

# The Assistant Pastor

October, 1927

DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK, dear friend, how insignificant you are? Do you realize that you are merely one little creature among millions scratching around on one little planet of the firmament? You are just one leaf in a vast forest; as one star in the heavens; merely one pebble on the ocean beach.

Let one leaf fall, what difference to the forest? If some night one star was missing, would you know? If one pebble was removed from the beach the tides would come and go, the swells rise and fall and the surf play on the beach just as before.

Who are you, indeed, to strut about so? Even though you did own the earth you live on, what is that but a village lot compared to the sun, the moon, the planets, the million stars and the vast and beautiful heavens?

Seen with the eyes of the world, what an infinitesimal speck you are!

DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK, dear friend, how significant you are? You were created in the image, after the likeness, of God. A mansion is prepared for you in the new Jerusalem where the streets are gold and "every several gate is of one pearl."

The Almighty creator of Heaven and Earth is so concerned about you that He gave His only begotten son to save you from well merited punishment. Though you are but one among millions, "the very hairs of your head are all numbered," by Him. There is joy in all Heaven when one prodigal as you, returns to the Father's house.

And, "ecce homo"—see that man—crowned with thorns, nailed to the cross, suffering agonizing tortures because He loves you so and would not that you should perish but have everlasting life.

Surely you must be grand, great, significant in His eyes!

**WHAT IS HE TO YOU?**



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## THE ASSISTANT PASTOR.

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H. M. Tjernagel, Pastor.  
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### CHURCH SERVICES.

**Saude**—Second and fourth Sundays, 10:45 a. m.; Saturday School every Saturday, 10 a. m.; confirmation class, 9:30 a. m. Fridays.

**Jerico**—First and third Sundays, 11 a. m.; Saturday School, 2 p. m.; confirmation class, 2 p. m. Fridays.  
Fifth Sundays by special announcement.

Summer has come and gone. During the long winter nights we looked forward to spring and summer and planned the many things we would do. But Winter was reluctant to let go his grip and we had to plant and sow in cold, wet earth. The cheerfulness and hopefulness that the warmth of a clear May sun usually gives was lacking. All plodded on rather listless and heavy of step with forebodings of a dull harvest moon.

In spite of it all, however, grass grew, flowers blossomed, vegetables developed, seeded oats quickened and corn sprouted. And now the harvest moon is here and there are potatoes in the bin, fresh corn, beans, peas, tomatoes in sealed jars on the cellar shelves, hay in the barn, oats in the granary and the husking peg will soon be mustered into service.

And so again we have worried uselessly and been put to shame for our lack of trust and confidence in our Heavenly Father. Though we have often harvested more abundantly, yet the labor of our hands has been blessed sufficiently to provide for all reasonable demands of our body and life. Who can deny that God is good?

As to our church work the summer has permitted us to enjoy the regular Sunday services besides a number of red-letter days. Such a day we count our double mission festival with splendid mission sermons in both churches, one by Rev. A. J. Torgerson of Northwood, Iowa, the other by Rev. Erling Ylvisaker of Madison. Perhaps especially memorable will be the mission lecture by the Indian S. A. Miller of Gresham, Wis., on the afternoon of the same day. The presence also of Mr. Miller's wife and children will be remembered a long, long time.

A great many of our members attended the Lime Creek Convention where our Synod made important

history by voting to purchase the valuable school property at Mankato, Minn., known as Bethany College.

Jerico acquired a new "merke dag" as well as many expressions of gratitude and appreciation by entertaining the joint Y. P. and Choral Union Convention of our Albert Lea circuit.

Besides the routine summer work in fields and homes and church we have also had some time for play and diversion. A great many have taken more or less extended automobile trips to distant friends and relatives and have also had the pleasure of entertaining summer visitors at their homes.

Sickness has been almost unknown among us during the summer. We have read of disasters and accidents but we have all been spared; neither wind storms nor hail have visited us.

"Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men." Psalm 107:21.

Confirmation classes are again meeting regularly on Fridays at 9:30 a. m. and 2 o'clock p. m. at Saude and Jerico respectively. A class of 8 is enrolled at Jerico and 6 at Saude. If the parents will see to it that every lesson is learned we confidently hope that the year will prove a great blessing to the members of the classes. But if the parents shirk or neglect their duty in this respect, we despair of accomplishing much of anything.

This is true also of the Saturday school classes. Some of the children always know their lesson, others haw and hem, stop and start, back up and rush ahead, much like a Ford in a mud hole, and sometimes get through but very often not. This should not be so and would not be so if parents did their duty. "But," says someone, "some children are dull." True, but is your child dull? If you think so please come and tell me.

