows was open, just to listen to the singing and what else I could hear? Hasn't my wife been there with me many a time, and haven't both of us prayed and groaned in our hearts, not only because we couldn't join in it all ourselves, but because we couldn't send the children either, without their learning to hate religion before they fairly knew what it was? Haven't I sneaked into the vestibule winter nights, and set just where I did last night, and heard what I would have liked my wife and children to have heard, and prayed for the time to come when the self-appointed elect shouldn't offend the little ones; and after sitting there last night and coming home and telling my wife how folks was concerned about us, and our rejoicing together in the hope that someday our children could have the chances we're shut out of now, who should come along this morning but one of those same holy people, and bargained down on pay that the Lord knows is hard enough to live on."

The Deacon had a heart, and knew the nature of self-respect as well as men generally. His mind ran entirely outside of texts for a few minutes, and then, with a sigh for the probable expense, he remarked:

"Reckon Flite's notion was right, after all—there ought to be a working man's chapel."

"Ought?" responded Hay; "who do you think would go to it? Nobody? You can rent us second-class houses, and sell us second-hand clothing, and the cheapest cuts of meat, but when it comes to cheap religion—nobody knows its value better than we do. We don't want to go into your parlors on carpets and furniture we don't know how to use, and we don't expect to be asked into society where our talk and manners might make some better educated people laugh. But when it comes to religion—God knows nobody needs and deserves the very best article more than we do."

The Deacon was a reasonable man, and being old, was beginning to try to look fairly at matters upon which he expected soon to be very thoroughly examined. The indignant protest of the carpenter had, he feared, a great deal of reason, and yet God's people deserved to hold their position, if, as usual, the argument ended where it began. So he asked, rather triumphantly:

"What is to be done, then?"

"Reform God's people themselves," replied the carpenter, to the horror of the old man. "When the right hand of fellowship is reached out to the front, instead of stuck behind the back, when a poor man comes along, there'll be plenty that'll be glad to take it. Reform your own people, Deacon, before you pick out of our eyes the motes we'd be glad enough to get rid of, you can get a fine lot of heavy lumber out of your own."

Soldiers of the cross, no more than any other soldiers, should stand still and be peppered when unable to reply; at least so thought the Deacon, and he prudently withdrew.

Reform God's people themselves! The Deacon was too old a boy to tell tales out of school, but he knew well enough there was room for reform. Of course there was—weren't we all poor sinners? When we would do good, wasn't evil ever present with us? What business had other sinners to complain, when they weren't at least any better? Besides, suppose he were to try to reform the ways of Brother Graves and Deacon Struggs and others he had in his mind—would they rest until they had attempted to reform him? And who was to know just what quantity and quality of reform was necessary? "Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines." The matter was too great for his comprehension, so he obeyed the injunction, "Commit thy way unto the Lord."

But the Lord regulated the entire matter to the Deacon. They did a full day's work, the Deacon made a neat little sum by recovering on an old judgment he had bought for a mere song, and the Deacon's red cow made an addition to the family in the calf-pen; yet the Deacon was far from comfortable. The idea that certain people must stay away from God's house until God's people were reformed, seemed to the Deacon's really human heart something terrible.

If they would be so proud—and yet, people would stand outside the meetinghouse and listen, and pray, and weep because their children were as badly off as they, could scarcely be very proud. He knew there couldn't be many such, else this out-of-door congregation would be noticed—there certainly wasn't a full congregation of modest mechanics in the vestibule of which Hay spoke, and yet, who could tell how many more were anxious and troubled on the subject of their eternal welfare?

What a pity it was that those workingmen who wished to repair to the sanctuary could not have steady work and full pay! If he had only known this early in the morning, he didn't know but he might have hired him at three dollars, though really, is a man to blame for doing his best in the labor market? "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." Gracious! He could almost declare he heard the carpenter's voice delivering that text. What had brought that text into his head just now? He had never thought of it before.

