

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

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)

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Crimson & White? What's this?

It started with 37 college students in 1998. Now, in the 27th 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 ~980 print copies go into prisons in 24 states (1/1/24 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.

v27n05 July 10, 2024 Holy - He was gone

As we sang this in church last Sunday, I thought of sending you the words and you could use it to worship today.

Holy, Holy, Holy Reginald Heber,
1826 copyright status is Public Domain

Casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down
before Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise
to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore
Thee,

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness
hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory
may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside
Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Delving into old files on my computer recently, I ran across this story. True? Sure sounds like it.

Subj: a heartwarmer: He Was Gone! Date: 2/1/99
Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart.

HE WAS GONE!

It was very cold and the fading light was giving way to darkness on a late October afternoon. I was watching my husband and a friend run their radio control power boats on the pond a few blocks from our home.

We had been married about two years. A second marriage for both of us. We had a rather normal, "middle American" life-style. We talked about God being a part of our life, attended church fairly regularly, and met with a Bible Study Group one evening a week. On this bleak, winter afternoon, however, we were lifted out of the ordinary into the realm of people who know God by experience.

This was the "maiden voyage" of the miniature hydroplane my husband had just finished building. It had a very special paint job, done by the younger of his two sons. During the previous "weekend with Dad" he had laboriously covered it with intricate paintings of Darth Vader, Star Fighters and Ty Fighters, in keeping with the present "Star Wars" craze sweeping the country. We had seen the movie something like seven times already! Actually, it had been a labor of love and growing close again for both of them.

We decided to get in just one more run before dark. Out across the pond the little black boat flew, farther and farther away from us, until it was only a tiny speck on the far shore, the length of a couple of city blocks or a football field away... then suddenly, it sputtered, coughed, and died in the water! Now any avid hobbyist will tell you that you don't go home and leave a brand new, special, boat dead in the water to float to shore... maybe to pick it up in the morning... oh no!

So... around the pond to the south end... a couple of blocks from where his friend and I are watching... goes the captain of the boat. We watched as he waded into the icy water after his boat... jeans, jacket, tennis shoes and all. We watched as he waded out until the

water was lapping around his knees, and with every step the boat appears to be moving farther and farther away from him.

Then, without warning, we saw him disappear under the water. He had stepped off into the channel made by the stream that fed the pond. He was in over his head in a heartbeat! And all we could do was watch! We stood helplessly on the opposite bank and I screamed at his friend to help him. Neither of us could swim! Oh God, help! We watched him struggle to the surface of the water a second time! He was drowning out there!

Neither of us could do anything about it! Oh GOD, HELP!!

I mentioned it was October, cold and approaching dark. Also, the pond was surrounded with an exceptionally nasty variety of burrs we Westerners affectionately call "bull heads" or "Texas tacks." This charming weed produces a burr with a hard, very sharp thorn that is capable of flattening a bicycle tire with a single poke. Thick soled tennis shoes are barely adequate protection from their misery.

Suddenly, in the midst of our panic, we watched a young man, maybe 16 or 18, barefooted, dressed in cut-off blue jeans run into the water at the east end of the pond and swim to where Dick was struggling to the surface for the third and perhaps final time. It takes longer to write about it than it took to happen.

Swimming lifeguard style, the young man brought my darling husband to the shore where we were standing.

Tears streaming down my face, I begged Dick to be all right. "Are you OK? Are you SURE you're OK?"

"Yes, yes! I'm fine," he assured me. Then we all turned at once to thank the boy and ask if he was OK, too. I remember thinking there was a warm blanket in the trunk of the car, and he must be freezing, dressed... or undressed... as he was. I was going to ask if we could take him home. But he was gone! There was no one running away across the park area. There was no one riding away on a bicycle and there were no cars in sight. HE WAS GONE!

In the years since then we have often looked back and thought... any one of us, given the ability to swim, would save a life if we could. And I suppose there are those who would count what we experienced as a coincidence. Perhaps we would too, except for one small detail.

In the crisis, we'd forgotten all about the boat. It had been easily 20 or 30 feet in front of Dick when he stepped into deep water and went under. As we turned and started for the car, there at Dick's feet, was his boat!

As I said, anyone of us would probably save a life if we could; but only God would give you back your life and your toy!

-- Ellen Lebsock <nanaelle@____.net>

**A few old back issues and many resources
are at www.CrimsonWhite.org**

Tell a friend!

Download and print witness postcards.

**A MAN CAN NO MORE DIMINISH
GOD'S GLORY
BY REFUSING TO WORSHIP HIM
THAN A LUNATIC CAN
PUT OUT THE SUN
BY SCRIBBLING THE WORD
'DARKNESS'
ON THE WALLS OF HIS CELL**
-C. S. LEWIS

This year I will... Today's Bible Verse – 1/16/2006

Pastor Keith Vaughan (used with permission)

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

We are now 16 days into the New Year. I can hardly believe it! As you look back over these first 16 days, let me ask you a question. What have you done to further the Kingdom of God this year? Have you shared your faith with anyone this year? Usually at the beginning of the year, we make "New Year's Resolutions." Most of those are broken within a few days of making them. Many of the so-called "resolutions" are just plain silly or unattainable. My suggestion for you in [this year] is to make a resolution that you can keep.

Several years ago, I knew a young man who announced that his New Year's Resolution was to memorize a verse of Scripture every day. As soon as I heard it, I knew he had set himself up for failure. Now memorizing Scripture is a very admirable goal and one that all of us should seek to attain. But with the schedule we live today, how many of us can realistically memorize a verse every day. Why not try a more manageable goal – memorize a verse a week. At the end of [this year], you will have memorized 52 verses of Scripture! Or how about sharing my faith with one person a week or even one person a month! Can you see the possibilities?

Acts 1:8 is the marching orders for us Christians. We are told that when we receive the power of the Holy Spirit (that occurs when you got saved), you became a witness. It doesn't say we are to witness if we want to, or feel like it, or even if we have "the gift". It says we "shall be" witnesses. It's also a simple plan. It starts in your own community (Jerusalem) and then moves to your country (Judea) then your continent (Samaria) and finally to the whole world. Remember, we are not called to "Americanize" the world; we are simply called to tell people about Jesus!

We are just sixteen days into 2006. It's not too late to get started so that at the end of this year, you won't have to say "I didn't really do anything to advance the Kingdom of God this year." You and I have the power to accomplish great things for God this year. Let's get busy making sure that we fulfill the mission given us by our Lord Jesus Christ.

Have a great day.

Pastor Keith; Team Pastor – Primary Focus/Living Proof

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