

# St. Timothy's Banner

*Autumn 2021*



Phil2:14,15 Do everything without complaining or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God, without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe.

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## **An Eternal Creation**

**By Do Fox**

**My church is like a star birthing ground.**

**Just as dark clouds swirl and form suns in the universe,**

**So do I hide myself in the creation process,**

**Only to burst forth in star field after star field.**

**You are the stars I am bringing forth**

**To shine for My pleasure in My Kingdom!**

**I made you from the dust, but unlike stars, which die,**

**You shine forever in the heart of My Kingdom.**

**The universe you love to look at**

**Is but a reflection of my plans for My children.**

**I created it to teach you, and share My glory with you.**

**As you study it, I embrace you,**

**And lift you into my Divine Laughter.**

**O come often My children,**

**And look at My beauty,**

**For in looking, you become part of Me,**

**Part of the eternal creation that I am bringing forth**

**Ever so gently, and ever so lovingly.**



## A True Story



At the prodding of my friends, I am writing this story. My name is Mildred Honor. I am a former elementary school music teacher from Des Moines, Iowa. I have always supplemented my income by teaching piano lessons; something I have done for over 30 years. During those years, I found that children have many levels of musical ability and even though I have never had a prodigy, I have taught some very talented students. However, I have also had my share of what I call 'musically challenged pupils'.

One such pupil being Robby. Robby was 11 years old when his mother (a single Mom) dropped him off for his first piano lesson.

I prefer that students (especially boys) begin at an earlier age, which I explained to Robby. But Robby said that it had always been his mother's dream to hear him play the piano, so I took him as a student.

At the end of each weekly lesson, he would always say 'my Mom's going to hear me play someday.' But to me, it seemed hopeless, he just did not have any inborn ability. I only knew his mother from a distance as she dropped Robby off or waited in her aged car to pick him up. She always waved and smiled, but never dropped in. Then one day Robbie stopped coming for his lessons. I thought about calling him but assumed that because of his lack of ability he had decided to pursue something else. I was also glad that he had stopped coming. He was a bad advertisement for my teaching!

Several weeks later I mailed a flyer recital to the students' homes. To my surprise, Robby (who had received a flyer) asked if he could be in the recital. I told him that the recital was for current pupils and that because he had dropped out, he really did not qualify.

He told me that his mother had been sick and unable to take him to his piano lessons, but that he had

been practicing. 'Please Miss Honor, I've got to play,' he insisted. I don't know what led me to allow him to play in the recital – perhaps it was his insistence or maybe something inside of me saying that it would be all right.

The night of the recital came, and the high school gymnasium was packed with parents, relatives, and friends. I put Robby last in the program, just before I was to come up and thank all the students and play a finishing piece. I thought that any damage he might do would come at the end of the program and I could always salvage his poor performance through my 'Curtain Closer.'

Well, the recital went off without a hitch, the students had been practicing and it showed. Then Robby came up on the stage. His clothes were wrinkled, and his hair looked as though he had run an eggbeater through it. 'Why wasn't he dressed up like the other students?' I thought. 'Why didn't his mother at least make him comb his hair for this special night?'

Robby pulled out the piano bench, and I was surprised when he announced that he had chosen to play Mozart' Concerto No. 21 in C Major. I was not prepared for what I heard next. His fingers were light on the keys, they even danced nimbly on the ivories. He went from pianissimo to fortissimo, from allegro to virtuoso; his suspended chords that Mozart demands were magnificent! Never had I heard Mozart played so well by anyone his age.

After six and a half minutes, he ended in a Grand Crescendo, and everyone was on their feet in wild applause!!! Overcome and in tears, I ran up on the stage and put my arms around Robby in joy.

'I have never heard you play like that Robby, how did you do it? Through the microphone Robby ex-

plained: 'Well, Miss Honor, remember I told you that my mom was sick? Well, she had cancer and passed away this morning. And well...she was born deaf, so tonight was the first time she had ever heard my play, and I wanted to make it special.'

There wasn't a dry eye in the house that evening. As people from social services led Robby from the stage to be placed into foster care, I noticed even their eyes were red and puffy. I thought to myself then how much richer my life had been for taking Robby as my pupil.

No, I have never had a prodigy, but that night I became a prodigy of Robby. He was the teacher, and I was the pupil, for he had taught me the meaning of perseverance and love and believing in yourself and maybe even taking a chance on someone and you didn't know why.

Robby was Killed years later in the senseless bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City in April 1995.

So many seemingly trivial Interactions between two people present us with a choice. Do we act with compassion or do we pass up that opportunity?

If God didn't have a purpose for us, we wouldn't be here!

Live simply.

Love generously.

Care deeply.

Speak kindly.

Leave the rest to God.

Submitted by Carolyn White.



Jn. 14:27 Peace I leave you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

## INTO MY HANDS

By Do Fox

Only by complete release

Into My hands

Of all you hold dear,

Can you fully know peace.

My peace shall enfold you

As you learn to trust My word to you.

Lean upon Me, and not on your own understanding.