The Deacon rolled and tossed on his bed, and the subject of his conversation with the carpenter tormented him so he could not sleep. Of one thing he was certain, and that was that the reform of the church at Pawkin Center was not to be relied on in an extremity, and was not hungering and thirsting after righteousness an extreme case? Had he ever really known many such? If Hay only had means, the problem would afford its own solution. The good Deacon solemnly declared to himself that if Hay could give good security, he (the Deacon) would try to lend him the money.

But even this (to the Deacon) extraordinary concession was unproductive of sleep. "He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord." There! He could hear that indignant carpenter again. What an unsatisfactory passage that was, to be sure! If it could only read the other way—it didn't seem a bit business-like the way it stood.

And yet, as the Deacon questioned himself there in the dark, he was forced to admit that he had a very small balance, even of loans—to his credit in the hands of the Lord. He had never lent to the Lord except in his usual business manner—as small a loan as would be accepted on as extensive collaterals as he could exact. Oh! why did people ever forsake the simple raiment of their forefathers and robe themselves in garments grievous in price, and stumbling-blocks in the paths of their fellow-men?

But sleep failed even to follow the pious reflection. Suppose—only suppose, of course—that he were to give—lend, that is—lend Hay money enough to dress his family fit for church—think what a terrible lot of money it would take! A common, neat suit for a man would cost at least thirty dollars; an overcoat, nearly twice as much; a suit, cloak and other necessities for his wife, would amount to as much more; and the children—oh! the thing could not be done for less than two hundred dollars. Of course it was out of the question—he had only wondered what it would cost—that was all.

Still no sleep. He wished he hadn't spoken with Hay about his soul—next time he would mind his own business. He wished he hadn't employed Hay. He wished the meeting for consideration of the needs of the impenitent had never taken place. "No man can come to Me except the Father which sent Me draw him" —he wished he had remembered that passage, and quoted it at the meeting. It was no light matter to interfere with the Almighty's plans.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy." Ha! Could that carpenter be in the room, disarranging his train of thought with such tantalizing texts? They had kept him awake, and, at his time of life, a restless night was a serious matter. Suppose—

Very early the next morning, the village doctor, returning from a patient's bedside, met the Deacon with a face which suggested to him (the doctor was pious and imaginative) "Abraham on Mount Moriah." The village butcher, more practical, hailed the good man, and informed him he was in time for a fine steak, but the Deacon shook his head in agony, and passed on. He neared the carpenter's house, stopped, tottered, and looked over his shoulder as if intending to run; at length he made his way behind the house, where Hay was chopping firewood. The carpenter saw him, and turned pale—feared the Deacon had come to give him warning.

"George," said the Deacon, "I've been doing much thinking about what we talked of yesterday. I've come to say that if you like I'll lend you three hundred dollars for as long as you like, without note, security, or interest; you are to spend as much of it as you need to dress you and your whole family in Sunday clothes, and to put the balance in the Savings Bank, at interest, to go on doing the same with when necessary. And all of you go to church when you feel so disposed. And if nobody else's pew-door opens, you are welcome to mine. And may the Lord" —the Deacon finished the sentence to himself— "have mercy on my soul."

Then he said, aloud: "That's all."

The carpenter, at the beginning of the Deacon's speech, had dropped his ax, to the imminent danger of one of his feet. As the Deacon continued, the carpenter dropped his head to one side, raised one eye-brow inquiringly, and awaited the conditions. But when the Deacon said, "That's all," George Hay seized the Deacon's hard old hand, gave it a grasp which brought agonized tears to the eyes of its venerable owner, and exclaimed:

"Deacon, God's people are reforming!"

The Deacon staggered a little—he had not thought of it in that light before.

"Deacon, that money'll do more good than all the praying you ever done. Excuse me—I must tell Mary," and the carpenter dashed into the house. Had Mrs. Hay respected the dramatic proprieties, she would have made the Deacon a neat speech; but the truth is, she regarded him from behind the window-blind, and wiped her eyes with the corner of her apron, seeing which the Deacon abruptly started for home, making less use of his cane than he had done in any day for years.

It is grievous to relate—but the truth is mighty—that within a fortnight the good Deacon repented of his generous action at least fifty times. He would die in the poorhouse if he were so extravagant again. Three hundred dollars was more than the cow-shed—lumber, shingles, nails, labor and all—would cost. Suppose Hay should take the money and go West? Suppose he should take to drinking, and spend it all for liquor?

