

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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Crisis, emergency, or to "just talk about something", call: Your Mom; Your Dad; Your Pastor, or Rich or Marie Dymmel 336-908-3652

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.

Sorry about the gap between issues. We have just been a bit "swamped" here with one issue after another. Delving into some old files on my computer recently, again, I ran across this story.

A Balance of Forces?

By Dr. Richard R. Dymmel, Ed.D., (c) Oct 11, 2006

As we are hurtling along at 525 mph, (and a lot of people say that I drive fast) ... we were actually in the air flying out to see the newest member of the family, Nicole, a grandchild born just 3 weeks ago - (and now, Oct 2024, she recently enlisted in the U.S. Marines and is about to complete her FIRST Basic Training session). ... I am looking out at the wing and in my math / engineering / overactive, hyperactive (ADHD?) mind is thinking ... A friend once said to Marie, "He's scary. He's *always* thinking. Does his brain *ever* shut off?" ... Anyway, I was looking out the window watching the wing, thinking, "There are laws at work." -- Have you ever watched the wing as a big plane takes off? I like to watch the leading and trailing edges of the wing extend and retract, changing the shape and dimensions of the wing. Do you know why? It goes back to Leonardo DiVinci. He discovered it. It is in his sketches 500 years before the Wright brothers did their thing out there on the North Carolina beach at Kitty Hawk with the plane they designed and built in Ohio. If the distance over the wing, from the leading edge dividing the air back to where the airflow rejoins, is longer than the distance under the wing, you will get a lifting effect from the difference in wind speeds over the top and bottom surfaces. It's a law of aerodynamics.

I asked my friend Bill, a commercial pilot for one of the major airlines, a simple question, 'How fast is a plane going when it takes off and lands?' He gave me this double answer: 'About 170 to take off and about 160 to land.' Huh? Slower so it can 'fall' to the ground? No. It's not the getting up or down. In both cases the speed is the speed at which the plane is in an equilibrium of forces, and the pilot can fly it up or set it down. -- Why the speed difference then between take-off and landing? Hmmm.

I want to talk about laws. For a plane to fly, it has to balance forces. Lift must equal the weight. If weight is greater than lift, it falls or doesn't fly and get off the ground. If thrust is greater than drag, it will move forward, even accelerate. Think of the force from the jet thrust to get that many, many TONS of weight to just move and roll down the taxi-way even before taking 20 seconds to get from 0 to 170 mph! Those are laws of inertia and motion and balanced forces.

Similar laws apply to life. Burdens hold you down. Jesus offers to take your burdens and give you lift (Matthew 11:30 KJV For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light. Ps 55:22 Cast your cares on the LORD and he will sustain you; 1Peter 5:7 KJV Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you) so you can soar like an eagle (Isaiah 40:31 NIV: but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles;) But it's not exactly the same. With a plane, it is a balance. With God, some people want to "balance" the spiritual life with the "world." They want the world but they want heaven, too. They want temptation to leave, but they want it to stay in touch. They try to live with one foot in each. Go to church on Sunday, "put in their time" so to speak, and jump in that pool and swim, actually more like splashing in the knee-deep kiddy pool with Jesus on Sunday, and then jump in another pool and swim neck deep in the world Monday through Saturday. I don't think it is supposed to work that way.

It would be like standing with one foot on the dock and one foot in the boat. The boat is going to leave the dock and you will have to make a decision, a choice. You're

A Balance of Forces? - either going to get in the boat or you're not. I like the way *The Message* words Matthew 6:24&25: "You can't worship two gods at once. Loving one god, you'll end up hating the other. Adoration of one feeds contempt for the other. You can't worship God and Money both. If you decide for God, living a life of God-worship, it follows that you don't fuss about what's on the table at mealtimes or whether the clothes in your closet are in fashion. There is far more to your life than the food you put in your stomach, more to your outer appearance than the clothes you hang on your body." The point is, you can't love two things. You can't "balance" these. If you really want to serve God, it can't be a "just on Sunday" thing. That's about as stupid an idea as me saying "I'll love Marie on Sunday, and on Monday through Saturday I love some other woman. Get real! That just doesn't work. If I really love Marie, it can't be just on Sunday and then do what would make her unhappy the rest of the week. In fact, I can't love Marie on Monday through Saturday and then someone else on Sunday. It has got to be a 24/7 thing!

You have to choose.

In Christ, Rich

Do you have a relationship with God where you know He has accepted you just as you are? A relationship like with a loving father? If not, call me at 336-908-3652. Or call 1-888-NEED-HIM. - With God, you have never gone too far to return. -

Just an "October Nature Note" to see the beauty God can create (if you get to see it).

