

You can find all parables along with PHOTOS and SCRIPTURES in comments on Facebook at DianaDee.Osborne (all PUBLIC), or on my FACEBOOK PARABLES OF LIFE **blog** at this LINK >> <https://facebookparablesinlife.blogspot.com/>

## **YEAR 2014      **SPRING PARABLES IN LIFE****

April 2, 2014 at 2:03pm

a NON SEQUITUR - Latin for 'it does not follow'. Describes a sentence suddenly inserted into conversation that doesn't seem to fit topic. God has a GREAT one. Psalm 147:1-3, God helps outcasts & "heals the brokenhearted & binds up their wounds." // Verse 5- 14, more blessings. BUT, 147:4 - God "counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name." Is this a NON SEQUITUR?? - **No! It's Reassurance:** God Who knows EACH name of billions of stars, knows YOURS. And thus verses 1-3 and 5-end! Pretty cool to think of each time we look up at night...

April 3, 2014 at 10:36pm

I could give a sounding-intelligent summary of **a lot of books I haven't read...** Thanks to Wikipedia, we **all** could. It's **not hard to sound more knowledgeable than we are.**

**True with Bible things too.** People keep fretting, "Is The Anti-Christ here yet?!" But if they've read the whole book, they'd know the answer has been YES for centuries. There's more than one: "Many deceivers have gone out into the world. **They** deny that Jesus Christ came in a real body. **Such a person** is a deceiver & an antichrist." First John 2:22 (easy pattern); 2:18, 4:3; 2 John 1:7. John 10:30. Matt 24:24.

When we refuse to PRAY FOR WISDOM (James 1:5) and STUDY FOR OURSELVES as the Bereans did (Acts 17) .. not even trusting Paul's teachings without studying scriptures intently... then we WILL FALL VICTIM to people who **SOUND more knowledgeable than we are.**

April 4, 2014 at 9:43am

Anyone who's followed me all these years knows I \*never\* post a 'political' Facebook comment. Not because I don't have opinions (ok, if you know me, you're laughing). But I prefer 1-on-1 friendship talks on such. But NO MATTER what you think about the specific topic in question for today's news, it should raise loud alarm bells. America is supposed to be place of safe freedom to think what you want.

But if enough people band against you for privately supporting ideas that don't even affect your work, you can be publicly fired, your reputation smashed.

April 4, 2014 at 8:11am

As spring pops out, look at all the babies & toddlers around you:}

Do you ever wonder if it's worth the bother to give them happy times that they'll never even remember? This AM I awoke remembering a blur: Someone used to push me around in a wheelbarrow, running faster & faster til I could barely breathe for laughing. Can't remember who, but I know I was about five years old.... and thus I know the feeling was hidden in my brain (for more decades than I'll admit !)... Do you

wonder 'why bother?' smiling and saying 'it's ok' to the **store clerk** who is slow today?

**Tonite she won't remember your face; but she'll remember the feeling that someone gave her a moment of happiness.**

April 6, 2014 at 11:23pm ·

Worship service is not going to go sit on a pew.

It's eagerly listening to the One Who deserves all your love.

April 8, 2014 at 8:22pm ·

\*\*Its ongoing storyline:

(1) After God sent Adam & Eve out of Garden of Eden / away from Tree of Life, He just abandoned them (says the MOVIE STORY).

(2) Some angels had deep compassion & came to earth to help them.

(3) So, God got angry & cast the angels out from returning to Heaven.

Hence they're called "Fallen Angels." -- Luke 10:18, vs Jesus's words.

THIS =

**main description of God throughout the movie "NOAH".**

THIS is not "artistic license" but downright **EVIL MALIGNING of God's character.**

This is EVIL, saying exactly the same thing Satan did (Genesis 3) –

"God is mean & doesn't want you to have something good,

but I [Satan] like you & will tell you that God is lying (Genesis 3:4), listen to me, *not* God - I'm smart enough to say: You won't die if you do that."

Jesus specifically said He saw Satan (& other fallen angels we can assume) **cast** by God out of heaven for PRIDE... they didn't leave to go "help" humans... the were CAST out for daring to rebel & take God's place. Study Isaiah 14:12 on; and Ezekiel 28, esp. vs 12-26.

... HOW CAN CHRISTIANS not see how **movie NOAH will lead many people to believe that God is UN-righteous & UN-fair & UN-loving?**

James 1:5-6, Pray for wisdom & Expect God's answer!! **This movie is not entertainment. It's **EVIL**.** And it should drive those who love God to weeping when His people are **blinded** by sound bits praise. And to sharing God's Word Truth despite probability of people's ridicule that "hey, it's just artistic license".

April 8, 2014 at 9:24am ·

This quote really made me laugh when I found it this morning:

"Imperfect people are all God has ever had to work with.  
That must be terribly frustrating to Him, but He deals with it....  
SO SHOULD WE!" - attributed to Elder Holland

April 9, 2014 at 7:16am ·

\*\*2nd NOAH MOVIE storyline: God sent Cain away into danger after Abel's murder. The so-called fallen angels (see 4/8) had to protect Cain so his line could live on (STORY)\*\* THIS = another impt downright LIE in the movie NOAH. It's not "artistic license" but downright EVIL to

- (1) call God Evil & uncaring for Cain,
- (2) say the OPPOSITE of the Bible >>

Genesis 4:15, God said "'I will give a 7-fold punishment to anyone who kills you.' Then the LORD put a mark on Cain to WARN anyone who might try to kill him."

April 11, 2014 at 8:27am ·

EXCITING idea! Book SEEKING ALLAH, FINDING JESUS: Islam followers expect that Allah speaks thru DREAMS. Devout Muslim author deeply prayed for Truth, had dreams of Jesus, closely examined them.. found Truth. Jews thought Joel 2:28 prophecy only for them; now we Christians add ourselves. But God clearly says "I will pour out My Spirit on ALL flesh... dreams.. visions. Repeat, Acts 2:17. God LOVES Muslims. Why wouldn't His John 3:16 speak to them in dreams as they earnestly pray? ALL thru Bible, "Seek & you SHALL find." God SAYS: Pray for ALL who truly seek TRUTH.

April 12, 2014 at 7:22am ·

Suppose you promised to do an important favor when Right time came.

You'd always kept promises, repeatedly seen by person:

Many evidences of your love & character he saw you do for him & others.

BUT then you hear that he's telling people he's not so sure you'll keep your word.

Saying over & over that he's failed you sometimes- **so he thinks you might not do this.**

Wouldn't you be hurt? THIS IS EXACTLY what we're doing to GOD when we'd sincerely prayed Romans 10:9 asking Jesus to be our Savior- And then tell people "I HOPE I'll get into heaven." What an insult & hurt to God, your gossip that God might not keep His promise... leading others to doubt God's integrity & Bible WORD. Titus 1:2. Numbers 23:19.

April 12, 2014 at 7:58pm ·

I've discovered that enjoying learning new things, especially about music & music artists on Facebook, has me spoiled. In today's delivered newspaper Opinion section, an editorial writer complained "We should show math's practical applications.. When we teach children math, we must also show how powerful it can be in solving

[ real ] problems!" ..... I wanted SO much to be able to hit "LIKE" !!! ....

When we teach history in the Bible, we should show how powerful it STILL is in showing how God will help us solve problems and have His peace, Joy, More.

April 13, 2014 at 2:09pm ·

Speaking of math & movies (this week): Unlike movie NOAH that repeatedly indicates both God & Noah were cruel, the movie SON OF GOD is full of mistakes that don't attack God's Word. (Mary Magdalene keeps going on fishing boat?!)

But we MISS OUT on some cool promises in this movie.

FEEDING of the 5,000 - there's **no day-long sermon first**, & no little boy; Jesus *just happens to have a basket of bread & fish*.

So we miss the joy of remembering: **We truly have so LITTLE ourselves we can offer God - Yet when we give it to Him, He gives us great JOY multiplying it!**

And helping others with our gift. Another Ephesians 3:20 amazing Gift from Him.

April 14, 2014 at 5:11pm

On this eve of Passover and of the rare Blood Moon tomorrow (2 AM):

..... Did you know that Jericho's **people were scared because they'd been hearing the Passover story for 40 years?**

Joshua 2:10-11, "For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt... And as soon as we heard these things, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He IS God in heaven above & on earth beneath." ...

**REALLY really cool "objective" report about what Jehovah God-named=YHWH** (Exodus 3:14-15, Isaiah 42:6) **had done, by non-Jews!**

April 15, 2014 at 6:23pm ·

Went to one of those buffet restaurants with FANCY desserts - Beautiful frosted cakes, chocolate iced brownies, all kinds of strudels. But I'd been there before, & knew... Still, I checked again: Sure enough, everything had been sitting out for so long that it was crunchy or soggy.

IN CHURCHES, have we lost the freshness of excitement about our LORD? Are some people reluctant to "try church" again based on another 'buffet' where Christians looked great outside "but"..? And, of me... Do I still reflect "the Joy of the LORD". 2nd Corinthians 3:18 includes a PROMISE... the Holy Spirit HELPS us to reflect Him! (IF we ask.)