One suspicion after another tortured the poor man until he grew thin and nervous. But on the second Sunday, having satisfied himself that Hay was in town, sober, the day before, that he had been to the city and brought back bundles, and that he (the Deacon) had seldom been in the street without meeting one of Hay's children with a bundle of hooks and eyes or a spool of thread, the Deacon stationed himself in one of his own front windows, and brought his spectacles to bear on Hay's door, a little distance off. The first bell had rung, apparently, hours before, yet no one appeared—could it be that he had basely sneaked to the city at night and pawned everything? No—the door opened—yes, it was—well, he never imagined Hay and his wife were so fine-looking a couple. They came nearer, and the Deacon, forgetting his cane, hobbled hurriedly to church, entered his pew and left the door wide open. He waited long, it seemed to him, but they did not come. He looked around impatiently, and there, oh, joy and wonder! The President of the Pawkin Savings Institution had invited the whole family into his pew. Just then the congregation rose to sing the hymn commencing

"From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;"

And the Deacon, in his excitement, distanced the organ, and the congregation, and almost brought the entire musical service to a standstill.

The Deacon had intended to watch closely for Hay's conversion, but something wonderful prevented—it was reported everywhere that the Deacon himself had been converted, and all who now saw the Deacon fully believed the report. He was even heard to say that as there seemed to be some doubt as to whether faith or works was the saving virtue, he intended thereafter to practice both. He no longer mentions the poor-house as his prospective dwelling, but is heard to say that in his Father's house are many mansions, and that he is laying up his treasure in Heaven as fast as possible, and hopes he may get it all on the way there before his heart is called for. At the post-office, the tin shop, and the rum shop, the Deacon's conversion is constantly discussed, and men of all degrees now express a belief in the mighty power of the Spirit from on high. Other moneyed men have been smitten and changed, and the pastor of the Pawkin Center church daily thanks the Lord for such a revival as he never heard of before.

Mercy Rejoiceth Against Judgment

by A. T. Jones

When men and women rise to some height of greatness, and become popular, their past acts of goodness are hunted up and magnified before the world. Even little incidents, which otherwise would be unnoticed, are brought forward as evidences of their inherent goodness.

On the other hand, when a man or a woman is so unfortunate as to fall, according to the standard of society, every little thing that has occurred in the life, which would otherwise be forgotten, is caught up to be used as stones and mud wherewith to pelt the unfortunate one. Surmisings and questionings furnish many of these incidents; and they are placed in the hands of those who are ready to use them to drive the poor sinner down to destruction.

If Jesus now walked among men in the flesh, as He did about two thousand years ago, He would say today, as He said then, "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone." The apostle says, "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." When a man is down, don't crush him by saying, "I expected as much, from what I knew of his past conduct." Rather, forget the past, and help the wounded, fallen soul up into the light.

It is not our work to condemn. We are not yet the judges of our fellow men. We shall never be fit to sit on the judgment-throne until our own names have passed the test of the judgment above. Even then we shall need the record made by heavenly intelligences to aid us in understanding the motives of sinners.

The time has come when we may expect many surprising things to occur. Those in whom we have had the greatest confidence may stumble. We ourselves may be more responsible for this than we imagine. We may be unconsciously trusting in the human instead of the divine, and the only way in which God can save us and the one in whom we trust is to let a severe trial come, which will show us how weak is man without God. A man who stands high in the estimation of his brethren, and in whom they have confidence, often trusts in his own popularity, and thinks he must stand as high in the estimation of heavenly intelligences as he does before man. To such God has said, "Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand."

When we see a brother cast down, we should not search his past history to ascertain the quality of the stock from which he came, before we try to help him. Neither should we spend time in inquiring into the details of his sin before we decide to pray for him. Sin is sin, exceeding sinful, but Christ came to "save sinners." While some sins may be regarded of greater magnitude than others in the sight of God, we are not able to measure them; so we would better leave the details alone, and make an earnest effort to restore the one in fault, considering ourselves, lest we also fall. However trifling a wrong act may appear in our sight, we must remember that "no sin is small in the sight of God."