Northern Lights

October - Look to the North at night. You *may* be lucky enough to see a phenomena called the Aurora Borealis or the Northern Lights. I remember seeing it many times when we lived in Michigan. The article said that they have been seen as far south as Arizona and Florida. It is most common in late Summer and early Fall.

They are caused by "solar winds" striking the Earth. Really. There is particulate matter flying off the Sun at ten of thousands of miles per hour. It's "space dust." Which actually partly explains the dust on your TV and dresser top. I read where one of the deep space probes a couple months ago reached the "edge of the Solar System, defined as the edge of the influence of the Sun, because it sent data that the solar wind had decreased by a hundred thousand mph (or some huge significant number like that, I didn't feel like digging in my files this morning to find the actual article again).

Get away from "city" (or campus) lights and look North. - If you don't get to see them, or even if you do, there are some spectacular photos at this web site: <https://search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?type=Fjh7qUx-&hspart=solex&hsimp=yhs-foxynewtabchocolate&p=auroras%20boreales> and https://www.nathab.com/alaska-northern-adventures/northern-lights-tour/?utm_ **And also find links to more at these.**

Another thought... A example of "Faith"

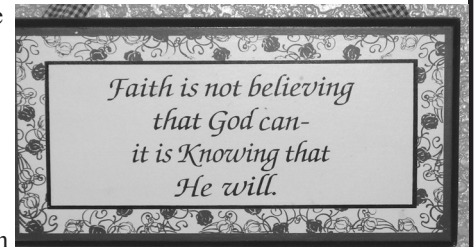
Richard R. Dymmel, EdD © 2006

.... What is 'faith'? Here's one example:

As we are hurtling along at 525 mph ... zooming through the upper levels of the atmosphere, over 5 miles off the ground. ... The captain said there was turbulence at higher levels, so he was flying lower so it would be a smoother flight, even though it would consume a little more fuel ... (Which raises a question... Why do planes get better fuel mileage at higher altitudes?) I am looking forward through the "main cabin" (as the head flight attendant said, and I wonder "main cabin? Is there a 'secondary' cabin on this plane?" overactive, hyperactive (ADHD?) mind ...) and thinking, here I am putting my life in the hands of somebody that I have never met, can't see or talk to because he has barricaded himself behind that locked cockpit door, and he's controlling this pressurized aluminum tube at 525 mph 5 miles in the sky. That is faith and trust.

Can you see the spiritual comparison?

Do we trust God enough to put our lives in His hands? How about your career? Your love life? I feel He communicates with us, indirectly in many ways, directly through some people at times, and sometimes very directly and personally, like God calling Samuel 3: 1-10. (I won't tell you my personal stories of "voices," some of you it will just convince that I'm a little more than "strange.") Listen. Trust.



And one more thought... Break the laws?

Richard R. Dymmel, EdD © 2006

Me? I'm a "cut to the chase, give it to me simple" kind of guy. I like Jesus. The "scholars" were trying to trip Jesus up. See, these guys not only had the "law," that's Genesis through Deuteronomy, and they had memorized all that, memorized mind you all that, by the time they were about 10 years old, and these guys had memorized the whole of what we now call the Old Testament by the time they were about 17. Then the Pharisees, these were the "super-religious group," they had added a whole more detail set of rules. These guys come to Jesus and ask, "What is the greatest law of the laws?" Sort of a trick question. It's like asking which is more breaking the law: going over the speed limit or parking in a no-parking zone? They both break the law. Right?

So Jesus says, (Rich's paraphrase, Matthew 22:36-40) "Look guys, you aren't getting it. It's not about the rules. It's like the commercial for the Christian radio station - oh, I forgot you don't have radio yet, you will someday, and someday my followers will be called Christians, they will do that first at Antioch (Acts 11:26) - it's still like this, it's not about religion, it's not about rules, it's about a relationship. It's about your relationship with God and that then is reflected in your relationships with people. First you love God with all you've got, your heart, mind, intellect, soul, oh, and all your stuff, and then you love your neighbor. All God's rules are based on those two principles."

Think about it. All the temple rules show people about holiness and worship. The laws about people... if you love your neighbor will you steal from him, cheat him, use a scale that cheats, overcharge them interest, lie to or about them, steal their spouse or animals? Do you see it?

Avalon sang a song I like. - "With every breath I take I will testify to love."

As for the relationship with God... All the laws about sacrifices show us that we can't be good enough, so there has to be a sacrifice. Jesus is called the "Lamb of God." He was the ultimate sacrifice. - God must be a "guy" because "guys" like to fix things. God used two boards and three nails to fix the problem.

The way to achieve inner peace is to finish the things we have started. Today I finished a Krispy Kreme, 2 bags of potato chips and a chocolate cake. I feel better already...