

Crimson & White Connection

A ministry of prayer and encouragement to "High School, College, & Singles" (& others, too) on Values + Character + Relationships + the Christian Life
Resources and some old back issues available at www.CrimsonWhite.org

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Crisis, emergency, or to "just talk about something", call: Your Mom; Your Dad; Your Pastor, or Rich or Marie Dymmel
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Crimson & White? What's this?

It started with 37 college students. in 1998. Now, in the 25th year of issues, less than 10% of the mailing list are "students" ages 14 to 24. About 40% are ... we'll just say "over 30" in the database, including several 80+ers. About 1/3 of our over ~900 print copies go into prisons in 24 states (9/1/21 count), a direction we never expected this to go. But "the spiritual life," and values are not age or marital status or gender or life situational specific, they are universal. -- Topics are character, values, spiritual life - "walk the walk, not just talk the talk" - relationships and more ... and some fun.

The theology position is "conservative," i.e. Jesus is God's only Son, eternal, born of a virgin, sinless, crucified, died, and risen, and is the only way to eternal life. We are free to choose Him. He has told us to be holy and that includes behaviors such as: sex outside of marriage is wrong. Jesus said it comes down to 'love God and love your neighbor' (Matthew 22:37-40).

If you base your trust for entrance into Heaven in Jesus, God's Son, and His death and resurrection on your behalf, then your crimson stains are made white as wool. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. There is no other way (John 14:6). If you admit that you can not reach God's standard, are repentant and sorry for your short fall (sin) and rebellion against Him and have asked Him to forgive you, then He has forgiven you. If you are truly repentant, then there will be evidence of that in your actions, your life. - - If the "religion police" were to arrest you, would you be turned loose for "lack of evidence"? Or would the evidence of your actions convict you of being a Christian?

You WILL BE and ARE a slave! But you can CHOOSE your master! CHOOSE God today. John 3:16 is true. Accept no substitute!

If you have chosen to accept Jesus as Lord of your life, either the first time or again, we would like to know so that we can pray for you and encourage you. Write or call us.

To subscribe, FREE, and get several issues of the Crimson & White Connection all year long, contact us at RDymmel@aol.com or at 4401 Wild Oak Ln, Greensboro NC 27406 U.S.A. (The C&WC goes by email across 18 time zones from Australia to Sweden. And 1/3 of printed copies go into prisons)

Dec 20, 2022 - v25n09

Mary, Did You Know?

By Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D., (c) 2001, 02, 06, 22

Mary, Did You Know?

– The choir sang "Mary, Did You Know" (written by Mark Lowry and Buddy Green). Oh, what a beautiful piece of music. Love the music. Listen and think about the words.

Think about it. – Mary, a pregnant teenager, not yet married but 'espoused.' It meant more than engaged, but they weren't married yet. – No sex yet. And in that culture, and still in much of that part of the world, they were serious about the sex thing. Sex outside of marriage could get you killed. She was eligible to be publicly stoned to death for being pregnant.

When the angel tells her she is to bear a son, she asks "How, since I am a virgin?" (Luke 1:34) She's not asking whether God can do it, just how He will do it. (She didn't need a formal education to understand 'Sex 101.') – Willing to be used by God. – And then she is pregnant.

Some of this is beyond understanding, I think. It is in the realm of "super"-natural. I'm a fairly smart guy, maybe too smart. I can reason through logical, scientific, explanations for creation and the flood in Genesis; provide proofs and arguments for a young, 6,000 year old earth, etc. Sometimes I try to use logic and reason to figure out spiritual things, and they get real confusing. Sometimes simpler is better. It's not by mental understanding – head knowledge, it's accepting it by faith – heart knowledge. Some people say "I'll believe it when I see it." This stuff is "I'll see it when I believe it." I bet Mary believed God created the whole thing, (Genesis 1) so to create just one more baby wasn't a real problem for Him to create.