I hold all things in My Hand,

And command even the movements of your own soul.

Doubt Me not!

For doubt erodes your delight in Me.

I cannot do all I would for you

If doubt obscures the way.

The work I am doing now is hidden

But will come forth in glorious fullness

When the time is ripe.

Does nature not teach you this?

I have seen your tears and felt your anguish,

Oh, how I long to comfort you.

Trust My Love, it is larger than you can imagine!

My provision for My children

Is far greater than you can ever comprehend.

So cast aside your fears

And turn your face fully into Mine,

You shall see My Smile ,and know joy!

# God's Covenant with Abram

By Harn Yawnghwe

*When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphra'tes, the land of the Ken'ites, the Ken'izzites, the Kad'monites, the **Hittites**, the Per'izzites, the Reph'aim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Gir'gashites and the Jeb'usites" (Genesis 15:17-21).*

If you are anything like me, the names mentioned here will not have made much of an impression. They are like the many other names mentioned in the Old Testament which have no relevance today – or so I thought. Did you know that the Hittite Empire existed before 2000 BC? Archeological excavations show that around 1700 BC a great city was burnt to the ground. The earliest traces of settlement on the site are from the sixth millennium BC (6,000 years before Christ). Historians know the names of 27 great Hittite kings.



Today (pre-Covid-19), you can visit the ruins of the imperial Hittite capital of Hattusa near Bogazkale, 200 km east of Ankara, the Turkish capital. Hattusa or Hattusha was added to the UNESCO World Heritage Site list in 1986. *"The archaeological site of Hattusha, former capital of the Hittite Empire, is notable for its urban organisation, the types of construction that have been preserved (temples, royal residences, fortifications), the rich ornamentation of the Lion Gate and the Royal Gate, and the ensemble of rock art at Yazilikaya. The city enjoyed considerable influence in Anatolia and northern Syria in the 2nd millennium B.C."* Source: UNESCO.

The Bible is recorded history, not myths as some may think. The Hittites and Abram (Abraham) were real people. God's promise to Abram was based in reality. The Hittites were not primitive people with no culture. Men and women were created in the perfect image of God and from the beginning, despite the fall of man, had great intelligence and creativity and were able to build great cities that we are not able to do even today. What a wonderful God we have and what an amazing world we live in.



# Bible Bytes



## That Puzzling Parable

By Do Fox

*Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'*

*But they paid no attention and went off – one to his field, another to his business. The rest seized his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.*

*But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. 'Friend,' he asked, 'how did you get in here without wedding clothes. The man was speechless. Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'*

*For many are invited, but few are chosen." Mt. 22:1-14*

This fall I was reading the above parable that Jesus told about the wedding banquet. This parable shows God's generous invitation, and the sad and hurtful ignoring of such a grand event, by the invited guests. The ones invited even mistreated the servants of God, so in anger, He destroys their city. This is Old Testament history, relived by a story.

So, God invited others, (Gentiles?) who come, but he finds one not wearing the wedding clothes, that He, the Host, had provide for the guests at the wedding banquet. He orders this guest to be bound and removed.

I found this second part of the parable hardest to understand. My study Bible notes say, and I quote, "Where the first part of the parable (2-10) spoke of God's rejection of national Israel, the latter part (vs 11-13) deals with the responsibility of the individual. The wedding garment no doubt speaks of the righteousness that God, the gracious Host, provides for all who accept His invitation." We need therefore, to respond to the invitation and also accept God's righteousness.

When I prayed about this for deeper understanding, I sensed Jesus say, "It means letting God take over your will." I think that means letting God rule your heart.

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us to pray "Your will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven," Mt. 6:10b. I think this requires a deep heart change. A sincere following of God's will is necessary. He is not interested in just "lip service." That heart change makes us the 'chosen' ones. (vs 14). "Many are invited, but few are chosen."

This choosing seems to be done on both parts, God's, and mine, (or yours). Is God saying I chose you because you chose Me? Perhaps! But Jesus says, in John 6:44, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him." There you have it! God does the drawing, in the loving inviting to the feast of knowing His Son, yet we are given the honour of freely accepting or rejecting this gracious invitation.

What enormous consequences follow our freely given right to choose! WOW!

# World Population vs Memory Loss

## An interesting article:

### Earth's Population Statistics in Perspective

The population of Earth is around 7.8 Billion. For most people, it is a large figure however, if you condensed 7.8 billion into 100 persons, and then into various percentage statistics the resulting analysis is relatively much easier to comprehend.

Out of 100 :

11 are in Europe  
5 are in North America  
9 are in South America  
15 are in Africa  
60 are in Asia

49 live in the countryside  
51 live in cities

75 have mobile phones  
25 do not.

30 have internet access  
70 do not have the availability to go online

7 received university education  
93 did not attend college.

83 can read  
17 are illiterate.

33 are Christians  
22 are Muslims  
14 are Hindus  
7 are Buddhists  
12 are other religions  
12 have no religious beliefs.

