

October-November 2023

Glory Magazine

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PROGRESS

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REVEALING
GOD'S GLORY

THE ILLUSION OF PROGRESS

A LOOK AT REVELATION CHAPTER 18



The word *progress* gets thrown around a lot. We must progress in technology, biology, science, energy, politics, transportation, and even our religion. Ever wonder to who's desired destination we are progressing? Well, that depends if you believe in the love, grace, and mercy of God towards His children or if you have faith in the idols of this world.

The Bible relays a message that there will come a time when "Babylon will fall," and God will call His people out from the harlot. The great city became the dwelling place of devils (Greek word *daimon*; see Rev. 18:2). It refers to an inferior deity, a demon, but also means to distribute fortunes. The kings and merchants of the earth eagerly desire her delicacies. They've become partakers of her sins and they shall receive her plagues. In one day she will be burned with the fire of God's judgment. The merchants will mourn over her because no man will go to market for their merchandise anymore. No buying. No selling. (See Rev. 18:3-19) They cried because what had made them rich was made desolate. Babylon desired to be filled with many possessions and influence, and the merchants reciprocated that desire, fornicating (Greek *porneuo*) with her. She was their idol.

However, those who do not seek her delicacies and would rather have a desire for the word of Truth should

rejoice as they see the city smoking. God says, "**Rejoice over her, heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her**" (Rev. 18:20 KJV). The great city will be thrown down and found no more. The voice of harpers, musicians, pipers, trumpeters will be silenced. No more craftsman (Greek *technites*), nor will there be the sound (Greek *phone*) of a mill stone, a grinder of hardship, heard any more. The light of the candle will no longer shine and the voice of the bridegroom and bride will be removed.

Summing up this last part of Revelation 18:22-24, why are all these things being removed? Because the merchants (Greek *emporos*), the captains of industries, deceived the nations (Greek *ethnos*; human race) because they rested in Babylon's sorceries (Greek *pharmakeia*).

Pharmakeia: *medication, the use or administering of drugs, poisoning, sorcery, magical arts, often found in connection with idolatry and fostered by it; as a metaphor, the deceptions and seductions of idolatry.*

Deception requires a lie and the only way to overcome it is to seek the Truth. Forward progress does not mean all will end up at the same destination. Only the Truth will make you free. Selah.

Blessings and honor,

Angela Errett

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*That I may publish with the voice
of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy
wondrous works. Psalm 26:7*

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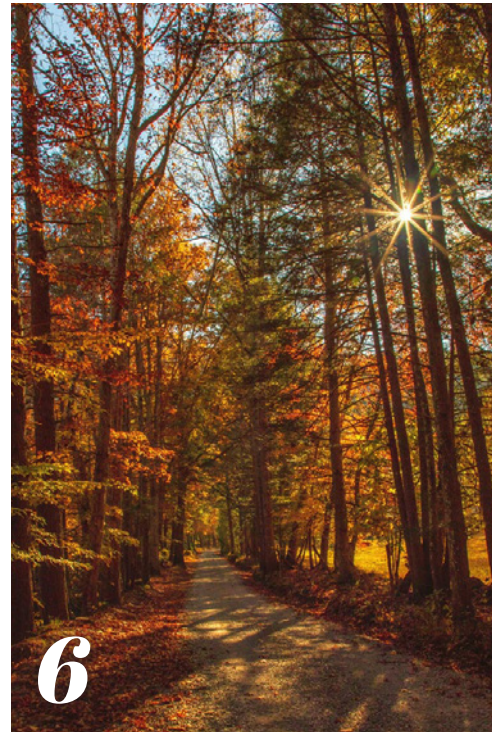
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ON THE COVER

Wild Sunflower Field, Lewis County, WV
Alan Tucker/Backyard Photography

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Content in each issue is inspired. We do not know what will be on the pages until it is completed.