When we hear that a brother or a sister has fallen, it should be our first thought to ask the Lord to rescue the tempted one. Men and women who depart from the right are deceived. They know not where they are treading. Those who have known the Lord do not want deliberately to leave him, and go hopelessly into sin. Satan has blinded their minds; and we, who may never have been in their places, cannot understand how they were led in that way. We should not care to know; rather, we should seek the Lord that we may never know.

Satan will do everything he can to put us on the judgment-seat, that we may spend the time in which we ought to be praying for ourselves and the fallen ones, in studying for ourselves and the fallen ones, in studying out the why and wherefore of the lives of those who have fallen. Even when sinners make an attempt to come back, Satan's influence over us often leads us to act as judges, to decide whether they make "proper" confessions, or appear sufficiently humbled to assure us that their confession is genuine.

We should be glad that they have the spirit of confession, and that they manifest it; and we should give them full credit for that, rather than take the judgment-seat, and decide whether the confession is full enough or sincere enough. Even though the spoken words of the confession are not so full and broad as we might wish, how do we know the measure of the humiliation and pressure of soul that is endured in that which is done? No, no; be pitiful, show mercy upon what is done in confession, and leave the remainder, if there be any, with God. How do we know what kind of confession God accepts? He looks where we cannot see—into the heart.

Let us, in this trying time, when men and women are stumbling on every hand, be true servants of Jesus Christ, and study to know how He would do. Let us study mercy; for "mercy rejoiceth against judgment." Let us work to encourage and save souls, rather than to discourage and destroy them. "Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful."

—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald,* August 30, 1898

LOVE MERCY

by E. J. Waggoner

"Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy."

—Matthew 5:7

If we consider that the converse of this is true, it will come home to us more forcibly. There is nothing arbitrary in the fact that the merciful shall obtain mercy, or that those who are unmerciful cannot obtain it. God gives to every person just what he desires and loves.

If a man shows mercy, that indicates that he loves mercy, and such an one will obtain mercy. But if a man is unmerciful, even though it be to the smallest creature, he shows that he does not love mercy; and no matter how much he may cry out for mercy, his actions give the lie to his words, and the mercy that he has rejected does not come to him.

Just as the kingdom of God is within, so all the joys of heaven must spring from within. Those who accept the gift of Christ, cannot but receive with Him all good things.

—*Present Truth*, UK, March 22, 1900.

THE MERCIFUL SHALL OBTAIN MERCY

by William Carthy

My friends, if you were to see a person unkind to man or beast, without charity, judging rashly, driving the poor, the naked, and the hungry from his door, unclothed and unfed and without means to alleviate their distress, would you think that such a person possessed a soft and gentle disposition? Would you think such a person was meek?

Ah, no! But only the meek or the merciful shall obtain mercy; for if we forgive others their trespasses, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, our Lord will also forgive our sins, and clothe and feed us in His kingdom; for He says that He will gird Himself and serve us.

In His beauty we shall behold Him there,
And bask in His smiling face.

May God help us all to have a meek and lowly disposition, that we may inherit the earth. We are almost there. Let us travel on without being weary, until we reach that celestial land.

—*Advent Review & Sabbath Herald*, December 15, 1859.

Respiratory Aid • Powerful Immune Support • Healthy Cell Growth

ANAMÙ & PLANTAIN

*Experience the powerful synergy of **Anamú & Plantain**, two traditional herbs celebrated for their restorative properties and now expertly blended for enhanced wellness. Anamú is known for its immune-boosting, anti-inflammatory, and antimicrobial effects, while Plantain offers soothing support for the digestive tract and promotes skin and tissue repair. Together, they create a dynamic duo that supports the body's natural defenses, calms inflammation, and encourages overall resilience. This herbal blend is a natural way to fortify your health and restore balance from the inside out.*