April 16, 2014 at 7:46am ·

Sleet & 39 degrees in middle of April; 33 degrees this AM. After piles of snow all winter, I surely fought the urge to disobey Grandmom's warning "Never plant before May 1st." After all, this is... er?... Global warming. ??

Very glad this morning that I obeyed. (So are 2 cats as they sniff all the 6-packs of petunias & dianthus etc moved into living room.)

Grandmom knew from experience. Hope I'll remember this next time I'm tempted to ignore something God clearly tells me from His experience that will hurt me if I do it / don't do it. Hebrews 12 comfort... Our Father God tells us what's right **not just to "be boss" But because He loves us dearly... and He knows MORE than we do!**

April 16, 2014 at 12:36pm ·

Ever feel like people keep changing the rules on you? Like spelling. English keeps changing spelling for words. I can guess how old people are by how they spell "JUDGEMENT"-- "They" dropped the first E by 1990. A Guitar is now an axe, not ax. For some people. No hyphen in email anymore... except for people like me who won't change that one:)

Around 1907, Andrew Carnegie invested \$280,000 (2 million today?) to try to change the dumb spelling of ~300 words. Mark Twain supported concept (though said it would fail). Teddy Roosevelt thought it was a great idea & ordered govt printing offices & some newspapers to use new spellings like THRU & YUNG & ENUF & TUF & BUSINESS. By 1915, Carnegie gave up. .... Peple had enuf uv him gettin into thar bizness ..... Of course, in text messaging these days, Carnegie might be happy.

SO WHAT? So it's cool -- **God never changes.** His Law didn't change when Jesus came -- which JESUS clearly says: Matthew 5:17-18. Which LOGIC clearly says: **Hebrews 13:8 with John 10:30 & Malachi 3:6 (Jesus is God, same forever).**

**There's a PEACE in knowing**

- (1) James 1:5 - when we ask, God helps us understand the rules; and
- (2) God never changes the rules. Like the Spelling Kings That Be often do.

April 17, 2014 at 11:43am ·

**No one keeps seeking the Easter egg after finding it.**

May we be compassionate even just speaking of seekers who haven't yet found God's Deuteronomy 4:29 promise to be true (Titus 1:2). May we feel sadness for those so determined in ideas that they cannot see Logic-- like, History written by people who never believed Jesus was even a real man (though history writings such as by Josephus say Jesus was).

In the news: An atheist group upset at an Easter display in Madison Wisconsin capital tried this non-logical reasoning that defies history-- if they'd bothered to study: Carrying around a sign that declares "*Jesus Christ is a myth.*"

..... But I do sympathize with their upset at "in your face" witnessing & their right to respond in kind. **God by example repeatedly reached people by first developing a relationship-- showing He cared about them as they were.**

April 18, 2014 · ☺

I confess: I get mildly irritated when Christians start telling me "Don't call it Easter-- that's named after..." some pagan thinggy. When they **stop** saying the year starts in **January** (Janus, 2-faced "god"), or use another name for worshiping on **SUNday** (named for worshiping the sun; ... and wanna guess what **MONday** is named after???) .... then I might switch to "**Resurrection Sunday.**" But hey, God knows the hearts of all who rejoice in His Gift... whatever English calls it. USED this LINK which BibleGateway deleted: <http://www.biblegateway.com/blog/2014/04/is-easter-based-on-a-pagan-holiday-2/>

April 19, 2014 at 3:16pm

This AM for some odd reason, was thinking of how much fun it is to get a new kitten or puppy. (My poor hubby would say Oh No!) They're so sweet & innocent, and make you feel so SO good within a couple of days as they run to you with love. **Haven't yet learned to look at you in defiance & deliberately \_ (claw sofa, etc).**

Within 4 days, you can love a new kitten dearly. Or a baby lamb:

Few people have truly considered Exodus 12:3. God tells (commands) His people to bring a cute little perfect lamb into their home and take care of it... 4 days later, the innocent gentle Lamb must die and its blood spread, so people can be saved from death... All because they **CHOSE** to sin, and this was the only way to be **CLEANSED** of their sins. (Topic of Book of Hebrew.)

For 100s of years, God gave His people this **PARABLE of Crucifixion: They had no idea it was to teach them the horror of not a lamb but His Son Dying,** the Lamb of God, to save us from eternal death. A fore-shadowing... Hebrews 10. Exodus 12:23 on: God says to remember the innocent lamb's sacrifice for our Lives, throughout our lives.

April 19, 2014 at 9:54pm ·

Bridal veils are so delicate, flowing, soft. One chipped fingernail can snag a thread and begin a hole. Curtains are sturdier, draperies are heavier yet.

As I struggled to tear the flimsy plastic around petunias I'd bought, I began thinking of how hard it is to rip some things. In English, we don't see as much **Awe** in Matthew 27:51, Mark 15:38, Luke 23:45. The Temple Veil was **THICK**, tightly woven. If a strong earthquake ripped, it would have been from the **EARTH**, tearing **UP**-ward. This was God tearing away the separation from Himself when Jesus died for us. Wow. With awed thanks.

April 22, 2014 at 10:28am ·

It was early AM, and I didn't want to awaken my daughter ... she doesn't use ice, I love it, so I was searching for her ice trays (with a standing OK to look in cabinets:} - Finally gave up, sorta praying for wisdom (in that "I know it's a stupid prayer but if You didn't mind helping" sorta way). Saw a **cupcake pan; it's now in freezer making ice..** er.. rounds, not cubes! Suddenly thought, this is like a **PARABLE**:

We get so focused thinking only THIS way will work right. But if we pray (James 1:5) humbly asking for wisdom GOD Himself promised, He's pleased. And we can Rest, Psalm 46:10, waiting.. knowing we did all we could, even if we don't see an Answer for awhile. **Maybe also a parable for churches who think things should always be done a set way? Our Creative God demonstrates Flexible Thinking:}**

April 23, 2014 at 8:13am ·

Do you ever feel like Satan is a relentlessly powerful TENNIS pro who keeps slamming temptations and thoughts of failure & fear at you? BAD NEWS. Satan is more like the Tennis Ball MACHINE... never tiring. GREAT NEWS: Jesus offers to be your partner who can race on your side slamming evil back-- IF you'll (1) invite Him & (2) stop deciding to take control when you think the ball's slow enough. James 4:7-8, great promise to look up. God's WARNING: "Be WATCHFUL- Vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." First Peter 5:8. And God's COMFORT promise BEFORE this warning? "casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."

April 23, 2014 at 4:35pm · Repeated a version of Para 1 on 16 May 2017.

My child dearly wanted it. I knew it wasn't best.

After awhile & child's quite reasonable reasons why I should give it, I did.

Time proved me right, taught a lesson while showing my love.

Hezekiah found out he was on verge of death- gave God quite reasonable reasons, & **God healed despite knowing it wasn't best** - Hez not only drifted from God, but fathered the most evil king of all, Manasseh, 3 years into the extra 15 yrs of life God gifted (2 Kings 21:1). Time proved God right.

A few years ago, a mammogram showed a huge dark mass... and I didn't know how to pray. Sure, healing is welcome! But I remembered Hezekiah. So I prayed for whatever God knew best. Turned out to be a bad test... or else *healing!* But those 6 weeks of waiting thru new tests, wondering if I'd even be alive the next Christmas, **have become one of my most treasured gifts from God: The opportunity to see that Time always proves God right.** And proves He does indeed give peace that is beyond understanding (Philippians 4:7).

April 24, 2014 at 2:10pm

My grandmother had a guest room full of pretty spray bottles that had various smelly perfumes in them. I was 10 and staying one summer in that room... Predictably: I tested a lot of bottles and found.... (1) Once you spray, you can't get that liquid back in the bottle, and (2) You can try to hide, but Grandmom will smell you out and scold you.

a Mark Twain quote: "Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it's time to pause and reflect." When you find yourself agreeing with the majority about a person, consider: There's a good chance you **don't** know all the details. Some people... some churches, sadly... conclude that "if people are saying this, it must be true." No amount of logical evidence will convince them, so the victims reach a point of not even bothering to defend themselves anymore. But once you let stinky words out the bottle,

there's no getting them back... and plenty of people stink with the lies and innuendos. The stench makes other people back away, saying "If THAT's what churches / Christians are like, I don't want anything to do with them."

April 26, 2014 at 12:16pm · At the airport, the only places with an employee behind an info desk had long lines of people waiting to talk to them. I got in a line with my heavy suitcase, and trudged along. No other long line in the terminal. Finally started listening to people around me and realized... they were going to a Different City! I was in the wrong wing of the airport! Thanking God I was plenty early as I left the crowd to go find the right way.

Often we come across a verse where we say "WHOA!- Didn't know THAT exact wording was in Bible." Mine this AM was Exodus 23:2,

"You shall not follow a crowd..." [New KJV]. Cool.