RED Sky

THE SKY IS RED AND OVERCAST

Jesus was being pressed by a group of religious professionals about his behavior because it did not fit their narrative. In a brilliant chess move of gamesmanship, Jesus pointed out their spiritual blindness when it came to God.

“WHEN EVENING COMES, YOU SAY, ‘IT WILL BE FAIR WEATHER, FOR THE SKY IS RED,’ AND IN THE MORNING, ‘TODAY IT WILL BE STORMY, FOR THE SKY IS RED AND OVERCAST.’ YOU KNOW HOW TO INTERPRET THE APPEARANCE OF THE SKY, BUT YOU CANNOT INTERPRET THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES. MATTHEW 16:2-4 (NIV)”

Jesus had been healing the sick and feeding the multitudes. The learned and prominent asked Jesus for a sign from heaven; walking on water and casting out demons was not sufficient for them to believe Messiah had come. All these divine marvels of God were signs from heaven and

delivered by God himself. In other words, the Hebrew tradition spoke of the year of the Lord’s favor through the Prophet Isaiah. Then Jesus read the same scripture at the beginning of His public ministry and made this profound statement, *“Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing”* (Luke 4:20 NIV).

Isaiah continued by saying it would be a time of blessing for genuine believers and a day of God’s vengeance to be visited upon the self-appointed authorities.

Autumn is another seasonal time in faith. Israel celebrates the Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and Feast of Tabernacles. The Feast of Trumpets calls for the people to gather to honor and hear from their king. It also has many prophetic ties to events in the past and

those in the future. The Day of Atonement is included in the list of Israel’s feasts.

**“THE SPIRIT OF THE SOVEREIGN LORD IS ON ME, BECAUSE THE LORD HAS ANOINTED ME TO PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO BIND UP THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM FREEDOM FOR THE CAPTIVES AND RELEASE FROM DARKNESS FOR THE PRISONERS
ISAIAH 61:1 (NIV)”**

However, it is a fast day, a time of reflection, and an opportunity to repent and make spiritual amends for missteps and transgressions committed during the prior year. Sometimes, a personal day of atonement is not voluntary. God will put His finger on every issue in the obstinate and force them to bow at the knee. This is the second part of the Day of Atonement, a day of God’s vengeance. Indeed, a red sky morning,

As a point of reference, it is the fall of 2023, and the sky is red and overcast as we begin this season. Women cry out for the right to abort children they carry right up to the day of birth. Men claiming to be women in the wrong body have forced themselves into the private space of women, i.e., bathrooms and sports locker rooms, and have the support of judges, adjudicators, and courts. Some people even think it is just for men to compete against women in athletic events dedicated to women. Where is the justice? Certainly not in today's worldly ideology, which unfortunately controls today's legal sense of equality. I am convinced a change will come on The Day of Atonement. The thing is... change in human hearts cannot be legislated; it only comes by severe punishment or new birth.

People who commit murder are released back into the population because they are viewed as victims. People who protect their person, family, or others are now incarcerated and face conviction more readily than criminals. District Attorneys are quick to jump on the righteous and drag their feet on the offenders. During the 2020 election, fifty "credible intelligence professionals and leaders" swore that evidence of the misdoings of one candidate and his family was a lie; the evidence proved to be real and genuine. The old politician got elected and

now has encouraged government agencies to target his competition. Between Federal charges and ones levied by State authorities sympathetic to the administration, the opposing candidate is facing multiple indictments of criminal activity before the new election. The list doesn't stop here. The sky is indeed red and overcast.

They have put bonafide church groups on terrorist lists, and parents who speak out against the unrighteousness of boys in girl bathrooms are jailed. School boards are high-jacking children's futures from any input from parents. Children as young as three years old are being identified as having the wrong gender. They are being given gender-affirming treatments to solve their problems. This is happening without informing the parents in the name of child protection. These treatments include chemical medications and outright mutilation of sexual organs by operations to change sex with no parental consent. Sometimes, permission is coerced by asking the parent if they would prefer a transsexual child over a dead child. What is wrong with this picture?

In Europe, there is a push for people to be implanted with ID chips. The rationale is a better economic system, better health care, and a higher quality of life. The Bible is straightforward about this. It is clearly stated such marks would be forced in

the last days, the last days before The Great Day of Atonement, which involves every nation, every people, and all individuals.

IT ALSO FORCED ALL PEOPLE, GREAT AND SMALL, RICH AND POOR, FREE AND SLAVE, TO RECEIVE A MARK ON THEIR RIGHT HANDS OR ON THEIR FOREHEADS, SO THAT THEY COULD NOT BUY OR SELL UNLESS THEY HAD THE MARK, WHICH IS THE NAME OF THE BEAST OR THE NUMBER OF ITS NAME.

REVELATION 13:16-17 (NIV)

Mankind will face a dichotomy of outcomes when God brings correction to our current situation. Evil is running rampant; it has run unbridled in the past, and tumultuous conditions brought about correction and change. The cycle began again. It will keep repeating until the cup of wickedness is full. Currently, humans are facing another season of corrective measures. It may be a temporary fix; however, at some point, the temporary will be out, and the permanent fix will be in. It will be the end of days as we know them. Aren't you glad that in God's great mercy, He provided new birth so that people have a chance to escape vengeance and experience the Lord's favor, His salvation?

The sky is red and overcast. It will be stormy; however, the Spirit of the sovereign Lord proclaims the year of His favor upon the humble and the righteous of the earth.

to be continued...

The Return of Messiah

Milky Way - denbelitsky/Bigstock.com

BABYLON IS FALLEN

“AND THE LIGHT OF A CANDLE **shall shine no more at all in thee**; AND THE VOICE OF THE BRIDEGROOM AND OF THE BRIDE **shall be heard no more at all in thee**:

FOR THY MERCHANTS WERE THE GREAT MEN OF THE EARTH; FOR BY THY SORCERIES WERE ALL NATIONS DECEIVED.”

Revelation 18:23 (KJV)

It has been said, “I come in the name of the Lord.” It has been said, “This way is right, or that way is right.” But who can speak on behalf of the Lord? Only those chosen by the Father can speak for His Son.

The Prophets and the Law have come to fruition, and those who shall choose another path will see who the Messiah is. Some will see a vicious ruler who tears at them with righteousness, while others will know the love of the Father. Why? Because the progeny of humankind tasted of the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil. They bore a seed that, once released, was required

to produce until the appointed time of the return of Messiah.

When will Messiah return? Even the Son does not know the day or the hour, yet we can discern the mounting evidence that He is close. Much closer than any will admit.

Does He call upon His bride? Does He beckon for her as the murmuring of wars resounds worldwide? Does He feel the pull of her heart towards the ending of her process? Will the Father release her from her binds to allow the Tabernacle to once again be filled with the Glory of the Lord? Yes...all these things are true and

“AND THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE
SAY, COME. AND LET HIM THAT
HEARETH SAY, COME. AND LET
HIM THAT IS ATHIRST COME.

***And whosoever
will, let him take the
water of life freely.”***

Revelation 22:17 (KJV)

just and equitable. Why? Because He is righteous in all His ways and has always been for Justice.

The Lord has never known a day without yearning for His bride. Neither has there been a day without the hope only given by Christ to those under His covering.

Shall those who do not know Him be allowed to receive what the Father has? Without honor? Without relationship? Without a kindled fire that bellows forth with a perfume pleasing to the Father? No. In the next season, some will come to know how Truth has been given yet still needs to be received. Those faithful to the Word shall see Him in the clouds, just as the prophets of old have described. Yet others will tremble in fear of the choices they have made, options that have come upon them from demons of old. The Father sees their error and will save His children through His great mercy. He will deliver them from those bonds and retain the evil, wicked spirits whose calling, from their father, the father of all lies, the destroyer,

became their agenda and thus sealed their demise. The flesh will return to its home, and the spirit of the redeemed shall reside with the Lord. The wicked shall return to the pits for their actions, which displeased the Lord. They wanted to rise above the clouds to be worshipped as the gods of the air. Yet, they will be destroyed by the very desires they claim are righteous that have come from man-made righteousness and equity found only in the hidden spaces reserved for the darkness and uninformed.