100 Capsules $15.99

Immune Boost • Respiratory Relief • Powerful Antioxidant • Decrease Swelling

ULTRA FIGHTER

***Ultra Fighter** is a powerful herbal supplement thoughtfully blended with echinacea, garlic, burdock root, red clover blossom, turmeric, olive leaf, barberry, pau d'arco, and goldenseal powder—each traditionally valued for supporting the body's natural defenses. This unique combination works synergistically to help maintain overall wellness, especially during seasonal changes or times of heightened stress. With a focus on botanical strength and balance, **Ultra Fighter** offers a robust, natural way to reinforce your body's resilience.*

90 Capsules $19.99
180 Capsules $31.99

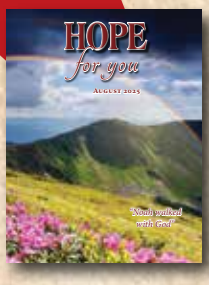
Skin Issues • Cuts • Scars • Bites

CALENDULA CREAM

*Soothe and nourish your skin naturally with **Calendula Cream**, a gentle, handcrafted blend made with extra virgin olive oil, 100% natural beeswax, and calendula flowers. Rich in antioxidants and anti-inflammatory properties, calendula helps calm irritated skin, and restore softness. The olive oil deeply moisturizes and conditions, while beeswax locks in hydration and forms a protective barrier against the elements. Ideal for dry, sensitive, or damaged skin, **Calendula Cream** is a pure and effective way to care for your skin—naturally.*

4 oz. Jar $14.99

We would love to send your friends 3 samples issues of Hope for You!



Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:

Feel free to email your list to: office@hopeint.org, or use additional sheets of paper if you have more names than this space allows.

Hope for Health Product Order Form

Billing Address:	Shipping Address (if different from Billing Address):
Name	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State, Zip:	City, State, Zip:
Telephone:	Telephone
Email:	Email

Quantity	Product Title	Price Each	Total

This order is prepaid by ❒ Check/Money Order ❒ MasterCard ❒ Visa ❒ Discover ❒ American Express

Please make checks payable to Hope for Health

Card Number: _____-_____-_____-_____

Expires: _____/_____ Signature: _____

Total from pg. 2	
Subtotal	
Shipping (See Chart)	
Order Total	

Ordering is Easy!

Mail: 151 Ascension Lane • Marshall, NC 28753

Online: www.hopeforhealthusa.com

Call: 1-800-468-7884

Shipping & Handling Charges

(We only ship within the USA)