"GREAT AND MARVELLOUS ARE THY WORKS, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY." This song of the saints,—Rev. 15:3,—came to my mind as I read the chapter on Instinct contained in Prof. Graebner's book on EVOLUTION. I want to read a portion of the chapter to you that your praise of the Creator may grow louder and your distaste for evolution increase.

"On instinct depends the existence of most animals. According to the theory of evolution these instincts have been developed by slow degrees. Hence there must have been a time when these instincts, because not yet completely developed, were useless to the animal. But if useless, the animal must have perished. The strength of this objection to the evolutionary hypothesis will become clear from a brief study of the manner in which animal life is bound up with the proper functioning of instinct."

"Consider, for instance, the dependence of the honey bee and her hive on the functions, every one instinctive, of queen, workers, and drones. There is the queen, whose sole work is to lay eggs; the drones, or males, whose function it is to fertilize the queen; and the workers, which are females undeveloped sexually. In these three kinds of individuals we see a combination of many most remarkable instincts and peculiarities of structure which



look to the good of the community. How would they have been produced by evolution? The workers are sterile and leave no offspring, consequently their instincts cannot be inherited from bees of their own class. Each generation of workers is isolated from all succeeding generations. A colony of bees is not like a community of civilized human beings in whom many of the wants are artificial, and which may remain unsupplied, with simply a certain amount of discomfort, but the wants which the instincts of bees supply are imperative, and, therefore, the instincts themselves, as a whole, are necessary to the existence of the bees. Their instincts are all linked together as a necessary chain, so that if one should fail the community would perish. Each kind of work is perfectly done, and yet the workers are totally unconscious as to what will be the result of their labors. For the most part they work for future generations of their colony, and not for themselves, and yet they are as careful and diligent as if they were guided by the highest intelligence and the most selfish motives. Fairhurst, whom we are quoting, adds: "There is nothing more wonderful and mysterious in nature than the instincts of bees. What can be more remarkable than that instinct of the workers which causes them to prevent the queen from stinging to death the young queens in their cells? Here we see the instinct of the workers opposing that of the queen, and thus saving the colony and insuring the propagation of the species. And yet at other but proper times the workers permit the old queen to kill the young ones in their cells. How could these instincts in the workers, which act in exactly opposite ways by just the right times for the welfare of the community, have ever been evolved? Or how could that instinct have arisen which causes two queens when engaged in combat to refrain from inflicting the mortal sting if they would mutually destroy each other, and thus leave the hive without a queen?—acting as if they knew that the life of one of them was necessary for the welfare of the community."

"In all the domain of natural science there are no wonders more amazing than those of instinct. The subject is simply inexhaustible. Moreover, every animal is absolutely dependent on instinctively performed actions and habits. The life story of many wasps, of the various ants, and of the insects generally, is bound up with instincts that partly interlock marvellously with the life-story of plants, and which are, even viewed in themselves, the greatest wonders of creation. The questions insistently call for an answer: How could these instincts preserve the animal when they were still in an incipient, undeveloped stage? How could they arise through natural selection, at all? Darwin says that there are instincts 'almost identically the same in animals so remote in the scale of Nature, that we cannot account for their similarity by inheritance from a common progenitor, and consequently must believe that they were independently acquired through natural selection.' Again he says 'Many instincts are so wonderful that their development will probably appear to the reader a difficulty sufficient to overcome my whole theory.'"

"And here, in the vernacular of the day, we would depose that Mr. Darwin, said something."

From the last chapter of Prof. Graebner's book we read:

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"Speaking of the triumphant Redeemer the Lord says, Isa. 53: 'I will divide Him a portion with the great and He shall divide the spoil with the strong. The kings of the earth shall serve Him.' The prophecy was fulfilled when kings not only on material thrones but kings in the world of intellect and giants of learning have paid homage to the God-man Jesus Christ. Throughout the record of modern science and erudition there are shining examples of the truth that great mental power and profound research are not incompatible with humble acceptance of Bible teachings. The spiritual blindness of natural man, his intellectual pride, and the depravity of his will account for the attitude of many scientists over against the facts of revelation. From the shifting quicksand of their speculation we may rise unharmed on the pinions of a faith guided by the principal: 'It is written'."

EVOLUTION. An Investigation and a Criticism. 148 pages. Nicely bound. 80c. Can be ordered from our book Co. The Lutheran Synod Book Co., 1101 14th Ave. S. E., Minneapolis.

We all know that to be effectual prayer must be in faith. But this Scripture tells us what faith is and how to use it. Pray for this knowledge, and study to obtain it.

Thou hast a mighty arm, strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand. Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne; mercy and truth shall go before thy fact.—Psalm 89:13, 14.

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men.—Psalm 107:21.

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