Fits God's message thru His entire Bible (that He as Creator of entire Universe certainly managed to keep out what He didn't want in there-- AND gives wisdom for discerning Truth IF we ask Him- James 1:5) --- Why care about anyone's opinion besides God's? Seems logical. "You shall not follow a crowd..." Even a 'crowd' of 1 or 2 who are not God Himself.

April 28, 2014 at 10:46am ·

Reveling in Bible reading on patio as increasing wind warns of storms to come. In distance, train whistle warns drivers, STOP! Couple of days ago, enjoyed meandering thru mountains of **Alabama**, never lost but occasionally temporarily misplaced. Repeatedly saw drivers ahead **SAIL over train tracks** with just signs, no gates with flashing lights.

Sometimes people have survived collisions.

Always their answer to the Q, why didn't you look?, was the same: "I never saw a train there BEFORE." One day.. far sooner than expected (Luke 17:27-31), millions of people will be asked the same Q. **Most will answer the same way, 2nd Peter 3: "Jesus hadn't come BEFORE."**

April 28, 2014 at 6:24pm ·

I often think of true story of a woman ~19, great swimmer, got caught in beach undertow & could not be resuscitated tho reached quickly. She'd been youth leader, full of vibrant faith in God that she readily shared. In anguish, people asked WHY did God allow this for someone who loved & served Him so faithfully?... Routine autopsy revealed she had a rapid growth bone cancer whose treatment is painful, gives just bit more time. I'm firm believer that we humans cause many cancer mutations with what we do to environment... that God didn't "give her cancer" but DID give the gift of pain-free transition to Life w Him. 2nd Corinthians 5:1-9.

May 2, 2014 at 10:13pm ·

I was 'people watching' in a store. Often thought "That looks like someone fun to know." The day before, I'd delivered a couple of Angora rabbits a friend raises to a



buyer 2-1/2 hrs away-- I was passing there anyway. Had so much fun laughing with the buyer about sheep & goats &... Keep thinking: If I didn't live so far away, she'd be a fun friend. I dearly miss some friends. I miss the old Christian-radio song about Heaven being a LONG HELLO. **It's gonna be not just a great REUNION one day, but one marvelous long MEET & GREET party in heaven for those who love the LORD.** After we've fallen to our faces in awed joy at meeting Jesus in person:}

·  
May 3, 2014 ·

REALLY hate Facebook's auto-fill when typing posts. Thinking, They get some sorta payment from advertisers? Typed PL, accidentally hit Enter. Startled to see FB disappear & ad for Plumbing Co slowly filling my screen. (No fast cable internet available here.)

I quickly hit X, a bit panicked. Breathed again.. It wasn't a virus!....

PEOPLE often have same reaction **when we suddenly start telling them about Jesus**. Yes!- God thru 1st Peter 3:15 says ALWAYS BE READY to tell people why you have HOPE thru troubles. He also says Pray for Wisdom (James 1:5).. Like to woman at well (John 4), **gently** share Truth so they don't run away startled, figuring we are like some invasive virus, as if we get some sorta payment per person "saved".

·  
May 4, 2014. (True story a preacher shares: He'd moved to new church. A member asked to meet him 1 month later. After telling preacher everything he was doing wrong, the member said he was just using God's talent given to him of Criticism. Preacher: "Do you remember what Jesus said in Parable of 10 talents-- of what man with 1 talent did with it?" Member, expecting praise for using his talent: "Sure- the man went away & buried it." [Matthew 25:25]. Preacher: "May I suggest that you go and do likewise?"

A lovely true story about diplomacy & Matthew 18:15.

·  
May 6, 2014 at 9:38pm ·

Doesn't it sorta irritate you to be driving in a strange city & be forced to turn right out of a parking lot when you WANT to go left?

You get in left lane-- & next 5 stop lights have 'NO U TURN' signs!

**By now you're looking for a police car & seriously considering** if none is in sight.... But at similar places in your familiar city, you know those signs were put up because vision is limited, turning dangerous-- Law helps avoid accidents, pain, suffering...

The same for God's laws: Sabbath rest, avoiding pork diseases, not eating shellfish that clean the waters--- Science is showing the Wisdom in His laws that many call annoying. Matthew 11:30 + Hebrews 13:8 = Light Burden from God.

·  
POST May 8, 2014 at 10:33am · Also used on date in 2017

Often people ask re Death - Are we with God right away or 'on hold':} awaiting Rapture? I respond in 3 parts: (1) "Is there a special reason you ask?"-- Often they're distressed-- wondering if someone they love is just lying in a grave awaiting The Day.

(2) Peace in Jesus's words of Luke 23:43- "*TODAY* you will be with Me in Paradise."

(3) I share God's comfort idea: **Death is like when you fall asleep playing with your toys on the living room floor. It was fun, but you didn't belong there. You remember playing... and then you suddenly find yourself in your warm comfy Bed, carried there in your Daddy's loving arms. The length or method of the trip to your bedroom never matters to you.**

·  
May 9, 2014 at 8:05am ·

Insomnia prevention method that works for me: Put on a "sleeper video" with screen turned away at angle, low vol, same 1 so often that if I awaken, the familiar words & music lull me back to sleep before I start thinking of 'real' life. A favorite: Re-made movie **SABRINA**. Last lines, guy tells girl "*You told me I would enjoy Paris. Surely you didn't mean Without YOU.*"...

Awoke this AM thinking: **I have NO idea how God's gonna work it so we enjoy Heaven without our children, parents & Grands, or friends who believe Jesus was a "nice guy", period. No Romans 10:9 belief.**

We can trust Him to figure it out... but it should give us an **URGENCY** to stop politely avoiding telling WHY we trust Jesus... I Peter 3:15, Colossians 1- ALL!

·  
May 12, 2014 at 8:02am ·

MOTHER'S DAY mini-parable: Let's say you love your Mom DEARLY. You want so much for her to be happy... but she gently told you in March that she really doesn't care so much anymore about candy or florist cut flowers. Wanting to give her joy, you tell her you'll do anything she wants. She says "Please plant a small flower garden for me in the back yard where I sit thru the summer." May comes, and for Mother's Day -----  
..... you plant a huge bed of azalea plants. You tell Mom, "You'll like these much more! You won't have to ever weed them, & they'll come back each year." Your Mom, of course, thanks you very much with a smile. Even though she really wanted a summer garden.

..... God has told us quite clearly what He wants. I don't need to spell it out... His Holy Spirit gives us wisdom if we ask as we read what God Himself said (James 1:5 and John 14:26 which people often forget- JESUS says the HS will help us remember all Jesus taught. And since Jesus is God never changing, that includes His Word in what we call the Old Testament).

..... NO - NO!... NOTHING we do can "EARN" heaven!! But.... Our Father says what He wants in Exodus 20 and more. We who dearly love Him WANT to give Him pleasure. So should we be assuming that He's just as pleased by substitute gifts?

..... Sometimes I wonder if God is like Mom in this way... very pleased by our deep love. YET... rather disappointed that we won't take time & energy to learn and do exactly what He's said He really wanted.

May 13, 2014 at 2:57pm ·

On my first trip to my now-husband-then-boyfriend's family home, at 19, I was fascinated to watch him play with his 4 year old nephew Duncan. All weekend, it repeated: He'd toss Duncan to ceiling.

Then **this powerful man would carefully rein in his strength** as they wrestled on the floor. At any time, he could've easily chosen to win by releasing his might. But each time, Duncan won-- because he would NOT give up until Big Uncle finally said Uncle:} ...

Have you ever wondered about Jacob wrestling (Genesis 32)?

Whether God or LORD Jesus or an angel... they held back their Power & Jacob won by persistence. **Why did God put this story in Bible?** Perhaps so we'd understand JESUS SETTING ASIDE His Divinity AND Power, by His choice, to become a human to save the World He So Loved?

May 13, 2014 at 8:20am ·

Sudden great idea this AM - how to use the 3 Wood Spice Racks I've bought over time for \$1 each at yard sales. The Dr told me yest that the in-depth blood tests show my serious problems are "fixable" if I take (RSTUV W, before XYZ) vitamins-- & she's always been right on before. That wide spice rack would be perfect to line up vitamin bottles in a child-free place. PROBLEM: I cleaned ages ago, couldn't figure out ANY uses for these, so gave them away.

..... My friends-- knowing how much I love writing parable songs for God-- often say "There's a parable in there SOMEwhere."

..... SO... PRAYING for wisdom:) I was thinking this: Often we read a scripture & think "So what does this have to do with ME?" And we move on. Which is quite OK when we're praying while reading!! As long as we remember--- Don't think a Single phrase of God's Word is useless. 2nd Timothy 3:16. For later, God quite often brings an exciting understanding of Why that specific Word is Exactly what we need!.... and our Joy in that Finding is like that of a little child finding an unexpected Easter Egg!

May 13, 2014 at 2:18pm · With Engagement photo that we'd put into newspaper as announcement-- I was first person I'd ever known who included GROOM TO BE in our announcement.