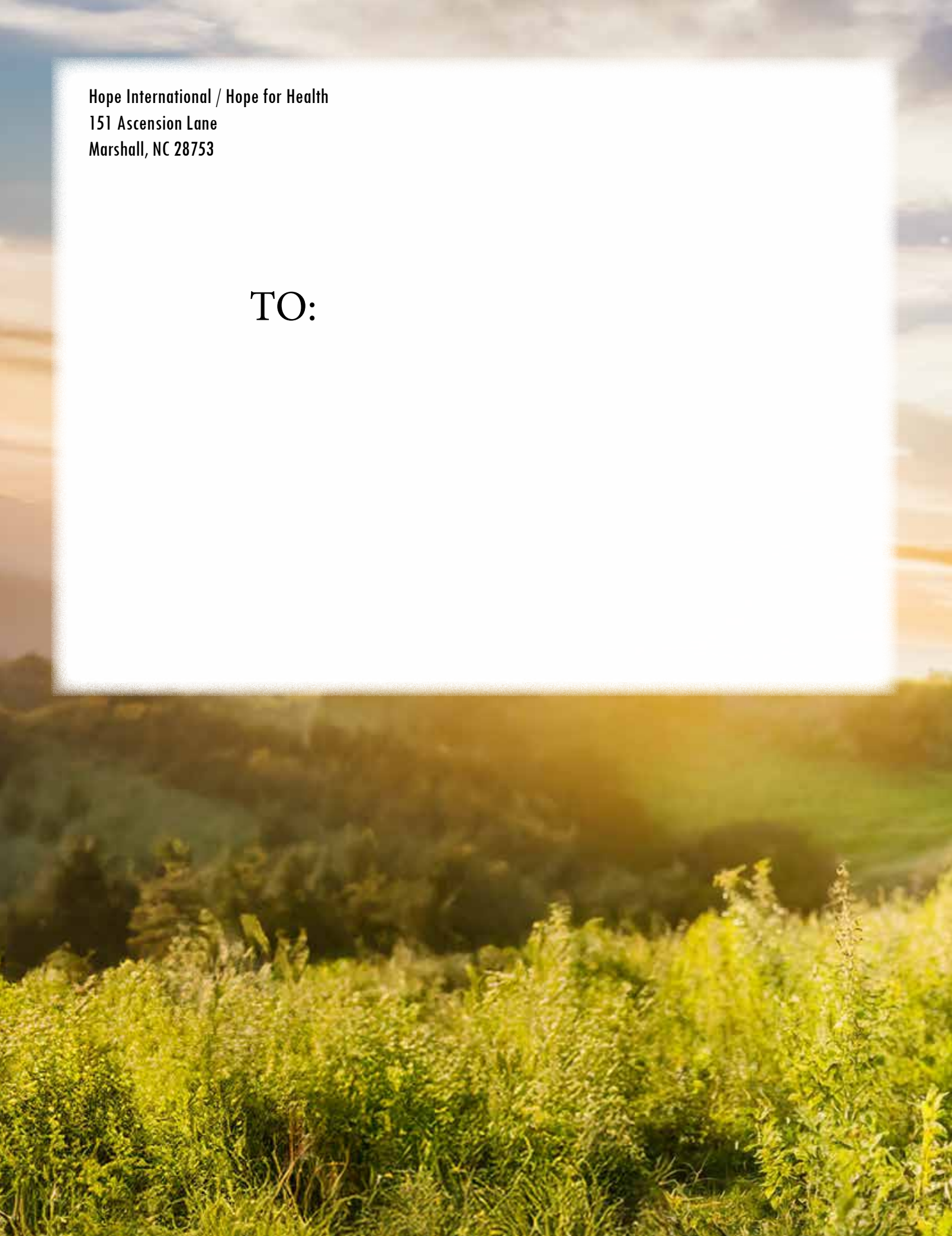
$0.01 - $25.00	$6.00
$25.01 - $50.00	$9.00
$50.01 - $100.00	$13.00
$100.01 or more!	FREE!!

Word Search

Find the following words in the puzzle. Words are hidden ↑ and ↓ and → and ←

K L Y X C O M P A S S I O N Z L U F E T A R G
E N E H E A R T S B S S E N L U F T I U R F P
C N V N I S P A E R T R E A S U R E S F Q G A
I O O O F W U P H T U R T Y Z Y H P S N X L Z
V I L I O L G P S J L E C N E R E V E R V O Y
R T B T R K T R P P H M H M A L F D N A H R H
E A H A G H I E A L R K Q N B U J B S U C Y T
S I U V I S H C N C Y I R E U F M L U K B E A
T L N L V I E I S D I U N T N I I E O I L T P
N I I A E F A A T X E O V G D C N S E N E N M
E C V S N L V T F W K R U D A R I S T D S E Y
I N E O E E E I I R P C N S N E S E H N S M S
D O R B S S N O G S O W B E T M T D G E I G F
E C S E S N O N B E D I B A S J R V I S N D Y
B E E V Q U F D J T A L E N T S Y L R S G U O
O R D Q A G O O D P R O V I D E N C E A B J J

ABIDE
ABUNDANT
APPRECIATION
BLESSED
BLESSING
COMPASSION
FORGIVENESS
FRUITFULNESS
GIFTS
GLORY
GOOD
GRACIOUS
GRATEFUL
HEARTS
HEAVEN
JOY
JUDGMENT
KINDNESS
LOVE
MERCIFUL
MINISTRY
OBEDIENT
PEACE
PROVIDENCE
REAP
RECONCILIATION
REVERENCE
RIGHTEOUSNESS
SALVATION
SERVICE
SOW
SPRING
SUPPLY
SYMPATHY
TALENTS
TENDERNESS
TREASURE
TRUTH
UNIVERSE
UNSELFISH

Hope International / Hope for Health
151 Ascension Lane
Marshall, NC 28753

TO: