

Samuel the Prophet

--Lived around 1100 B.C.--



Made for Thee, O, God

Made for Thy love, Thy service, Thy delight;

Made to show forth Thy wisdom, grace,
and might;

Made for Thy praise, whom veiled
archangels laud:

Oh, strange and glorious thought, that we
may be

A joy to Thee!

Yet the heart turns away

From this grand destiny of bliss, and
deems

'Twas made for its poor self, for passing
dreams,

Chasing illusions melting day by day,

Till for ourselves we read on this world's
best,

'This is not rest!'

-- Frances Ridley Havergal

DEUTERONOMY 11:18-20 Therefore shall ye lay up these My words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.

And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates.

PSALM .16:7 I will bless the Lord, who hath given me counsel: my reins also instruct me in the night seasons.

1 SAMUEL 3:19 And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

Prophet Samuel

So you want to know what it was like for me, as a child, growing up without parents, and being rather separate. Well, that was just a small part of my existence. I've spent far more time here, in Heaven and in the realm beyond, continuing to learn from Heavenly teachers and from the Lord Himself.

I was a teacher really, I taught the people God's Words; but it first came from being a very good student, doing what I was told, and learning to be a servant. I still am that. I love to learn. I never say, "That is enough; now I know all that there is to know." No, it's like each new thing I learn is like a door that opens to a new room, but that room might have one, or two, or five more doors all leading out. I can't open them all at once, but I do want to. So the more I learn, the more I know there is still yet to learn.

I sit with the ancients, the patriarch, those that got to live on earth for much longer than I. They have quite some tales to tell. It's always fascinating to hear them telling what life was like for them, and through it I am able to learn new things I didn't know. It was this hunger for learning more about God's thoughts and ways and learning how He wants things to be done that made me wish to hear from Him. He rewarded me with it. I was given the gift of being able to hear His voice in audible form, and see some things that made me know when He was talking to me. And this desire for learning of Him still is in my heart.

As you too learn to hear God speaking to you, in the quiet of your mind and in your thoughts and heart, He will teach you all the most important things, the things you need to know to be a help to your family there. Your home is a little like my tabernacle. Of course I couldn't even be with my flesh relations, like you are blessed to be with. But I was set aside and not amidst the mass of society.

I was learning in a quiet and special place. Of course there were times when many people would come and it was a busy season for prayers and offerings. But that wasn't all the time. I couldn't

just go out and do whatever I thought might be fun all around the country, or even to visit my relatives. I had a special job—a learning job—a time of being trained.

The whole nation and their success was going to depend on whether or not I could hear God's voice clearly. I needed to learn to hear it well, and most of all to desire to hear Him speaking. If my mind was too filled with all of what was the world's gadgets and latest trends, and even the clothes others wore, and the parties they had, I wouldn't have been properly trained and prepared to do the big job that God had for me.

You also have a job to do, and you too are in your quiet temple for learning and mostly to learn the ways of God. The world thinks you are doing lots of math and learning about the world in their way of learning, but God has a different curriculum for you to be studying. Make sure you learn it all well, and the best way to do that is by having a hunger and desire.

They say that hunger is the thing that makes food taste the best. So it is with food for the heart, if you wish to know what God wants to tell you, and your spiritual taste buds aren't dulled by the things you hear or see in the world, then you will really enjoy the nourishing food from Heaven.

So, take your lessons well, and feed up and feast up, and work diligently and well.

And just like Eli couldn't see well when he was old and I could see and tend to the lamps better than he could, so can you clearly see the light of God's Word better than older adults might. You might be able to understand and 'see' things that an adult might miss, just because they are busy or have their mind filled with the troubles of the world. Your minds are able to see special things that God wants to show you.

What does God want to teach and show you today? Make sure you take time to listen, and not just clean your physical house—like I too had to do—but take time to be quiet and really learn the art of

hearing from the Lord in prophecy and learning to stop and check with Him about things.