"Mary, did you know that your baby boy would give sight to the blind man? (Matt 9:30, 12:22, Mark 8:22) ... calm the storm with His hand? (Mark 4:39) ... has walked where angels trod? And when you kissed the baby you've kissed the face of God." - Can you see Mary, holding her baby, gently kissing him, ... and this baby is ... God! God who will calm the storm with a wave of His hand and the words, "Peace. Be still," and the men with him who were first terrified of the storm, said, "Who is this that even the wind and waves obey Him?!" (Matt 8:27, Mark 4:41)

"Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation? ... will one day rule the nations? ... was Heaven's perfect Lamb? And the sleeping child you're holding is the great I Am. ... Did - you - know?" – He is "the Great I Am." Can you comprehend that? That GOD! gave up His God-ness to become a baby? He will come again as ruler, but He came as a servant to SAVE us. To be the perfect 'sacrificial lamb.' To make a way for us to live forever with Him, deliver us, save us from the consequence of our sin: separation from God. "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23) Did YOU know that?

CANDY CANES remind me of the real Christmas

A candy cane reminds me of a shepherd's staff.

On that first Christmas, the lowly shepherds were the first to be told of the baby born in Bethlehem.

Luke 2: 8-12 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

And later Jesus said that he was the 'good shepherd' that would care for and protect me.

John 10:11-14 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am

the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—"

The stripe pattern reminds me of his taking my punishment for me and providing healing for me.

Isaiah 53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and with his stripes we are healed.

The red and white colors remind me of my sin and how he transforms my sin and me.

Isaiah 1:18 "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

Upside down, a candy cane is the letter J. The J is for Jesus. He is the one who redeems me.

John 3:16-18 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

So you see, a candy cane is a symbol of the true reason for celebration at Christmas.



All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names.



Share with someone

Giving a friend a copy of this letter and asking them if they would like to get it too, is an easy way of witnessing and starting a conversation about God.

If you'd like to be on our mail list, and have the Crimson & White Connection mailed free each month, fill this out and mail it to:

4401 Wild Oak Lane, Greensboro, NC 27406-8306

*** or email to Rdymmel@AOL.com ***

Under 18 requires a parental approval SIGNATURE please.

- ☐ No thank you, remove my name
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- ☐ *I've read the _____ issue, send the next one, please.*

Please tell us how you found out about the C&WC. _____

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Becoming a Christian: A-B-C

A – Admit that you’re a sinner. You just can’t meet God’s standard. The Bible says, “All have sinned and come short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23 (also see 1 John 1:8).

B – Believe that Jesus was the Son of God and died in your place, took the punishment for you. The Bible says, “For God so loved the world (that includes you) that he gave His only begotten son (that’s Jesus) that whosoever (that’s you again) believes in Him should not perish (that’s saved from eternal death, Hell) but have eternal life (given eternal life with God, that’s “salvation” or to “be saved”).” John 3:16

C – Confess your sin to God. – The Bible says, “If we confess (own up to) our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleans us...” 1John 1:9.

Want Jesus in your life? Pray this prayer: *“Lord Jesus, I confess to You my sin and need to be saved. I turn away from my old sin and place my trust and faith in You as the only way to be saved.”* Now contact your pastor, or contact us at 1-336-674-7564 or RDymmel@AOL.com, and say, *“I just asked Jesus to be my Lord.”*

A publication so dangerous it now comes with a warning label.

WARNING

Do not read the Crimson & White Connection unless you
want your HEART ENCOURAGED and your MIND
CHALLENGED and your SPIRIT PRODDED

Yes! This is a subversive, challenging, counter-culture publication. That's what Christianity is - a counter-culture. This should have a warning label.

Subject: Final Exam - Christmas Carols 101

From Tom Miller

FINAL EXAM - CHRISTMAS CAROLS 101

The following words are alternative titles for well-known Christmas Carols.

Fill in the correct title in the space provided.

- 1. Quadruped with crimson proboscis**

- 2. 8 pm to 6 am without noise.**

- 3. Minuscule hamlet in the east**

- 4. Ancient benevolent despot**

- 5. Adorn the vestibule**

- 6. Exuberance directed toward the planet**

- 7. Listen, aerial spirits announcing**

- 8. Trio of monarchs**

- 9. Yonder in the hay rack**

- 10. Cherubim audited from aloft**

1. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
2. Silent Night
3. Little Town of Bethlehem
4. Old St. Nicholas Good King Wenceslaus
5. Deck the Halls
6. Joy To The World
7. Hark, the Herald Angels Sing
8. We Three Kings
9. Away in a Manger
10. Angels from the Realms of Glory