**My Post:** Me and my Beloved... now even more than then:) I was ~20 & a good pianist-- but only 1/2 the age of when I first picked up a guitar or electric bass and started playing them. My hubby jokes that it was my mid-life crisis:} And I jokingly give No Sympathy whenever someone says they're "too old" to learn something.

Me and my Beloved... now even more than then:) I was ~20 & a good pianist-- but only 1/2 the age of when I first picked up a guitar or electric bass and started playing them. My hubby jokes that it was my mid-life crisis:} And I jokingly give *No Sympathy* whenever someone says they're "too old" to learn something. :) .... If we WANT to learn: Ephesians 3:20, God offers His empowering to serve, for His Glory!

POST May 14, 2014 at 2:51pm ·

This alarming sounding message blinked on for ~2 minutes when I researched a Pinterest pin using the HTTPS ("Secure") site Answers.Yahoo >>

"DO NOT TRACK is no longer enabled with Yahoo. Yahoo collects personal information when you .. visit Yahoo pages... Yahoo automatically receives and records information from your computer and browser, including your IP address, Yahoo cookie information, software and hardware attributes, and the page you request."

I'd be less alarmed were it not for fact that this message with link to Privacy page disappeared after minutes & doesn't return with other tries. What's that joke? - Just because you're paranoid doesn't mean.... Just another reminder, we have to stay CONSTANTLY on guard. Ephesian 6: 10-18 battle gear..... God did NOT say "Keep my battle weapons gear handy & put them on quick if the Enemy Satan starts attacking you with temptations and troubles"..... We need to keep our Virus Checkers up to date and our Battle Gear on..... as soon as we put our feet on the floor each morning.

May 14, 2014 at 11:14pm ·

The Box is still same size. Hadn't bought one for awhile, but wanted to make my hubby happy. Pre-heated oven & opened pkg: Remember when 10 fish fillets filled cookie sheet? Now they're like triangular fish sticks. Companies decide it costs them too much to keep big, quality.

Remember when you were excited to realize Jesus REALLY loved you & you accepted Him as LORD, Romans 10:9 excitedly prayed?... learned the ICTHUS fish symbol was an acrostic for the Greek word for fish - ICTHUS, Jesus (Iesos) Christ (CHristos), God's (THEou) Son (Uios), Savior (Soter) ?..... May our excitement in God's Majesty grow with our **determination to not cut the cost of our time & energy for Him. LORD help me not shrink into being like a little Christian fishstick.**

May 15, 2014 at 4:31pm ·

A friend told me last night how concerned she was about what God thinks of her: Someone stole her purse & she was so upset, she didn't even think of praying. Within 1/2 hr, thru "coincidence" [Miracle:] she had it back... But is God mad that she didn't have faith to pray?..... I laughed, then she did after I told her 1 of my favorite stories I used when teaching state-wide church courses on 50 ways to serve God w/o being a licensed Preacher:

..... Grandpa & grandson were tired after a long walk in country, so decided to take an old fav shortcut across the pasture. They climbed fence and were 1/2 way across before figuring out that the farmer had just gotten a bull. Bull at other end of field saw them, they saw bull & raced hand in hand toward the fence. As bull got some closer, boy asked "Grandpa, shouldn't we stop & pray for help?" Grandpa, still running, gasped "Keep on runnin' boy -- I keep prayed up for times like this!" ... Thanking God that I remembered right words to reassure her:}

May 15, 2014 at 7:29am · PHOTO of very ripe banana, from Alternative Health Solutions: Full ripe banana with dark patches on yellow skin produces a substance called TNF (Tumor Necrosis Factor) which has the ability to combat abnormal cells. The more darker patches it has, the higher will be its immunity enhancement quality: Hence, the riper the banana, the better the anti-cancer quality. MY POST with pic:

Not only useful info but I can have fun passing info to my family - **they like barely ripe & I have to hide bananas so I can later eat them "the way God Made them"**, I say. :) Didn't know I was being biologically correct!

"Funny" how Scientists keep telling us things that are healthy... that were in the Bible or in God's design all along!

May 16, 2014 at 9:04am ·

A friend likes to sit with his laptop on his lap-- his hand beside his knee controlling the mouse practically unseen on the seat of his wide thick armchair. His tech-savvy nephew came, noticed my friend at computer with his right hand on arm rest, & couldn't figure out how the cursor was moving-- was wondering if my friend had found some telekinetic program not needing a mouse or touchpad. My friend laughed & laughed at his nephew's "How??!" look & Q-- My friend is LEFT-handed:} ...

Sometimes I wonder if God laughs at us people trying to figure out how good things happen so often... **forgetting we'd prayed oh-not-so-long-ago for His Hand in our life.**

May 17, 2014 at 10:08am ·

Several days ago I sadly told my daughter that some small branches on my favorite holly tree- the one by my bedroom window where I hang windchimes & bird feeders- are dying. This AM, I opened window, looked out--- And little shoots of new branches are erupting from its trunk! Yesterday I observed how often God answers our prayers but we don't remember that we had ASKED Him. Today I rejoice in **AMAZEMENT of yet more Evidence that God loves us as a Father** -- that God enjoys **surprising us with unexpected gifts we did NOT pray for.** Luke 11:11 easy pattern surrounds Jesus's description of prayers... and of our Daddy Abba Father.

May 18, 2014 at 10:15pm · DID YOU KNOW THAT ROMANS 7 WORDING is in GENESIS 4? People usually SKIP God's FIRST conversation with Cain.

PHOTO: 2 doors to choose from, SIN as a bull behind one, a beaten up man on crutches urging another who's about to enter the door with SIN with the warning, **"I wouldn't if I were you".**

Cain was angry that God didn't think his offering was good enough. Patiently God tells Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? **If you do well, will you not be accepted?** And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you, but you should rule over it." God GAVE Cain all the instructions needed to deal with his anger and "do better next time. Yet, immediately after these words of God to Cain went and killed his brother. I've heard people angry at and

blaming God for being 'hard on Cain'-- yet God clearly spoke encouragement words. WHAT ELSE was God to do, except to steal away Cain's free will?

To us, too. Deuteronomy 30:19- CHOOSE LIFE!, God urges.

May 18, 2014 at 8:49pm ·





With some people excited by California Chrome's potential for being first Triple Crown Winner since 1978, seems like good time to use my "FB Ideas" journal entry note re a song title idea: KENTUCKY DERBY DONKEYS. Obviously a country music genre.} Concept: **We often think other people are more skilled.. gorgeous.. smart.. etc than us- That we're like donkeys compared to thoroughbreds.** BUT GOD SAYS: We're **ALL** in a Race (Hebrews 12); & **ALL** will win The Crown if we simply finish- **None are 'just Donkeys'!** **When its owner talks to a horse**, usually its ears bend toward the voice to hear better. We honor God by listening to Him, as a horse obeys the jockey: Whether walking or running, however He guides, not longing for a crown but persevering even when hard, to please Him whom we love.

May 18, 2014 at 7:11am

In the church that employs me, the choir jokes about 'letting me loose' when I occasionally slip my prelude into non-traditional style-- like 'Wonderful Words of Life' - Jazz-style:) Today I excitedly get to lead worship with a country-style solo (what--- DD singing COUNTRY now??? asks my friends!) of old hymn *Trust & Obey* on guitar, with congregation singing the chorus the 'old' way (SLOW on Jesus's Name, to SELAH, Think on it!). Between verses: Short reminders of John 15:14 (**You're Jesus's friend IF you obey**) and Romans 2:13 (hearing Word ain't enough!). I almost wrote "LITTLE reminders"... but there's **nothing small about these Key verses.**

May 19, 2014 at 3:08pm

When you're caught speeding, the police officer may have compassion and not give a ticket, but just a warning. Or he may give a ticket -- yet also pay the PRICE of your FINE for you. One thing he CANNOT do: To end the speed limit Law that you KNEW, and that is GOOD for your SAFETY (and the safety of others1)... GRACE does not mean taking advantage of the Kind police officer by happily going out to speed some more.

 4458 980 Comments	<b>GOD IS LOVE</b>
 5894 1125 Comments	<b>GOD IS GOOD</b>
 6342 1278 Comments	<b>GOD IS MERCIFUL</b>
 0 0 Comments	<b>If you love me, obey my commandments</b> John 14:15

May 19, 2014 at 4:31pm

Very weary today emotionally, physically. So just half-watching old movie on TV. Suddenly-- a fantastic parable idea: **Captain HOOK is frustrated because he can't seem to beat Peter Pan.** So his helper (Smee) suggests, **"You could make his children LIKE \*YOU\*!"**..... Wow. The fiction was accidentally as reflecting Truth that's been real across the centuries: Satan cannot beat God. So Satan does all he can to defeat the children God loves - Jesus said so, John 10:10. Or... for even more fun...

to get us to like what God says is wrong. To get us to think that God is mean and His commands a burden (despite Matt 11:30). Starting in Genesis 3: 3-4.

·  
May 20, 2014 at 7:41am ·

Torrential rains washed out parts of roads. Last week, school buses had to wait for oncoming traffic in their lane- other lane under water. Reminds of David Platt's "RADICAL" pg 38 -- sharing how as a pastor he mourns that "scores of people who sit before me on a Sunday morning **might think they are saved when they are not.**

"Scores of people have positioned their lives on a RELIGIOUS ROAD that makes grandiose promises at MINIMUM COST... Much of modern evangelism today is built on leading people down this road, and crowds flock to it,----- but in the end it is a road built on sinking sand." *[emphasis added]*.

John 3:16 is almost never quoted with verse 18: "He who believes in [Jesus] is not condemned; but **he who does NOT believe IS CONDEMNED ALREADY...**" And **God thru James 2:19 warns that even demons believe IN God.**

·  
May 20, 2014 at 5:09pm ·

A friend had a VERY painful experience with a hard drive computer crash... God may yet work a miracle to help recover data. In the meanwhile, it's cool that he shares "to the world" a very meaningful MODERN PARABLE on Mark 13:33 (remember- lot of 3's): "Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is." - JESUS. God pulls another Romans 8:28 out of a Life Problem. Stay alert, prepared.

·  
May 21, 2014 at 8:35pm ·

As we walk by marvelous smelling concession stands at various fairs & music festivals, my friends & I often joke: What?-- One day did some people look at a (fat-filled cream chocolate NAMEO Brand :) cookie & ask "Hmm---- wonder how we can make this thing **MORE** unhealthy??---- I know, let's **DEEP-FRY** it!" ... And then we crack up laughing even tho it's an ancient joke now.

The TV cooking show I had on for 'background noise' promised a coming recipe for **French Fried Strawberries**. ooohhh....k..... BUT: Isn't that what many popular teachers have done TO God's Holy Bible Word? Either (1) teach ONLY the fatty Happy Promises of blessings without God's conditions -- all the "IF you obey and honor Me" wrnings, or (2) ADD to God's Word all sorts of fat & sugar like "God Is Love and Thus God Surely Won't Do what He said He would to judge & punish anyone"....

Like Satan did in the Garden of Eden: From the beginning **claiming that God Lied, "Surely you wil NOT DIE.....ssssssssssss" .....** *Did God REALLY ssssay?..."*

·  
May 21, 2014 at 7:17am ·

Ever wonder what a CHRISTMAS TREE SMOOTHIE would smell & taste like? Well I know how you can find out: ..... a specific brand of Liquid Co-Q 10 -answers that Q. I haven't dared try off-brands, lest *they* be worse. My Dr says *this* stuff is good

for me. I'm pretty knowledgeable about nutrition things- have researched for years.

I've been excited by some "this will prevent cancer!" reports..... But my further research showed those to be extremely bad in specific circumstances-- like mine.

So I'm wise enough to ignore my "knowledge" & obey the Dr's guidance. Even when pureed Christmas Tree is what the doctor says my body needs.

**A 'DUH' parable for obeying ALL God's Word (2nd Timothy 3:16) ....**

Even when I haven't yet grown (*matured* -- Hebrews 5 end) to **like** the taste of obeying our Great Physician and to ENJOY honoring Him by doing what He says (as Jesus said in John 14's and 15's "Obey" sentences) ..... **WISDOM trusts** that the Creator of Universe could keep mistakes out of His Word and guide us to SEE **MIS-TEACHINGS** of scriptures taken out of context or using a misleading translation of specific words within God's Word.

·  
May 22, 2014 at 8:29am ·

I hope I'm not terribly bad in the Materialism way; tho a bit of sin = sin:( I adore reading & re-reading books, so I buy more than I probably should; library wouldn't appreciate all my margin notes. I love my small home more than what I call 'mansions' that others call normal. Jeans & a T are my fav's. And I don't sigh quite as much now when a Sebring convertible sails past me.

But this AM, I keep sighing thinking of all the people I'd love to take with me to the **ALIVE** and the **CREATION music festivals**-- not just for music: To see 1,000s of people all worshipping our LORD at once. 14 years of those wondrous memories now. I review that worship and re-join it in my mind so often. And this AM I keep apologizing to God for wishing I had \$\$\$ to pay for tickets, travel costs to take lotsa people... so they & their children can See..... God often does bless us with materialism (thing) blessings so that we CAN share with others.... Including obeying His command to help those who are weak, poor, sick, and victims of injustice.... including supporting the cost of spreading His truth around the world not just personally "preaching the word" but sharing money to pay the way for missionaries, radio ministries, and more. Maybe even musicians who travel to share God's Word thru the lyrics of songs at music festivals full of adults as well as youth, teens, who love the sounds but don't yet know the love of a close relationship with God.

·  
May 22, 2014 at 1:31pm ·

Clicking on Photo link goes to well-known website with ~1,000 comments.  
Last one when I clicked there: Woman asked,

**"Will signing a petition really do anything?"**

My reply.....

**Does NOT matter if our stand taken by signing petition fails:** God says in Ezekiel 33:8 that He holds us accountable for the blood (death) of people **if we do not speak out against Evil**. A COMFORT from God, really --- We obey Him and **SPEAK TRUTH in Love (Ephesians 4:15)** ..... and that ends our responsibility even if Evil we couldn't stop was done after we did all we could. **NO FEAR of FAILURE!**



·  
May 23, 2014 at 9:06am ·

Yesterday was a rather bummed day... until AFTER I got caught in a tornadic microburst while driving. Remembered the 'hidden' dentist office driveway was close-- Drove 1/2 mile at 10 mph, sheets of rain pounding windshield. Found safe place for next 12 (timed) minutes of blasting rain-- parked right beside the brick bldg with it between me & storm center. Then I was too busy rejoicing in God's guiding protection to be self-focused on real-but-less-imp't things.

..... Deuteronomy 31:6 & 8, Hebrews 13:5-- God never forsakes His child (we who Name & obey Him, Father). When bummed out, it's comforting to re-read God's promises:} Joshua 1: 5,6,7,9 God's encouragement to **stay strong & courageous...** BUT we must remember God's **1:8 clearly stated condition**-- "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may **observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then** you will make your way prosperous, and **then** you will have good success."

·  
May 24, 2014 at 10:59am ·

The teacher tried. Honestly. But no matter what she said, the students would not believe that the math being taught was GOOD for them... Yet it was her job to KEEP teaching them until they got out of the high school class.... even while they mocked her & gossiped about how MEAN she was.

**Jesus didn't call us to the kind of "peace" that avoids reaching out to people... trying to warn them. He gave us "the job" of spreading His TRUTH** (Matthew 28's end, GO AND TELL.) ..... EVEN when we know we'll get blasted back. Mocked. Called names like "Intolerant". Negative people often are hurting & need to hear MORE about Jesus and truth like John 10:10 etc. AND..... There's a "heart peace" that's so calm it feels weird, once we reach point of truly understanding Matthew 26:62-63a & the 400 years between Malachi and John the Baptizer...

We keep sharing God's Truth and "let God" deal with the results. (Ezekiel 33)

After awhile, even God quits talking to negative people who won't listen to Him..

·  
May 26, 2014 at 9:00am ·

This AM, I found my cat---- Locked in far side of garage ALL night: NO food or water. And- yuckily- no cat litter. REPEATEDLY over her 12 years of life, I've scolded her as she snuck into garage while I watched. When caught, Lea runs back into house acting scared I'll hit her, tho I never have. Because she has a secluded sleeping spot in house, REPEATEDLY, I don't know she's missing & in distress.. so don't find & rescue her for hrs. REPEATEDLY, I mutter as she races to water bowl, "Serves You Right."

REPEAT-edly, we humans have same mind as CATS --- wanting to be **where we've told is bad for us. REPEAT-edly**, God rescues us... Sad for the sorrow we caused ourselves by refusing to believe His Word saying our desires will hurt us. REPEATEDLY.

·  
May 27, 2014 at 8:03am ·

Weeks of 1000-1200 calories/day yield a loss of only 1/2 pound a week. Embarrassing to know "they" presume I'm a glutton, not knowing about almost 3 years of doctor visits, or of barely-edging up thyroid & correct hormone levels. It's Heart-warming to know TRUE FRIENDS look at Eyes, not Thighs. (Hey, a Rhyme!) Thinking this AM: I'm discouraged; so ..... I find joy asking myself, What '**Romans 8:28**' can God pull outta this? He promised He does!... And here's His PARABLE ANSWER .....

**On the day** people accept Jesus as LORD, their heart changes.

**But they look the same at first.**

Often much time passes before anyone trusts, believes the change. Great Example: Chuck Colson, who was accused of pretending a "conversion" to get support back in Watergate days. But over time he gave repeated evidence: His increasingly close relationship with God had been Real and he TAUGHT the Joy of it!

..... **The SO WHAT?** for us: Yes, God calls us to pray for wisdom & to discern (James 1:5 etc)... **but ALSO God calls us to be SUPPORTIVE to new Christians.**

**Like any baby, they'll make mistakes** as they grow up into Christ-likeness.

Like any adult or mature Christian, they'll still at times not "look" or even be Christ-like.

.... But **God calls us to be TRUE FRIENDS who look at Hearts, not Faults.**

·  
May 27, 2014 at 10:03am

Praising God for His Answering-s of our prayers, of our friends' prayers-- Our family's Newest Little Blessing was born with the umbilical cord wrapped THREE times around her neck... but she's perfectly fine! I'd never even heard of a triple-wrapping before. But.... I've certainly heard of a Merciful God Who Blesses! With deepest thanks to Him for His New Gift to not just us- also to the world: Psalm 139 esp vs 16, each child has a Unique-ness to bring to God's world..... SO OFTEN we're discouraged.... we start listening the those doubts Satan puts in our mind of "Can God REALLY be real?"

But then we see miracle after miracle, and **Evidence after Evidence** that DEFIES MATH PROBABILITY and shows the final Judgment that "God exists" is True.....

God never gives "absolute proof" of His existence because then, like for angels & demons, we could not have FAITH in His Bible's Words. (**James 2:19, "You believe in God? GOOD FOR YOU. Even DEMONS believe-- and tremble."**)

Even in our human courtrooms, many trial convictions do NOT come from "absolute proof" .... but they are Certain, coming from **Evidence after Evidence** that DEFIES MATH PROBABILITY.... The final Judgment is True.

·  
May 27, 2014 at 8:40pm ·

Interstate's gorgeous scenic pullover on mountaintop overlooked **miles of green valley and 2 mountain ranges**. Lots of people photographing & admiring God's beautiful creation. BUT NOT one young-ish man. Yes, he did have his camera out. **But he had his back to the gorgeous scene. He took photo after photo of his apparently new huge black truck**. With the *highway* as background..... He did grin

sheepishly at me when he noticed me smiling at his lengthy photo session! I wonder:  
But aren't we often the same?

**How often do we ignore the magnanimous blessings that God gives us while focused on STUFF & *unimportant things*?**

Originally published at: <http://dailydevotionsdiet.blogspot.com/.../missing-great-pict...>

COMMENT ADDED on 2 June 2018....

And just think: God's mountains & valley are still gorgeous... and that truck is four years old with maybe 75,000 miles of wear and tear on it! And the young man probably lost all those photo files ages ago, too.

May 28, 2014 at 8:46am ·

"Backpacking through the mountain" had a different meaning for us, some years ago. I'd backpack whichever was the baby at the time. My husband would backpack youngest toddler. The others were stuck with using their own feet... though my hubby often had mercy & FRONT-packed the youngest toddler & BACK-packed next-to-youngest... So sorry I don't have a photo of that!! My mental picture doesn't match that famous photo of Jesus carrying someone along the sandy beach shore.

..... Like for many people: It's been a rough few months, more to come. Caught myself wishing this AM that I didn't have to use my own feet '*walking thru life*'. But I have... we have... even better: A Loving God who not only lets us enjoy winning over obstacles, but gives encouraging words-- "**You can DO this With Me!**"! We have a Father God who walks **WITH** us through the scary snake-occupied Valleys... AND up the rock filled mountains. Psalm 23.

May 29, 2014 at 9:10am ·

Seems like 1/4 the country keeps getting slammed by powerful thunderstorms. Even the DC areas where power outages are more rare had "1000s of customers without power" in last couple of days. Throughout neighborhoods, those "invisible fences" with some technology that keep dogs from leaving their yards have been -- Powerless to trap dogs, pun intended. When electricity is off, dogs are free to escape & roam free. But they don't. Why? Because they're accustomed to failing if they try to escape....  
..... When reading that famous verse on Freedom, we seldom read one before-- John 8:31, "Then Jesus said to those Jews who BELIEVED Him..." Jesus encouraged them & us to REALLY believe: He offers to set us free from sin. But we have to \*choose\* to stop believing Satan's lies (John 8:44) -- to walk away from Satan's invisible fence that tries to keep us trapped..."if the Son makes you free, you shall be free INDEED." John 8:36.

..... We must not feel accustomed to failing if we try to escape sin's temptations. 1st Corinthians 10:13 -- God WILL provide way of escape. But Satan drops in those little hints of too much pride to ask God's help, to put on weapons God promises (Eph 6:10-18). Jesus encourages us: Believe Him. And run free - James 4:7-8 - from Satan's traps toward God who'll come to you & me.

**The DAY I FOUND OUT ABOUT THE SOFTBALL SIZE OVARIAN CYST:**

**POST 4-29-2014.** At 9:15 AM, a routine exam; at 9:25 AM, not knowing if one will celebrate next Christmas with family. Life stays the same a long time after our thoughts change forever. It's so exciting to know Jesus is always the same, our stability AKA Rock as we travel onward... Hebrews 13:5-8 :}

May 30, 2014 at 8:53am ·

As I looked out on yet another gray morning of rain, I did laugh as I realized I was thinking "Looks like music festival weather." But, yay! - only 3 weeks til Ohio's ALIVE FESTIVAL! ... 6 days of 24/7 time with God in prayer & learning new music & rejoicing singing with 1,000s of other people who also love worshiping our great LORD!

May 30, 2014 at 2:09pm · **THIS IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE PARABLES FROM GOD:**

So, I'm driving alone home after a 'music gig', in the mood, the window down & my arm resting there since no traffic is around-- wind whipping my long hair, me just loving the PASSION CD I'm playing & enjoying life without rain:} ...All of a sudden it dawns on me: HEY, Chris Tomlin is singing out of tune! Then I notice: Hey, at least the whole band is out of tune WITH him. Then I suddenly smarten up: Hey, no way Chris would sing out of tune even on stage, much less on an approved CD release.

Something's wrong.... **I raised the window, got all the noise out from around me. Sure enough: The music was perfect.** /// Sometimes we're reading God's Bible and thinking, "Hey, THAT can't be right!" We need to smarten up, **get the distracting noise out of our lives**, and listen again while praying for God's wisdom: Saying to ourselves, when something's wrong, "It's gotta be MY understanding. Sure isn't God 'out of tune!'" .

June 2, 2014 at 8:15am · Re "what America deserves" (last Post)-- How can we question God's loving character amidst His Justice? GOD gives a 3x Encouragement right after His Warnings.... **which come right after that QUOTE our American leaders said** while bragging on the new *World Trade Center to replace the Twin Towers* >> Isaiah 9:9-10: **"For the leaders of this people cause them to err, And THOSE WHO ARE LED BY THEM are destroyed.** Therefore the Lord will have no joy in their young men, Nor have mercy on their fatherless and widows; For EVERYONE is a hypocrite and an evildoer, And EVERY mouth speaks folly. **For all this His anger is not turned away...."** ... YET GOD IN HIS UNEXPLAINABLE love ends ISAIAH 9: 16 & 17 with: **"But His hand is stretched out still."** A repeat of verse 12 that God emphasizes a 3rd (significant #) time in Isaiah 9:21.

..... And ALL OF THIS IS AFTER THE PROPHECY OF JESUS that we can sing thanks to Handel's Messiah -- "For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called

Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end...  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this." Isaiah 9:6-7 TRINITY Promise.  
..... **Wow... How can we question God's loving character amidst His Justice?**

June 2, 2014 at 7:49am

During this past patriotic holiday, Memorial Day, I played "God Bless America" for the congregation with fervor.... and hidden sighs. We as a country don't deserve His blessing. Just barely reading what God said through Jeremiah & Isaiah & others warns us of that. God's mercy to Noah's day's people eventually reached The Day of accounting. No wonder many churches call God's story of Noah (etc) a cultural myth... and never preach many of God's promises in the Prophets. Except about blessings, of course.

June 3, 2014 · This radio sermon quote was so great on July 17, 2009 that I immediately pulled off the highway & recorded it in my journal & soon urgently shared it with the church band & leaders:

**"A church that really believes in the power of intercessory prayers to our Lord will be full of prayers. A church that doesn't really believe in its importance will be full of programs."** -- Alistair Begg.

The average church misses God's great joy that comes from praying more than reading-bulletin prayers & 3-minutes-before-meetings prayers.

..... Several of my Facebook friends have a CHURCH OUTDOORS ministry, **under a city's highway overpass bridge**... where people don't have to walk through a door to see Christians worshipping God-- **or praying for them and caring about them**. Where people can feel welcome to literally 'come as they are'. Matthew 28:19-20 does say to the Church, **"Go"**. Imperative tense. A Command. John 15... Jesus says to obey.

June 4, 2014 at 9:01pm ·

Have found that old thorny plants can easily pierce plastic gloves that younger thorns can't penetrate. The recent gouges and punctures on my arms are rather noticeable as I play guitar and keyboard. When anyone asks me about my *unplanned piercings*, :) I just say **"The locust trees won some battles, but in the end, I won the war."** We laugh..... It was a **\*\*joy\*\*** to drag those cut branches off to the burn pile... causes of pain to be gone forever. I've been thinking of that today.... and the 7-word summary of the Bible that I enjoy in its simplicity: **"IN THE END, We Win, with Him."**

June 5, 2014 at 11:07am ·

Always loved bare feet. In church, as a child, I would slip off the black patent leather (*painful* pointed) shoes that Mom loved to see on her "little girl".. and the FUSS at me when I forgot to hide my feet & shoes under the pew.