The Lord has not broken His gaze from the beauty He set upon the world. He remains vigilant to the cause of His Father. He has the witness of the Saints, and the Word is upon His heart. He alone cannot fail. He alone has the power and might of God to release all from their sins who believe in the works of the Lord.

Before the world was placed in time, He was Truth. He was Light. He was with God and was God. He chose all who would believe in His name, the Word, even before your

spirit was released from Heaven to be born upon the earth. You have a purpose far beyond the physical. Those who believe have a specific purpose in building the Kingdom of God. You are a word from God!

Will you be a part of the Book of Life? Will you fit your word into the pages and become a part of the biggest love story of all time? I pray that you embrace these words and know that for you to enter, the Kingdom of Heaven *is* the heart's desire of the Father as the bride to His Son. May you join the Feast and not be distracted by the world as we gather for the wedding. May your ears be opened to hear. May your eyes see the wonder and Glory of the Lord. May your mouth speak the words of the Father and bring to His remembrance that His people are here awaiting His arrival. May the Lord remember your name inscribed upon His hand and welcome you to the Feast.

To God be the Glory! He gave His only Son, Jesus Christ, so you may live with Him eternally. Rejoice!



By Al Tucker

REVEALING God's Glory

**“LET US NOT BECOME WEARY IN DOING GOOD,
*for at the proper time we will reap a harvest
if we do not give up.*”**

Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

The past year has been one of the more challenging years of Liva and my fifty-eight years of marriage. When you are blessed to live as long as we have, you are well aware it is a natural part of life to lose family members and dear friends along the way. However, since August 2022, it seems like we have been

unable to escape the grief process that goes with losing loved ones. What made this year more difficult is that we have had to say goodbye to the last of our closest relatives, whom we were blessed to have enjoyed a lifetime of love, laughter, and tears together. We are now experiencing a deafening silence!

Our home phone no longer rings several times a day (yes, we still have a landline; we are that old), our cell phones are silent as those fun texts and photos that dinged so welcomingly now no longer appear, and our family events seem fewer and less joyous. Coupled with the loss of longtime relatives, too many



Photos: © Backyard Photography, Alan Tucker

l-r: Gaudineer Overlook, Randolph County;
Deegan Lake, Harrison County

of our intimate friends have passed on, adding to our emptiness. Within the past ten days, I have attended two celebrations of life for two dear friends who meant so much to me. Both deaths were unexpected as both were looking forward to new adventures. But heart attacks stepped in and quickly claimed both. Fortunately, they were men of great faith who lived lives helping others, and when their time came, they were prepared to go home. They would

tell us to continue helping others and doing good where we could or, in other words, emulating them. I will miss them dearly and will try my best to follow their example.

I feel equipped to follow their example because of another amazing child of God, a dear friend whom Liva and I lost on July 17, 2023. Her name was Jenny, who often referred to herself as “I’m just a girl who loves Jesus.” While her full name was Jennifer Daum Pfister, to me and many others, she was just “Jenny,” like the one-name celebrities Elvis, Cher, Kobe, etc. Like them, you always knew when Jenny was in the building. She was gifted with so many talents: Bible scholar, storyteller, teacher, preacher, prayer leader, musician, worship leader, Christian writer, singer, pianist, poet, humorist, counselor, and anything else she needed to be to share the Gospel. To

Liva and me, she was a dear friend. Her kindness always seemed to flow our way in a time of great need.

One spring early in the pandemic, I was recovering (and not well) from triple bypass surgery. I’d get a text once in a while from her letting me know that she and the worship team were praying for me. I must have mentioned how much I missed hearing them sing. Oh, how they could sing! A couple weeks later, they were set up in our front yard on a beautiful day, putting the birds to shame with their beautiful singing for well over an hour. Some neighbors said they stopped what they were doing and listened along. I recorded some of the songs, “Victory in Jesus,” “Days of Elijah,” “Evermore,” and “Every Praise,” to name a few, that they sang that morning. What a blessing that was for Liva and me! What a blessing Jenny was to so many people in so

"The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance."

Psalm 112:6 (NKJV)



l-r: My friend Jenny! Forget-me-nots along Prickett's Creek, Randolph County

many different ways! Losing her so quickly was beyond painful, even though we all knew she was where she always wanted to be, with Jesus. Thankfully, she prepared many of us to continue to perform Jesus' work. Her impact hasn't ended; her ministry and legacy will live on through her *One Brushstroke at a Time* TV ministry, in her *In Moments Like These* devotionals, and through the lives Jesus touched through her Holy-Spirit-led wisdom. Let me share how she impacted my walk with Jesus.

I loved Jenny's sermons for many reasons. They were always scripture-based, spirit-led, and often convicting. I enjoyed how she would sprinkle her wit throughout, always keeping it interesting and inspiring. Since being saved, I have always looked for takeaways from Bible study discussions, devotional readings, sermons, etc., that I can apply to my life to help me become a better servant or prepare me for more effective witnessing. There was a time when most of what I heard or read had little effect, as I thought I knew it all, and I was comfortable just showing up for church or Bible study. While I may have found things interesting occasionally, there was little change in my life, and no growth would occur. Now, I'm intent on listening for what God is trying to tell me or, as some of my Band of Brothers say, for that nugget

they can apply to their lives. None of us are complete in our transformation. Peter would tell us we need to be about growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ (see 2 Peter 3:18). Paul would say to us it is a lifelong process. Jenny definitely had a divine anointing for teaching and preaching God's word. If you paid attention to her sermons and had a willing heart to grow, the Holy Spirit would let you know how. I learned so much from Jenny. She influenced my life immensely.

I am going to share with you one of her most impactful sermons on my walk with Jesus. But before I do that, I want to mention Jenny's last sermon. It was on July 9, 2023. Those of us who were there that morning will never forget it. It was prescient, almost like she had an inkling of what would soon happen. She was in rare form in a bubbly, upbeat mood, even a little mischievous. She shared that she and some friends had made a quick trip to a favorite restaurant near her hometown of Baltimore, Maryland, one owned by a friend in her youth. His name was Brad. She was delighted that Brad remembered her and that she and her friends had such a lovely time on their quick getaway trip. Her sermon that morning was on Psalm 112:6 (NKJV), *"The righteous will be in everlasting remembrance."* She talked about one of her



An abandoned farm apple tree, Randolph County

Photos: © Backyard Photography, Alan Tucker

favorite flowers, forget-me-nots, growing along a stream.

Interestingly, she described a scene I had just photographed at Prickett's Creek in Marion County. It was of forget-me-nots lining the stream's bank. I thought, "I will get that photo printed and matted for Jenny. I think she would probably like that." Well, that never happened as Jenny got something better, something she always dreamed about—meeting Jesus face-to-face.

Now, to the sermon that means so much to me. I call it "Hur Sermon." Hur is not some woke nor misspelled pronoun; it is the name of a seemingly insignificant person in the Old Testament, one who is barely mentioned. We learn of him briefly in the Book of Exodus. Jenny was terrific in bringing to life these lesser saints in the Bible. We are all aware of the great saints, such as Daniel, Joshua, and Samuel, who had books devoted to them about their service to God. But many lesser-known people didn't have a book written about them. However, they still played a vital role in God's plan. Hur was one of those, even though he received only a couple of brief mentions. But his position was huge, impactful, and well-rewarded. Jenny not only shared Hur's story, but she did as she always did, and that was to explain, inspire, and motivate how the lives

of these Biblical heroes can be role models for us. Her message on Hur had such an impact on me that day several years ago and still does today. I'll try to explain.