This is the gift that will enable you to do your job for Him—not just later, but now too. Every decision you make is important, here and now, and makes a huge difference to how things turn out in your life. God’s will will be done, but the way it gets done varies according to people’s choices.

Just like the kings had to change from King Saul to King David. The plan still happened, and people had to learn the harder way of having a king ruling over them, rather than a prophet. But then, who was the king and how long they lasted in power was determined, during my life time, by their choices.

So be wise and give heed to the words of the Lord, and then you will be able to lead others, and safely stay on God’s highest plan and path for you.

I stayed faithful all the days of my life, but that was because I kept giving up anything else that would have changed that or taken me off course. It meant a lot of sacrifice and forsaking, but at least I didn’t have to forsake my calling, what I was trained for, what I was given to the Lord for.

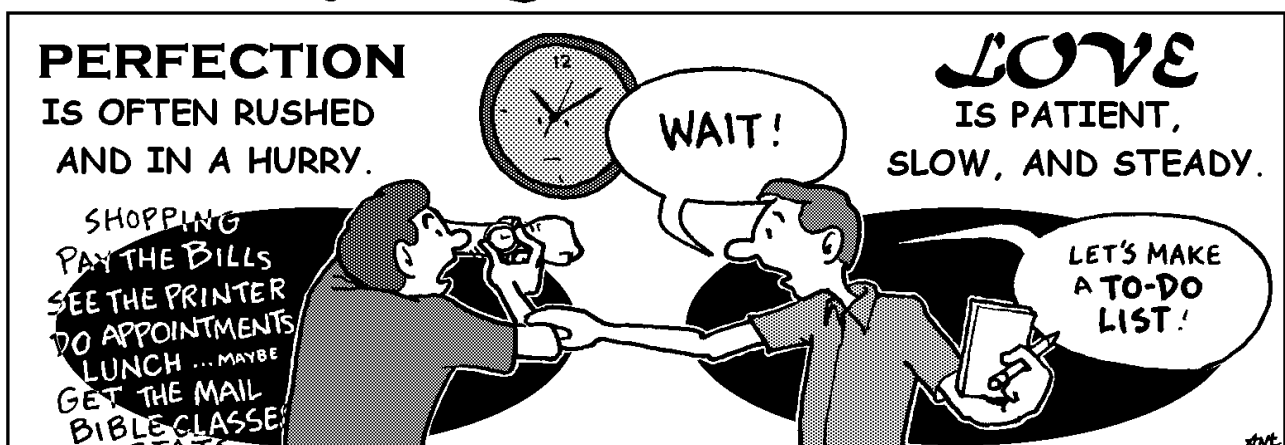
If I would have given up and said it was too hard being separate and doing my job and learning what I needed to, there with Eli, then it would have