I was thinking on that, this past Sunday.

Preacher ended sermon sooner than expected-- I had to struggle to find my shoes before he finished final prayer... when I was supposed to walk to piano *in front of everyone!*... Mom never appreciated when I shared the humor of my Sunday school teacher's Bible lesson,

"God said 'Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.'" (Exodus 3:5, Joshua 5:15, Acts 7:33). Like to Moses at Burning Bush-- **Sometimes God tells us to honor Him by obeying His command that we remove our self-protection....** figuratively being willing to risk what these "BIBLE PEOPLE" did when they honored Him by taking off their sandals before Him in the desert:

**deep pain** from scorpion bites, cutting rocks, & burning sands. **Are we willing?**

June 5, 2014 at 11:37pm ·

After torrential rains (again: { I drove to an old empty farmhouse in country. Came to a stop for just a moment on its long grass driveway, the gravel long gone. In those moments, BOTH my rear tires sunk in mud-- to bottom of hubcaps. My husband was on trip 300 miles away. No phone to reach him or **other** help anyway. Sun was setting. My heart was racing. I cried, "LORD Help!" (while thinking it a pathetic thing to pray about). **And then I just sat. Gradually calmed, knowing God cares. Psalm 46:10 stillness.** Suddenly: Remembered my husband's lesson of several decades ago-- As newlyweds, he taught me to get out of deep snowdrifts. I tried the **rocking** technique... after several minutes, I was able to get enough traction as I spun forward.....

Psalm 46:10, Be Still and Know God is God.

Whenever our minds are spinning over troubles... injustices... fears.....

June 6, 2014 at 8:29am ·

All sorts of comments on Facebook & News gripe, "When a president picks & chooses which laws to follow & which to ignore...." I'm in one of those "Let's Be Frankly Honest" moods this AM. For a moment, forget American politicians & **Consider-- GOD must assuredly be saying the SAME** to us Christians: **"When a Christian picks & chooses which Laws to follow & which to ignore....." Let's face it: God CLEARLY created 1/10-th of Exodus 20 Laws defined clearly in FOUR verses** (Exodus 20:8-11) AND in 16:23-30, KEEP the SABBATH--- Isaiah 56 & 58, God warns, continues to define as the 7th Day. So about 150+ years after Jesus, Christians began to be "different from Jews" and chose (still do) to ignore this 1 of God's 10 Commandments. Why? "To Honor Him for His Resurrection Day"?? God says Exodus 16:28, Still. Hebrews 13:8 Forever... Jesus described Law-lessness as RAMPANT in end times: Not human, civil laws, but rejecting GOD's Law. Matthew 5:17 is followed by verses 18 and 19, which should be a *DUHHHh*. The world hasn't ended: OR God's Law.

June 6, 2014 at 6:00am ·

Daddy had his rules. BUT he did NOT spell out his rules every single day. My brother and I KNEW Daddy's rules. But they were never mentioned until.... we broke them. And were punished according to ..... Daddy has his Punishment List. BUT he did NOT spell out every single day what would happen if we broke Daddy's rules. My brother and I KNEW what actions would end with Daddy sending us to our room, what "sins" would result in us losing TV for a week, what would take away our right to enjoy going to to be with friends..... NO SURPRISE. Daddy made his rules clear. He did not NEED to repeat them over and over.... Some people say Jesus took away some of God's rules, Laws, BECAUSE He did not repeat them... "They're not in the New Testament Gospels." ..... **But why repeat Rules that People SHOWED they knew and were actually doing right?**

Scriptures that go with yesterday's "*Frankly Honest*" post: (1) Romans 11.. which must be studied with Isaiah 56 >> Christians are GRAFTED IN, offered a place with God's people of Israel... That doesn't mean we can go & change God's rules because of His Gracious invitation to His party.... Luke 14. (2) "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." Hebrews 13:8 >> There's NO QUESTION what God said here... AND per this verse & many more, Jesus was also Present when the words / LAW of Exodus 16 and 20 were spoken to us people. Jesus didn't change His mind and abolish His Law or words thru Prophets... Matthew 5:17-19... full passage, is a GIFT not to be rejected just because He blessed us, fulfilling paying the PRICE of our sins, if we accept Him truly as our LORD.

June 7, 2014 at 10:45am

My brother & I enjoyed a secret as kids... Remembered as I laughed when a total stranger driving toward me along country stretch this AM flashed lights at me to warn of a **police car speed trap** around coming curve > I was a "good kid". Meaning: The times I wasn't, I wasn't *suspected* because usually good:} My brother was normal:) Mom didn't spank - she punished by making us sit in chair to "**think**" on our Error. She'd set kitchen timer, high on top of 'frig to make my bro "**think**" for 30, 45, 60 minutes (depending on how mad she was!). But when she wasn't looking.... I'd move timer forward 6, 7, - 9 minutes... little enough, she'd just think time went by fast. My bro loved me.. & since he was sitting far from 'frig, Mom never suspected that I pulled up the chair to change timer! BUT-- I was WRONG in my "kindness". Mom was *trying to teach him Right*.....

..... A parable for loving Christians who **think** they're supporting people when they re-define or excuse as "normal" **what God calls a Sin to be repented of**... First John etc. When Christians... churches... won't warn that our Loving God is also Holy Judge. \*\*How can people ask forgiveness for sins to AVOID deserved punishment if we tell them "oh, God understands."?? \*\*Is it loving to let them escape temporary bad feelings when they'll have to face God for not believing what He repeatedly said?

..... God repeatedly warns ALL thru Bible about people using His name, claiming to speak FOR HIM-- who tell others, "Don't Worry, God will give you peace!" - EVIL COMFORT to people who refuse to stop doing what God calls Sin. Examples >>> .....

**Jeremiah 14:13** section-- where God says to NOT even pray for those people to be blessed with good (vs 11); <<WROTE SONG: WHAT IN THE WORLD [Do You NOT understand]?>> .....

**Ezekiel 13:16** - but start in verse 10: God says "they" [and this is like some Christians] **SEDUCE** people into **wrong comfort by saying "Peace!"**. The word means to DECEIVE, to TRICK.. which is how Jesus described Satan (John 8:44 etc) AND how He describes some future people using His Name as they teach. PETER listened well to Jesus's warnings and passed them on -- especially in his 2nd book, esp chapters 2 and 3..... **Micah 3:5** "Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who **make My people stray; Who chant 'Peace'**.....".

June 8, 2014 at 7:21am

Comfort... comfort... comfort... comfort. If I'd written a sentence on an English paper that included that word 4 times, It would have been marked with red and a note to "Simplify." If I'd left a sentence that included 4 "comfort's" in a report when I worked as a tech writer, my skills would have been criticized. YET GOD... YET GOD... **YET GOD IN HIS LOVE**, thru Paul by HIS wording (2 Tim 3:16) **has done exactly that!** And no one who's wise dare call HIM a poor writer! 2 Corinthians 1:4, "[God] **COMFORTs** us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to **COMFORT** those who are in any trouble, with the **COMFORT** with which we ourselves are **COMFORTed** by God." <end quote>

What a marvelous, COMFORTing LORD God!

June 9, 2014 at 11:33am · Ever notice how, the more you excitedly tell people how wonderful our LORD is, how He will comfort them.... Within HOURS it seems you're smacked with feelings of discouragement, even despair. AND with fear of asking friends AGAIN for prayers... I often feel like such a wimp. **COMFORT x4** (yest's post on 2 Corin 1:4) -- We forget: John 10:10, Satan does ALL he can to DISCOURAGE us, DESTROY our heart for God.... to focus on our feelings. So we feel like wimps after all the blessings we've seen from God. Easy answer: Just making a step toward God brings Him closer... He does the main 'work' . James 4:7-8 is SUCH comfort when we're so worn spiritually that we feel far from God.. It's just a short step for a "Please help me" prayer --which the LORD promises to answer. "Draw near to God, and He WILL draw near to you." God's comfort is such Amazing Grace. And so are the comforting prayers of friends... even via Facebook.

June 9, 2014 at 8:12pm ·

Does God want people to be "normal" (like people seem to want you to be)?? Simple fact as example, not a brag: For years I was so excellent on keyboard that I got **utterly**



**bored... & barely played for a decade.** But as I matured to enjoy conversing with people didn't agree, comfortably learning their ideas-- I discovered that Creative-God gives Joy, **Fun not just in "normal" but also in deliberately discordant notes, odd-timing, anti-normal progressions, non-definable-genre music** (sorta rock HH Country-like). There's joyful Passion in Unique-ness;} Though the deliberate music-theory "rules" breaking did drive my studio producer slightly crazy when we first started working together! .....My COMMENT later: I've found I enjoy admitting I'm weird; one of my fav book titles was the oldie by Patsy Clairmont, "**NORMAL Is Just a Setting On Your Dryer.**" She also wrote "God Uses Cracked Pots." I've never read either... but I love them for their titles:}

June 11, 2014 at 10:41pm · Used shorter format 6-16-2017

Driving hours from home in familiar city, another interstate merged into one I was on. A police car pulled in at the merge a ways ahead of me. I laughed as \*dozens\* of drivers who had just sailed past me at 12-15 over speed limit suddenly hit brakes to go under limit. Fearful of what authority could do to them.

I laughed because I knew the area-- **The police car was marked as belonging to a county 15 miles away. Technically, no jurisdiction at the merge for giving mere speeding tickets...** // ...Technically, according to God thru FIRST JOHN 4: 4-6 (including "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world"), **Satan** (he.. world) **has No Jurisdiction over those of us who belong to God, who said YES to God as our LORD, our Savior...** Interesting to ponder. .... First John 4:4 & 6 - "You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world... We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error." NKJV

June 11, 2014 at 12:21pm - A comforting cartoon <<ANGRY LION CHASING ENEMIES AWAY FROM HIS CUBS>> of James 4:7-8, God's Promise: When attacked, just call to Him, The Lion of Judah, who SHALL come ("Draw Near!") to you... and force evil to flee. .... Physical weakness feels more like newborn kitten than even a lion cub like cartoon shows... so cool to know God cares..... **"The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways."** - Deuteronomy 28:7 (New King James Version)

June 13, 2014 at 7:48am ·

Intriguing book "The Rabbi Who Found Messiah" points out a verse I'd never noticed-- Numbers 12:6 > God tells the Israelites' 3 leaders that among the people, if any are His chosen prophets "I, the LORD, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream." Jews TODAY stay aware of that very specific instruction, Carl Gallups said on pg 131. Dreams are fascinating.. It's wonderful to awaken with "a song in your head" and- after careful analysis- realize it's NOT one you've ever heard.. a Music Gift from God. DREAM while in my 20s & only a few years since after becoming Christian (praying Romans 10:9), I had my Best Bible Teaching Ever in a dream>>

..... John 14:26 was no longer confusing to me. In dream, saw Jesus at bottom of a ladder whose top was too high to see. Someone came down and walked toward me, but I obviously was disappointed to see Jesus go up ladder away from me. The someone said words like John 14:26 & 15:26 (nice pattern).

..... ONLY BECAUSE OF THE SORROW of Jesus leaving the world where people around Him could enjoy His presence, WE HAVE THE JOY of The LORD always with us who welcome Him. No more Space-Time-Continuum limitations!

June 13, 2014 at 5:35pm ·

Ever made a pie crust or watched the process? Start with a lump of flour mixture that would never cook right or hold filling as a lump. Grab a rolling pin & start pressing hard, pushing mixture out from the center until it's spread thin & fits the round pan where it will cradle some marvelous filling. But don't beat down lump for too long, or crust will be tough... // .... James 1:2-3 reminds us: Troubles that may feel like beatings will help us stretch into the purpose-filled people God knows will find Joy in trusting Him.. Joy in knowing 1st Corin 10:13 is true > God never lets troubles be beyond our ability to withstand And learn to stand stronger with Him.

June 14, 2014 at 7:00am ·

Interesting to ponder from viewpoint of a simple real estate transaction... especially since rabbis maintained meticulous recordkeeping but obviously didn't see any significance (had no vested interest in 2014 AD / 5774-5 politics) in buying a simple threshing floor (like a barn) "to build an altar to the LORD... >> ".. Some scholars say 2nd Samuel 24:18-25 indicates King David bought land upon which Jerusalem's temple was later built for a fair price from the Jebusites... a tribe of Canaanites who "built and inhabited Jerusalem prior to its conquest by King David" (thus, possessed city's land & authority to sell land).

June 15, 2014 at 12:01am ·

Heading off for 2 weeks at ALIVE (Ohio) and CREATION EAST (PA) wonderful music festivals and primitive camping... no RV luxuries for me! So far, only one day has 70% chance of rain predicted!.... Obviously we 'can' talk with / listen to LORD God 24/7 (First Thess 5:17, "always") -- but hey, it's so much easier when I CAN'T get distracted to go clean something or answer phone. Of course, there's always the mosquitoes' distracting calls for action:)

June 17, 2015 at 10:14am ·

Isn't it a "horrid" experience to get a tiny bit of wood or sliver of metal under your skin? How can such a tiny thing hurt so much? If a piece is visible, there's a bit of hope as you use tweezers to try to get it out... and upset frustration if you can't. If people are around, often they'll try to "comfort" you & say "Hey no one can see it", or "Leave it alone-- it'll work itself out eventually." .... But you can't just forget a tiny bit of wood or metal under your skin-- even if it DOESN'T hurt.... // ... We humans like to categorize

sins as "Evil, Bad, Not so bad, & "Everyone Does it". But to GOD..... Well, James summed it up well in his letter's 2:10 (inspired by God- 2nd Timothy 3:16) ->

"For the person who keeps all of the laws except one is AS guilty as a person who has broken all of God's laws." ... LORD, help us stop making excuses for our "bitty splinter" sins & humbly confess them & sorrow for them & see them as Offensive to You-- even though they're not "big" as logs.

June 25, 2014 at 10:30pm ·

Ages ago, a daughter returned from the CREATION Music Festival in PA with her 80-member youth group.. and I'd catch her crying across the next 2 weeks. I confess: It rather hurt my feelings. Several years later I went for the first time, and now have been many years there and to ALIVE. And I understand..... There's something special about 24/7 time for hearing music and messages about our LORD; for praying and having time to listen for His answer. Psalm 46:10. Sure we can pray any time, anywhere, but a special week... it's 'wow'. God knew that when He set up the Feast of Tabernacles in Sept/Oct ("SUKKOT") as a COMMAND annual retreat with Him... You might enjoy researching it!

June 25, 2014 at 7:26pm · DBE, Definition By Example >>> In Music Festival

Language:: **OPTIMISM: Putting on sunscreen because the rain that's been pouring down for hours has slowed down a bit:}**

Poor God... centuries of people griping at Him despite all He's done. Like the people freed from Egypt's slavery complaining for four decades at God, doubting his goodness, his Character. Psalms 106 & 107, still spoken in some form today. Even by those of us who love Him dearly, in our self-centered-nesses. Myself just as selfishly thoughtless, whining about this 'n' that.... and then griping about complainers... :{

June 27, 2014 at 11:09am ·

A nature TV show that I was watching few yrs back, would have included "alligator mouths" in the YES flow... They forgot live show's camera was still on, as the TV Star said to his assistant while holding a huge fighting 'gator, **"What do you MEAN, you forgot the duct tape???"** ...//.... When I'm about to "do battle" with Satan trying to destroy me (John 10:10, Jesus's warning), then I want the Guy who CREATED Satan on my side! He's not gonna forget anything important like duct tape to keep Satan's teeth secured and unable to tear me apart! (1st Peter 5:8, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

June 28, 2014 at 9:12am ·

2 church commercials I heard on radio within minutes of each other:

CHURCH 1-- "Why would a church rent out an entire water park to celebrate a lot of baptisms? Come and See!"..

CHURCH 2-- "Come to our church for friends & fun, where you're never told what you ought to do or shouldn't have done."...

### **Which one reflects Jesus's Truth, Way??**

CHURCH 1 is reminiscent of 3 wonderful invitations in John 1:39 and 46-- and Psalm 66:5 which we should all declare!

And CHURCH 2... sadly like 2nd Timothy 4:3-4 instead of 4:2 & 5 that God calls churches.. us.. to be like. Like Revelation 2 & 3 churches: Self-guided.

GREAT PARABLE >>>> June 30, 2014 at 6:46pm ·

Last year I bought expensive, high quality potting soil for the pots of flowers I bought to put in my front bed. But the stupid flowers never grew much. This year I decided to try again... but found as I dug in the dirt:

**Apparently I had been in a rush and just buried the whole pot for each flower, planning to go back and plant them right. The flowers couldn't reach the rich soil. // God's promised us far beyond our dreams..** Ephesians 3:20. But even though we'll survive on the bit of His Word we get in church or 10 minute devotion books, and 2 minute prayers... we're missing SO much of His promised rich life if we won't bury ourselves in deep with The LORD.

June 30, 2014 at 9:42am ·

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

#### **Baby ducks can easily drown.**

Ducks produce a special oil that keeps them afloat- but the gland isn't developed when born. Mother Duck's oil gets all over ducklings when they're **under** her, making it safe for them to swim. Babies tire easily anyway; Raised without Mother, they often drown.

WHY IS IT that we don't immediately Teach, Encourage, & frequently **Remind Baby Christians about God's protection that they too MUST THEMSELVES put all over them AND KEEP on constantly?** -- Ephesians 6: 10-18 >>

Even mature Christians **easily "drown" in temptations & weariness of Life** if we don't choose to STAY with God.... to accept His promised Weapons for using -- like oil, CONSTANTLY applied for protection.

**END of 2014 SPRING PARABLES**