There are three people named Hur in the Old Testament, two mentioned in passing and one more well-known Israelite from the tribe of Judah (see Exodus 31:2). He must have been in a position of authority as his two major mentions have him being with Moses and his brother Aaron, both performing important roles for Moses. Maybe Hur was an elder as God would instruct Moses to take elders with him on various occasions (see Exodus 17:5). When Moses sent Joshua and his men to fight the Amalekites, he took Aaron and Hur on top of a hill overseeing the battle. When Moses held his rod high in the air, which he did per God's instruction, Israel prevailed, and when he lowered the rod, the Amalekites prevailed. As Moses tired, Aaron and Hur put a stone under Moses so he could sit down. Aaron and Hur then took Moses' hands, lifted his arms high, and kept them steady until sundown, allowing Joshua to defeat Amalek (see Exodus 17:8-16).

Hur's role was huge, along with Aaron's. They allowed Joshua to prevail over Israel's bitter enemy. How tiring it must have been to hold Moses' arms, hands, and rod



Above: Scenic Highway, Pocahontas County; Below: Milkweed gone to seed, Upshur County



Photos: © Backyard Photography, Alan Tucker

that high for so long. If they had failed, the Amalekites would have defeated Israel and most likely killed Joshua, preventing him from taking the Israelites into the promised land. God put Hur and Aaron in place to ensure His plan and promises remained unbroken and on target. Hur is mentioned again in Exodus 24:13-15 (NIV), further confirming his stature in Moses' hierarchy: *"Then Moses set out with Joshua, his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. Aaron and Hur are with you; anyone involved in a dispute can go to them. When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it."* While Moses was on Mount Sinai, the Israelites rebelled, eventually leading Aaron to create a Golden Calf, greatly offending God. There is no mention of Hur after Moses' ascent up the mountain. So, it is unknown what role, if any, Hur played in this rebellion. However, Jewish tradition has Hur being killed by the idolaters, but there is no Biblical reference to such an act. Hur's grandson, Bezalel, was chosen by God as one of the key artisans for building the Tabernacle (see Exodus 31: 1-5). What an honor that was. Again, it is unknown if this is the same Hur's grandson, but Jewish tradition believes it is. The honor bestowed on Bezalel would be a fitting reward for his grandfather's faithfulness.

Jenny's sermon covered the most important part of Hur's story, his willingness to take on the role God gave him for as long as it took, no matter how difficult it became. Did Jenny live that story? Absolutely! Her physical ailments and health issues would have set back even the most committed among us. Not Jenny; she knew God wanted her all in until the end. She willingly obliged to carry out the role God assigned her. Like Paul, she was faithful to her call, always striving to fight the good fight remaining faithful to the end (see Timothy 4: 6-8). Why? Because she eagerly looked forward to seeing Jesus and receiving her crown of righteousness. What a moment that must have been, to which "I raise a hallelujah" in the presence of everyone. I am referencing one of Jenny's favorite worship songs for those who don't know.

I remember Jenny saying we can and should all be like Hur, no matter our role. She reminded us that there are pastors, missionaries, and other spiritual leaders out there fighting the enemy that need our support through prayer, encouragement, and even financially. I remember thinking I could do that; it is a role I have happily taken on. What

2024 West Virginia Scenic Calendar

Buckhannon Band of Brothers 2023 Help Us Help Kids - "Keeping it Local"

"Let us not become weary in doing good..." Galatians 6:9 (NIV)



\$15.00
each
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- Help Us Help Kids is an annual Christmas project by a Band of Brothers comprised of Christian men from various churches across Upshur County.
- Our goal is to make Christmas and New Year's brighter for underprivileged children and their parents.
- This is our eighth year of focusing on helping "the least of our brothers and sisters."
- Each year, we have a major focus. We began by responding to the enormous need created by the devastating 2016 flash floods in southern WV. We have also helped flood victims in other parts of WV and Kentucky. One year, we focused on the state's poorest county, McDowell. Another, we brightened Christmas for seniors in 35 nursing homes in WV, including the VA Nursing Home in Clarksburg.
- Each year, we also help hundreds of disadvantaged families locally, in surrounding counties, and across the state by working with the groups that are on the front line who ensure people have food for the holidays and presents for needy children. The stories we hear are heart-wrenching.
- We also support missionaries who help underprivileged children and spread the Gospel in some of the poorest parts of the world: Guatemala, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Native Americans in Canada.
- This year's theme is "Keeping it Local." Local is defined as Upshur and surrounding counties. There is a real need for minor maintenance and repair work, including installing accessibility features for the financially burdened people in our area. We have a team of Christian men forming to meet that need. We plan to seed the Band of Brothers Builders to allow them to take on work as it arises.
- We will continue to support the other groups we work with to brighten Christmas for families in need and for kids who are less fortunate. Working with the school system to give those children Christmas gifts has been a great success. That remains a significant priority for us, as is the Christmas Store for Disadvantaged Kids, Prison Angel Tree Program, Northern Appalachian Teen Challenge, Youth Mission Programs, Grand Families Program, Upshur Parish House, S.E.T.H. Project, and others.

How can you help?

We couldn't do our work without the amazing support of so many individuals, businesses, and organizations who purchase calendars and make generous donations. We are the conduit to those in need. We humbly pass along your generosity to as many underprivileged kids as possible.

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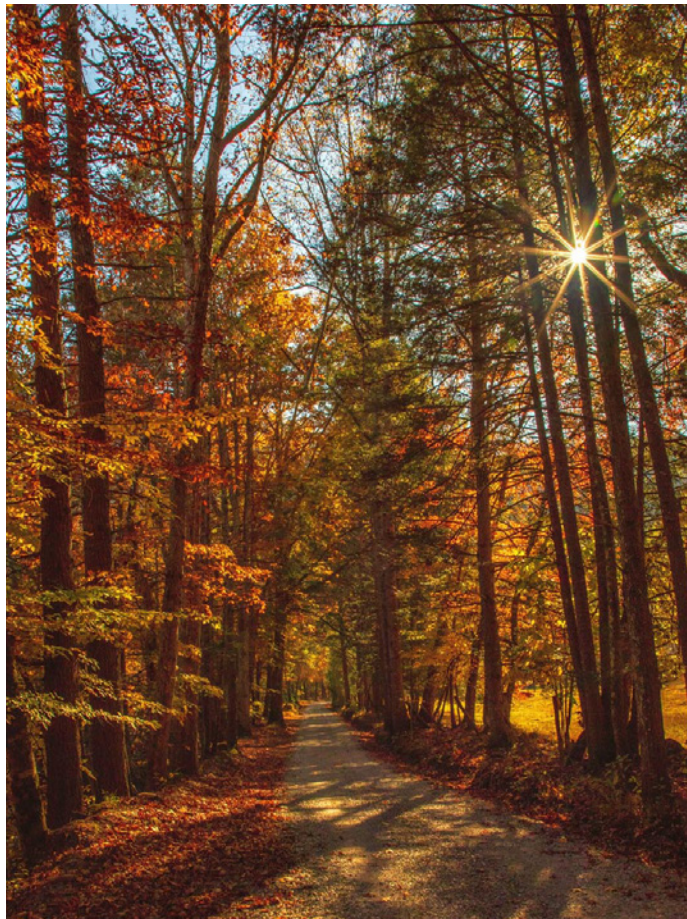
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**“AND YOU YOURSELF
MUST BE AN EXAMPLE TO
THEM BY DOING GOOD
WORKS OF EVERY KIND.
Let everything you do
reflect...integrity and
seriousness...”**

Titus 2:7 (NLT)

a takeaway that was! It is a privilege to emulate Hur, and I may have totally missed it if I had not been looking for something to take away that morning.

I also remember Jenny saying, not necessarily that morning, that we all have roles to play. We weren't saved to float along on fluffy clouds watching our favorite TV shows and ordering in pizza. And she'd be quick to say, "And I'm a girl who loves pizza." I loved it when she would say, "Come on, church," after some point she was trying to get us to understand. Listening to her sermons over the years, you learn that picking up your cross and following Him doesn't suggest a life of ease. God's work takes diligence for as long as it takes. I am trying to do that in my walk with Him. And I wouldn't want it any other way.

Much of my work with the Band of Brothers' annual Help Us Help Kids campaign reflects what I've learned from Jenny and other lifelong servants. Early on, I realized it was essential to determine God's will for my life. It took conscious effort through prayer, Bible study, and listening for what God was saying to me whenever I came into His presence. I have discerned that one of my roles is to do good by loving others as much as possible for as long as possible. I wasn't called to be a preacher or a missionary; much to my chagrin, I have zero musical talent, which rules out so many enriching ways to serve. I lack so many other useful talents that could make a difference. However, I am blessed with some talent for photography, and people like my stories, so I try to use those to "Reveal God's Glory" and as a means of helping those less fortunate.



Band of Brothers 2024 Help Us Help Kids Calendar

***Become Hur-like
and help us battle
hunger this
Christmas.***

This has also been a tough year health-wise for me. It started last fall when I learned two of my triple bypasses had failed, and only one could be opened via a stent. I didn't give up, as I believed God had more for me to do. I began working hard to build my strength and started feeling better within myself. Then, in March, I had to be hospitalized with pneumonia, another month or so setback. Fortunately, I recovered and started back on the therapy routine as soon as possible. Then, about a month ago, I got the latest strain of COVID that laid me up for three weeks. And, of course, the aging process marches on as I just turned 81. It would be easy just to kick back and say, "I'm done. It's time to take it easy; let someone else take up the load." However, I've learned that we shouldn't view our time as selfishly as our own. It really is God's time, and we should spend some of it on His work. Paul encouraged the Galatians and Thessalonians to not grow weary of doing good. I believe we need to be like Jenny and be faithful to what God has called us to do. For me, that is *"not to become weary in doing good"* (Galatians 6:9 NIV). In my last testimony, I wrote about integrity, "about doing the right thing all the time." If I can continue to do good for as long as possible, I will have achieved my goal of living a life of integrity, just like Jenny and Hur.

To close, I'll mention our Band of Brothers' 2023 Help Us Help Kids campaign, through which we help

so many underprivileged children at Christmastime and assist families to help put food on the table. In addition, we support several missionaries who are called to serve in some of the world's poorest places and take the Gospel to faraway places. The stories we hear are heart-wrenching. In this capacity, we are emulating Hur. His battle was against the Amalekites, the enemy of his day. Today, we battle hunger and help spiritual leaders battle Satan. It is an important work of our day. If you would like to assist us, you can purchase our West Virginia Scenic Calendar or donate to the Band of Brothers. As you might suspect, the need is enormous. We are thankful that we can do our part and for the generosity of so many Hur-like people.

I pray that Jenny's sermon and my testimony will inspire you to ask yourself these questions:

How can I become "Hur-like?" Whose hands and arms can I lift high? Can I run the race till the end?

God has so many roles for us to play. Seek Him out for what He wants of you. God doesn't need us on the sidelines. He wants us in the battle. Always remember, *"As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people"* (Galatians 6:10 NIV). That and prayer will help you find your role. It did for me.

***Until next time, Happy Thanksgiving
and Godspeed!***



Happy Thanksgiving

For by grace are ye saved through
faith; and that not of yourselves:
it is the gift of God: Not of works,
lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV

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