26 live less than 14 years  
66 died between 15 - 64 years of age  
8 are over 65 years old.

If you have your own home,  
Eat full meals & drink clean water,  
Have a mobile phone,  
Can surf the internet, and  
have gone to college,  
You are in the miniscule privileged lot.  
(in the less than 7% category)

Amongst 100 persons in the world, only 8 live or exceed the age of 65.

If you are over 65 years old, be content & grateful.

Cherish life, grasp the moment.

If you did not leave this world before the age of 64 like the 92 persons who have gone before you, you are already the blessed amongst mankind.

Take good care of your own health. Cherish every remaining moment.

If you think you are suffering memory loss.....

Don't get too concerned too quickly.....

In the following analysis the French Professor Bruno Dubois, Director of the Institute of Memory and Alzheimer's Disease (IMMA) at La Pitié-Salpêtrière - Paris Hospitals, addresses the subject in a rather reassuring way:

"If anyone is aware of their memory problems, they do not have Alzheimer's."

1. forget the names of families.
2. do not remember where I put some things .

It often happens in people 60 years and older that they complain that they lack memory. "The information is always in the brain, it is the "processor" that is lacking."

This could be "Anosognosia", maybe, or just temporary forgetfulness.

Half of people 60 and older have some symptoms that are due to age rather than disease. The most common cases are:

- forgetting the name of a person,
- going to a room in the house and not remembering why we were going there,
- a blank memory for a movie title or actor, an actress,
- a waste of time searching where we left our glasses or keys ..

After 60 years most people have such a difficulty, which indicates that it is not a disease but rather a characteristic due to the passage of years ..

Many people are concerned about these oversights hence the importance of the following statements:

- 1."Those who are conscious of being forgetful have no serious problem of memory."
- 2."Those who suffer from a memory illness or Alzheimer's, are not aware of what is happening."

Professor Bruno Dubois, Director of IMMA, reassures the majority of people concerned about their oversights: "The more we complain about memory loss, the less likely we are to suffer from memory sickness."

Submitted by Carolyn White



# Punology



Dad, are we pyromaniacs? Yes, we arson.

What do you call a pig with laryngitis? Disgrun-  
tled.

Why do bees stay in their hives during winter?  
Swarm.

If you're bad at haggling, you'll end up paying  
the price.

Just so everyone's clear, I'm going to put my  
glasses on.

A commander walks into a bar and orders eve-  
ryone around.

I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without  
making a scene.

Never buy flowers from a monk. Only you can  
prevent florist friars.

How much did the pirate pay to get his ears  
pierced? A buccaneer.

I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I  
kneaded the dough.

My friends and I have named our band 'Duvet'.  
It's a cover band.

I lost my girlfriend's audiobook, and now I'll nev-  
er hear the end of it.

Why is 'dark' spelled with a k and not c? Be-  
cause you can't see in the dark.

Why is it unwise to share your secrets with a  
clock? Well, time will tell.

When I told my contractor I didn't want carpeted  
steps, they gave me a blank stare.

Bono and The Edge walk into a Dublin bar and  
the bartender says, "Oh no, not U2 again."

Prison is just one word to you, but for some peo-

ple, it's a whole sentence.

Scientists got together to study the effects of al-  
cohol on a person's walk, and the result was  
staggering.

I'm trying to organize a hide and seek tourna-  
ment, but good players are really hard to find.

I got over my addiction to chocolate, marshmal-  
lows, and nuts. I won't lie, it was a rocky road.

What do you say to comfort a friend who's strug-  
gling with grammar? There, their, they're.

I went to the toy store and asked the assistant  
where the Schwarzenegger dolls are and he re-  
plied, "Aisle B, back."

What did the surgeon say to the patient who in-  
sisted on closing up their own incision? Suture  
self.

I've started telling everyone about the benefits  
of eating dried grapes. It's all about raisin  
awareness.



## Price of gas in France

A thief in Paris planned to steal some paintings from  
the Louvre.

After careful planning, he got past security, stole the  
paintings, and made it safely to his van.

However, he was captured only two blocks away  
when his van ran out of gas.

When asked how he could mastermind such a crime  
and then make such an obvious error, he replied,  
'Monsieur, that is the reason I stole the paintings.'  
I had no Monet , to buy Degas , to make the Van  
Gogh.'

Submitted by Carolyn White



# Activity Page

## Giving Thanks

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name. Psalm 100:4

The puzzle is based on Psalm 100



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

WORSHIP  
ENDURES  
SONGS

EARTH  
FOREVER  
PASTURE

JOY  
SHEEP  
GLADNESS

LOVE  
THANKS  
GATES

ENTER  
SHOUT  
PRAISE



## Golden Glory

By Do Fox

Autumn's golden glory  
Settles on the trees,  
Bright reds and yellows mingle  
And tremble in the breeze.

The lakes mirror the magic  
Reflecting blue, and gold,  
A symphony of colours  
So lovely to behold.

Such beauty crowns the season  
Before cold winter frost,  
A golden hallelujah,  
Remembered, never lost!