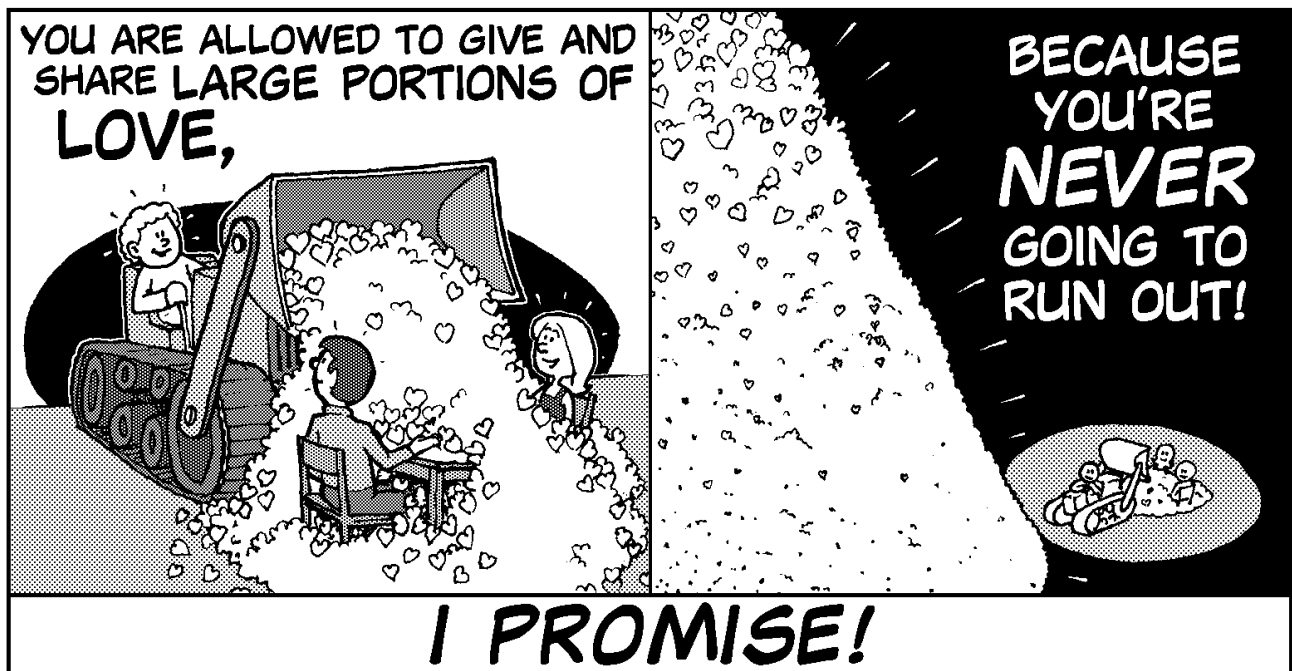
made my mother’s gift and giving me up to the Lord of little worth. If I would have thrown away the important job that only I could do, and instead wanted to behave like the other odd characters around and do things the way of the nation, it would have broken her heart. It was hard enough for her to give up being with me all those years, but at least she then got the joy of knowing that I was making the right decisions and going to be a help to the overall country and all the people. And she was blessed and rewarded for giving me to God—and I was blessed and rewarded for doing the job, the calling that I was created and dedicated and consecrated for.

Just like I stood out as being Godly when the other boys, Eli’s sons were not, so will you boys also stand out more and more, as you make the choices for good and shine the light.

I love you and am hoping that you too will make the choices that prove worthy of great reward. All of us in Heaven who have already made it to this side are cheering for those of you who forsake the world and its tugs and pull on your heart and mind, and instead stay true to learning God’s ways and using it to help the nations. God’s Word first— hearing His voice, and then doing it, no matter what others say.

Peace be to you all.





PRAISE

Sometimes I get so caught up in the cares of this life and the things around me that I forget to give You the attention and the love that You deserve and desire. But even though I sometimes forget, and even though I get caught up in the things around me, You still understand and You keep loving me and encouraging me to come to You. You keep reminding me that You're always there, waiting for me to come to You and be refreshed and renewed.

I love You so much, Jesus. You've given me so much--so much love, hope, joy and excitement in the spirit. The least I can do is love You in return.

All my love to You I give.
Help me, Lord, to always live
The way that You would want me to--
By letting You come shining through.

From Jesus With Love

Strive to be humble. Strive to be loving. Fight for kindness and understanding, for these are great jewels that you can wear, which will bring forth the true beauty of God. Seek to be simple, to be loving, to be gentle. It is there, I know, for I know your heart well. I know that in the wellsprings of your heart these desires to be loving, to be humble and sweet and kind, long-suffering and understanding are there. But they can only be released from your heart as you shed your pride and selfishness.

I am the Creator of all things, and I judge the heart of man. I know the heart of man and all that is therein, so My judgment is just and true. At the Day of Judgment when you stand before Me and your life is reviewed, I shall judge by the act and by the intent of the heart, thus I judge righteous judgment. For I know the heart of man and there is nothing hid from Me.

When you seek to do a thing, know that I see and understand the thoughts and intents of your heart. So in all that you do, be motivated by love—My love, love for one another and love for Me.

Master's Arts

Jesus' Love for us—Loving Him in return—Communing

The Master says:

I love you, now. I love you forever. I love you when you are rowdy, or when you are real quiet and hardly wish to be noticed. I love taking you into My arms and to give you a thrill of what the Love of God is really like—how big and powerful and eternal.

An embrace from your Lord can make you feel so light and joyful .
Whisper in My ear a secret and I'll tell you something special in return.
I love letting your heart know how much I love you! —Forever and always.

LAMBIBITS

(Lessons, anecdotes, messages, Bible-based beliefs, inspirational talks, and sayings.)

They want to hear about something better--like Jesus!

When Peter started looking at himself--he started to sink! It was no use! If you start looking at yourself, you're going to Sink Sink Sink, when you Think Think Think, 'cause you Stink Stink Stink!!!! You have to keep your eyes on Jesus!

You've got to be so full of Jesus...you don't care what happens! All you know is you love Jesus--Jesus loves you!--and that's all that matters. That's a fact!

They say the definition of a bore is somebody who talks about himself when I want to talk about myself. I think the worst bore is the kind that talks about himself when we ought to be talking about Jesus! We ought to be so [full of] the Holy Spirit that we just want to hear about Jesus! I want to hear about some guy that made it--like Jesus! I want to forget about myself.

I want to hear about Jesus! Let's talk about Jesus, whaddaya say? Let's keep our eyes on the Lord! I wanna get my joy out of Jesus! I wanna find my happiness in His spirit! I want to hear about the Holy Spirit--the only One that can help us both! I wanna hear about Jesus--the One who didn't make any mistakes, and the One that loves us in spite of ours!

The only hope we've got is in Jesus, and filling ourselves with the Holy Spirit. We're a mess! Let's talk about Jesus, huh? When all you wanna talk about is your self and your sins, you haven't had enough of Jesus! Jesus is all that matters! Not I, but Christ! But it is not I that lives, but Christ!

Let's just lift up Jesus! Let's talk about Jesus! Let's get full of the Spirit--full of Jesus! I just wanna hear about Jesus! Let's just hear what Jesus has done--in you and through you and by you and about you and to you and with you and for you--and all about Jesus! Whatever it is--I just want to hear about Jesus

Let's just give ourselves to Him! Forget ourselves and just think about Him. Let's talk about Jesus! If He's lifted up, He'll draw us all to Him! Let's take a look at Jesus! Look and live! I wanna look at Jesus! That's my only Hope of Living! Only Jesus makes me wanna live!

There's always plenty more of Jesus! He never runs out!

--Pastor David (1919-1994)

Inspiring True Stories from History: Tossed in a Tempest

Ephesians 4:14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

Ephesians 4:15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

Ephesians 4:17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

Ephesians 4:18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

Ephesians 4:27 Neither give place to the devil.

Sometimes the storms that come suddenly on us, that take place in our minds and hearts, can feel rather like this terrible cyclone that hit the sea were this ship was sailing—described in the story below.

Troubles come suddenly and we don't always know how or why we feel plunged into spiritual attacks that seem to go on and on, when it seemed all had been going well.

Life won't be free of storms, for as Jesus said, **These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world. (John 16:33)**

However, Jesus will calm the storm eventually. If we ride out the storm, have faith, and trust in the Lord's Words, He'll keep us safely through it. Then He'll give us rest and make all things right again for us. He'll give us new sails to replace our torn ones that the enemy has ruined in an effort to stop us from making further progress in our journey. God will give us all we need so we can continue to cross the sea of life and reach the shore of our destination safely.

(From *A Sailor of Fortune*; personal memoirs of Captain B.S. Osbon, by Albert Bigelow Paine—1906)

The weather had been generally good, but it was a time for wind. At noon all hands went to dinner, leaving the decks entirely deserted, I came on deck to get a pot of drinking water, and as I went aft I saw a strange movement in the surrounding waters.

The sea near the ship was quiet, but on the horizon it was foaming, dancing, and bobbing in a most disturbing manner. The sky had a weird, strange colouring, and the lightning made it a network of zigzag streaks. I watched it for a few seconds and then ran to the companion- way and called, "Come on deck, Captain Tinkham, I think something dreadful is about to happen!"

In an instant he was there, followed by the three mates. All hands came piling after and were ordered to shorten sail. But before a movement could be made the storm had struck us, ropes had parted, sails had been blown into ribbons, and the little ship was on her beam ends with the water almost up to her hatch coamings. We were in the vortex of a cyclone.

Then followed a most appalling time. The sea suddenly became as flat as a floor, and the spoon-drift almost blinding, while the rigging screeched like an Aeolian harp of the inferno that it was. Men clung or were pinned fast where they stood. One of the thirty-foot boats was blown from her davits and in some unaccountable manner was impaled on the crossjack yard-arm.

Sails were stripped from the yards as if they had been made of cheese cloth and the rigging aloft was covered with threads of cotton, which gave it an uncanny look. The wind whirled 'round and 'round the compass and the screeching aloft varied with each angle. The day wore on with no abatement of this awful war of the elements, and darkness fell as an added terror, with blinding electric flashes and ear-splitting thunder. No one of us expected to outlive that night.

Finally toward morning there came a sudden lull and a terrific downpour of rain. To escape this we crept below, when suddenly it changed to hail, which kept up a deaffening roar for several minutes; then followed silence — an appalling stillness that turned the heart sick.

Someone at last ventured on deck and called, "Come quick, boys !" and all hands crowded up to find the decks covered with between three and four inches of hailstones the size of marbles, while in the distance a huge cloud belching lightning and thunder showed the direction our demon had taken.

Then the sun came up, and a fair wind blew through the cotton-covered rigging; but we were too exhausted to undertake repairs and were ordered below for rest, all except an officer and two men, who were relieved every two hours. Within a few days we had a full new set of sails bent and our ship righted.

MIRROR, MIRROR,
ON THE WALL, DON'T
WHO'S THE... MAKE ME
LAUGH



RE- FOCUS



WHEN I LOOK AT YOU, ALL I SEE IS SOMEONE WHO I'D LIKE TO SPEND ETERNITY WITH! I WANT TO BE WITH YOU HERE AND IN HEAVEN TOO! YES, YOU HAVE FAULTS, BUT I LOVE YOU ANYWAY, AND I'VE PAID THE PRICE FOR YOU TO BE WITH ME IN HEAVEN FOR ALL ETERNITY!

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ACCEPT THIS INVITATION. YOU COULD SAY SOMETHING LIKE, "JESUS, THANK YOU FOR LOVING ME JUST AS I AM, AND FOR DYING FOR ME! FORGIVE ME FOR MY IMPERFECTIONS AND FOR THE WRONG AND UNLOVING THINGS I'VE DONE. PLEASE COME INTO MY HEART AND LIFE SO WE CAN BE TOGETHER HERE AND NOW, AS WELL AS IN HEAVEN FOREVER! THANK YOU!"

IF YOU SAID THAT, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT, AND MEAN IT IN YOUR HEART, THEN I PROMISE YOU THAT I GLADLY ACCEPT YOUR INVITATION AND, FROM THIS DAY ON, I WILL BE WITH YOU AS YOUR FRIEND AND HELPER FOR ALL TIME!-- AND BEYOND!-- I GIVE YOU MY WORD THAT I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU!

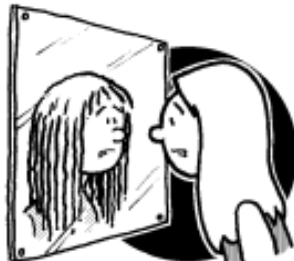
--THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME! I PROMISE YOU THAT I'LL ALWAYS BE THERE FOR YOU!



WHEN STARING AT YOURSELF IN THE MIRROR, OR AT OTHER TIMES OF SELF-INSPECTION, YOU CAN TEND TO BLOW THINGS OUT OF PROPORTION!



YOU FEEL OTHERS HAVE IT SO MUCH BETTER IN THE WAY OF LOOKS, OR QUALITIES, OR RESILIENCE, OR PERSONALITY, AND ON AND ON THE LIST GOES. BUT IF YOU WERE TO JUST STEP ASIDE AND LET ME DO THE ANALYZING, AND LET ME TEACH YOU WHAT YOU DO NEED TO CHANGE, THEN YOU'D FEEL MUCH MORE RELAXED. YOU COULD STOP THIS SELF-EFFORT OF TRYING TO MAKE YOURSELF A CERTAIN WAY, AND BEING BLOWN ABOUT WITH THE EVER-CHANGING OPINIONS, FASHIONS, AND IDEAS OF THOSE IN THE WORLD AROUND YOU. INSTEAD YOU COULD FOCUS ON WHAT ACTUALLY IS NEEDED, AND THE THINGS YOU CAN AND SHOULD IMPROVE IN.



KEEP YOUR EYES ON ME INSTEAD OF LOOKING AT YOUR OWN REFLECTION, AND YOU'LL FEEL A LOT BETTER ABOUT YOURSELF.



I THINK YOU'RE **WONDERFUL!**

Thoughts and True Stories

Thomas Alva Edison invented the electric light bulb in 1879. Twenty-two years later, in 1901, one of the newfangled gadgets was hung and turned on in the Livermore, California, Fire Department. It's still there, and still on. The old bulb has been turned off almost never in 71 years. By today's standards it should have burned out 852 times by now. The bulb, hand-blown, with a thick carbon filament, was made, it is said, by the Shelby Electric Company. The Shelby Company made light bulbs to last.

Anecdotes from Dwight L. Moody

Once, when a great fire broke out at midnight and people thought that all the inmates had been taken out, way up there in the fifth story, was seen a little child, crying for help. Up, went a ladder, and soon a fireman was seen ascending to the spot. As he neared the second story the flames burst in fury from the windows, and the multitude almost despaired of the rescue of the child. The brave man faltered, and a comrade at the bottom cried out, "Cheer him!" and cheer upon cheer arose from the crowd.

Up the ladder he went and saved the child, because they cheered him. If you cannot go into the heat of the battle yourself, if you cannot go into the harvest field and work day after day, you can cheer those that are working for the Master. I see many old people in their old days, get crusty and sour, and they discourage everyone they meet by their fault finding. That is not what we want. If we make a mistake, come and tell us of it, and we will thank you. You don't know how much you may do by just speaking kindly to those that are willing to work.

A young man in one of our meetings in New York got up and thrilled the audience with his experience. "I want to tell you," he said, "that nine months ago a Christian came to my house and said he wanted me to become a Christian. He talked to me kindly and encouragingly, pointing out the error of my ways, and I become converted. I had been a hard drinker, but since that time I have not touched a drop of liquor. If anyone had asked who the most hopeless man in town was they would have pointed to me."

Today this man is the superintendent of a Sabbath-school.

Eleven years ago, when I went to Boston, I had a cousin who wanted a little of my experience. I gave him all the help I could, and he became a Christian. He did not know how near death was to him: He wrote to his brother and said: "I am very anxious to get your soul to Jesus." The letter somehow went to another city, and lay from the 28th of February till the 28th of March--just one month. He saw it was in his brother's handwriting, and tore it open and read the above words. It struck a chord in his heart, and was the means of converting him. And this was the Christian who led this drunken man to Christ. This young man had a neighbor who had drank for forty years, and he went to that neighbor and told him what God had done for him, and the result was another conversion. I tell you these things to encourage you to believe that the drunkard can be saved.

