

# Jewels For His Crown



March / April 2011

A periodical for  
Christian Young  
Ladies.



The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places;  
yea, I have a goodly heritage. Psalm 16:6

**The Miller Family**

Greetings in the name of the Lord from our family in the beautiful Ozark hills of Missouri! This issue is on thankfulness and what I am most thankful for here on this earth is my dear family. We were all together for Christmas day and took this picture. With the exception of my mother, Melba Brinkley (on my left) and Bro. Mike’s dad, Kenny Miller (on his right), these are all our children, in-laws, and grands! Some of our family are already with the Lord, like my Dad, Mike’s Mom, and our little Paul, and though we miss them, we can be thankful in knowing that we will see them one day. May you and your family be blessed in His love and care this year! ~Teresa Miller

**Editor**

Teresa Miller

**Managing Editor**

Bro. Mike Miller

**Food and Craft Co-Editor**

Elisabeth Miller

**Photographer and  
Cover design**

Esther Miller

**Co-Photographers**

Daniel and Elisabeth Miller

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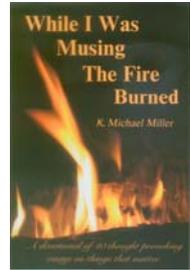
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Now available, “As The Days Go By”, a collection of poems by Sis. Teresa Miller. The book is a 68-page paperback edition of original poetry. The cost is \$6.95 plus sh/hdl charges.

Also available, “While I Was Musing, The Fire Burned”, a book of devotions written by Bro. Mike Miller, which many have already found a great blessing. The cost is \$9.95 plus sh/hdl charges.



You may order both books for \$15 plus sh/hdl by writing with your request to the address found on the back cover, or you may send an email to:

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The art of thanksgiving is thanksgiving.  
Author Unknown

The things we take for granted are  
dreams to many people.  
Author Unknown

A proud man is seldom a grateful man,  
for he never thinks he gets as much as he  
deserves.  
Henry Ward Beecher

Gratitude is an offering precious in the  
sight of God, and it is one that the  
poorest of us can make and be not poorer  
but richer for having made it.  
A.W. Tozer



# Contentment

is great gain.

1 Timothy 6:6



*You say, 'If I had a little more, I should be very satisfied.' You make a mistake. If you are not content with what you have, you would not be satisfied if it were doubled.*  
~C.H. Spurgeon

Someone once asked Corrie ten Boom



how she could possibly handle all the compliments and praise that were heaped upon her, without becoming proud. She said she

looked at each compliment as a beautiful long-stemmed flower given to her. She smelled it for a moment and then put it into a vase with the others. Each night, just before retiring, she took the beautiful bouquet and handed it over to God saying, "Thank you, Lord, for letting me smell the flowers; they all belong to you." She had discovered the secret to genuine humility.

~David Seamands

An evidence that our will has been broken is that we begin to thank God for that which once seemed so bitter, knowing that His will is good and that, in His time and in His way, He is able to make the most bitter waters sweet.

Nancy Leigh DeMoss

One night, a lady stumbled into the police station with a black eye. She claimed she heard a noise in her back yard and went to investigate. The next thing she knew, she was hit in the eye and knocked out cold.

An officer was sent to her house to investigate, and he returned 1½ hours later with a black eye.

"Did you get hit by the same person?" his captain asked.

"No," he replied. "I stepped on the same rake."

**Keep a green tree in your heart and perhaps a singing bird will come.**  
- Chinese proverb



The thankful receiver bears a plentiful harvest.  
- William Blake

*For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony,  
linking sense to sound and sight;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.*  
(taken from,  
"For The Beauty of the Earth")



# Albert Barnes

Albert Barnes was born in Rome, New York on December 1, 1798. He graduated from Hamilton College in Clinton, NY, in 1820, and from Princeton Theological Seminary, in 1823.

In 1835 he was brought to trial for heresy by the Second Presbytery of Philadelphia, and was acquitted. His accusers succeeded in having him suspended from the ministry, and he was again acquitted of heresy in 1836. The charges of heresy primarily related to his comments on Romans and the fact that Barnes broke from strict Calvinism and taught that every man had free will to accept or deny the Gospel. (Calvinism says you have no choice; you are chosen and only the chosen ones will be saved.) He was a leader in the "New School" branch of the Presbyterian church.

His commentary on the entire New Testament and on portions of the Old (*Notes: Explanatory and Practical, 1832-72*), designed originally for his congregation in Philadelphia, were well-suited for popular use and more than one million copies were sold before his death. The Notes on Job, the Psalms, Isaiah and Daniel, were also widely accepted. Barnes was the author of several other works of a practical and devotional kind, including *Scriptural Views of Slavery* (1846) and *The Way of Salvation* (1863). A collection of his *Theological Works* was published in Philadelphia in 1875.

He was an eloquent preacher, but his reputation rests chiefly on his expository works, which are said to have had a larger circulation both in Europe and America than any other of their class.

He died in Philadelphia on the 24th of December 1870, at the age of 72.

(Editor's note: I have read and used other commentaries but Barnes' Notes on the New and Old Testaments have been my favorite. There is much insight in his writings and a real love and devotion for the Word of God. I highly recommend that you use his commentaries as you read and study the Bible. It will help you to understand some things that may not be clear to you. It is a trusted source.)



## *Be Ye Thankful*

*And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Colossians 3:15*

Winter is almost over and the breath of spring is in the air. I do so love the flowers that begin to peep up out of the ground, and it is hard to resist all the pretty blossoms that are displayed in the stores. Days like these rejoice my heart, knowing that this little corner of the world that is sleeping is about to awaken again with new growth. It is an exciting time with new beginnings everywhere; fresh flowers blooming in the gardens, trees budding tiny little leaves that are as tight as a baby's fist when they first open up, birds singing to each other and busily gathering new materials for fresh nests in which to raise their little ones. It is certainly a time for which we can rejoice and be thankful.

Thankfulness is an important part of a Christian's life. A person is thankful when they realize that they are given special things and privileges when they really do not deserve them. It is a poor testimony of the goodness of God when someone who claims to be a Christian is always complaining about what they do not have or cannot do. There are many reasons for a Christian to be thankful; for salvation and God's mercy, for an eternal Home with Jesus, for the blessed Holy Spirit to guide and comfort us along the way. These are just a few things, but there are countless more reasons by thankful.

Giving thanks to God and having a thankful spirit are a blessing to Him. One of the first things that your Mother probably taught you as a baby was to say, "Thank you", when you were given something. She wanted you to learn to be thankful, and nothing is more pleasing to a parent than to know that their children are thankful for the things that they provide. When I have been cooking for hours on a good meal for my family, to see them enjoy the food and hear them say, "Thanks for the dinner, Mom, it was great!" is very pleasing to my heart. I want to please them and when I know that I do, it gives me a sense of satisfaction, also. The same is true with our Heavenly Father. He loves to give his children good things and it pleases him to hear you say, "Thank you, Father. I love you."

Some people receive so many good things that they begin to believe that this is the normal way of life. When things are not so good and they cannot have all that they desire, they feel that they are being treated poorly and become discontented and complaining. A downcast, unthankful attitude is a dishonor to God and also to whoever is providing for you, such as your Dad or, in the future, your husband. Do you always get what you ask for from your parents? There are times when what we think we want would not be good for us. A wise parent will withhold even good things from his children at times when receiving those things would only cause unthankfulness.

God cannot bless a person who is always finding fault with what they have, the situation they are in, or always wishing that they had something more or better. A discontented person is never thankful, to God or anyone else. 1Timothy 6:6-7 says, *"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out."* If you follow the Israelites as they were brought out of Egypt (where they were slaves, beaten and made to work hard labor and were under constant oppression) you will find a good example of an unthankful spirit. They were delivered from bondage, given food from Heaven for every day, fresh water was provided for them when it was needed, their clothes and shoes did not even wear out. As long as everything was good and they had no problems, they were happy and willing to do anything Moses and God said. But every single time that things were hard or even a little doubtful, they were ready to turn back to Egypt, ready to turn on Moses and sometimes wanted to stone him, or they would begin to worship another god instead of Jehovah. When we read about them the first thing we think is "What an ungrateful bunch! If I were God, I would zap them and be done with them all!" But how do we react to our parents when there is not enough money for us to buy the things that we see and think we need? "If they would not spend so much money on themselves, I could get the things that I want!" It is not their obligation to fulfill your every desire and this is a shameful attitude of ungratefulness.

Perhaps it is not only the things that we cannot have that make us discontent and unthankful. Sometimes we feel that we are being taken advantage of by Mom because she wants us to do dishes, or laundry, or some other job that we do not like to do. Instead of feeling the joy of the

privilege of being an active part of your family and the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping, you take on a "poor-me" attitude and make her feel guilty for even asking you to do anything. In this way you cultivate an ungrateful and unthankful spirit. You cannot honor your parents or God with a spirit like that, and God even warns His people to stay away from those who do these things. *"For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away."* (1Tim. 3:2-5)

Everyone wants to be joyful and happy. We choose places to go that bring us peace and happiness. We seek out people who will make us feel good or loved. It is not a bad thing to desire, but if you only seek for the things that make you happy then you are living a selfish, self-satisfying life. A life like that will not only make everyone else around you miserable, but will make you miserable as well. Contentment brings thankfulness and a thankful spirit will bring joy. But how can you be content?

Discontent is not a product of circumstances; it is the state of the soul. For a person to be delivered from the bondage of sin, they must see their sinful condition and know they are not worthy of forgiveness. A thankful heart begins when Jesus Christ forgives your sins, washes you clean in His blood and fills you with His peace and love. Remember that thankfulness is the expression of gratitude for something done for you. A soul without Christ is blind to the fact that they are in danger of an eternity without hope. Salvation opens the understanding to make you realize what your fate could have been had it not been for a longsuffering and patient Saviour. The peace and joy that you find in the Lord Jesus begins with thankfulness.

You can decide how your day will go when you get up in the morning. If you get up with a sour attitude for all the work you have to do or because of something that you will not get to do, then you will set the mood for the entire day. But if you determine that you will begin each new day with a thankful heart to the Lord for all His goodness to you and count your blessings instead of your ills, your life will be a joy not only to yourself

but to others as well. Thankfulness is the state of mind that will produce the fruit of joy.

Practice having a joyful spirit and a thankful heart. We humans are creatures of habit. The more often that we do a certain thing the more we will be set to do it again. If you have learned how to type, you know that the longer you practice typing, the more your fingers remember which keys to push without you having to look at them. The same principle is true with having a thankful heart. Practice saying "Thank you" every time someone gives you something or does something for you, even to your brother and sister. Make your mind think on the good things that God has given you and shun thoughts of what you do not or cannot have. Wake up every morning saying, "Thank you, dear Lord, for a new day that you have given me to live, all new with no mistakes in it." Seek to please Him and you will automatically please others, and before long having a thankful attitude will be a part of your nature.

Always remember that *"the joy of the LORD is your strength."* (Nehemiah 8:10) Joy comes from the Lord. Happiness can come from other sources but happiness does not last and can be taken away by circumstances in our lives. But joy is something that Jesus can put in your soul that will never go away, no matter what happens around you. If Jesus is your Lord and Master, joy will be a part of you in all things and thankfulness will come as natural as breathing. If you have a problem with being thankful, do a "heart search" and ask the Lord to help you see where your problem lies.

*"A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken." Proverbs 15:13*

*"He that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast." Proverbs 15:15b*

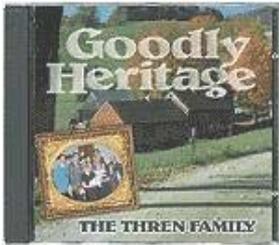
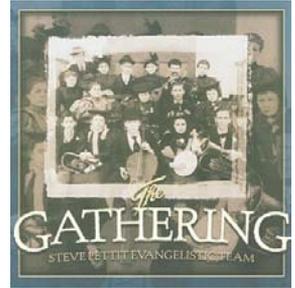
*"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones." Proverbs 17:22*



## MISCELLANEOUS PAGE

### **Steve Pettit Evangelistic Team -- The Gathering**

A collection of instrumental selections with an old world flavor. A recollection of hymns and spiritual songs played on hand-made acoustical instruments that will bless your home with good music. The group has a variety of other projects with vocal selections as well as other instrumentals. These can be found at the web site: [www.oldchristianmusic.com](http://www.oldchristianmusic.com)



### **The Thren Family--Goodly Heritage**

This is one project that you will really enjoy. This family has been singing since all of their boys were little and they now all have families of their own. Enjoy music from a good, Godly family who harmonize wonderfully together. My family and I have known them for many years and highly recommend them to you. This CD is available at:

[www.faithmusicmissions.org](http://www.faithmusicmissions.org)

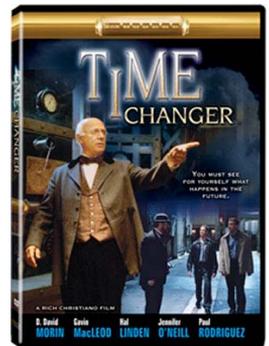
(Click on the "By Artist" button.)

### **Time Changer--A Rich Christiano Film**

A time-travel adventure for the whole family! The year is 1890, Bible Professor Russell Carlisle (D. David Morin) has written a new manuscript, "The Changing Times". His book is about to receive a unanimous endorsement from the board members of the Grace Bible Seminary... until Dr. Norris Anderson (Gavin MacLeod) raises an issue over a "difficulty" he has with something Carlisle has written.

Dr. Anderson believes what Carlisle has written could seriously affect the future of coming generations. Using a secret time machine, Anderson sends Carlisle more than 100 years into the future; offering him a glimpse of where his writing will lead.

This DVD is available at: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



(Editor's note: From time to time I will recommend a movie to my readers. I do not recommend an excessive amount of movie watching for it hinders your time and fills your mind with other things to think about besides reality. We have an occasional family night with a good movie but we keep it occasional. Take care what you put in your mind, for it will stay there forever.)

## Picture Frame Bulletin Board

Bulletin boards can be so handy for anyone in the family. These are easy to make and easy to afford. Look for a good picture frame at any flea market or yard sale that will be the size you need. Buy a piece of cork board at the local hardware store to fit the frame and either leave it natural or cover it with your favorite wrapping paper or fabric. Add a little color to the frame if you like to match the color of the decorations in the room, and there you have it! Make one for Mom's kitchen, Dad's work area, a small one in the hall or bathroom. They are great anywhere.



## Tea-Time Gift Box

If you know of someone who likes to drink tea, this is a great gift idea to make it special. Purchase a box of their favorite kind of tea and dress up the box with some scrapbooking stickers, papers and stamps. You will have to remove the outer layer of plastic to do this but that will not harm the freshness of the tea within. A good idea for a ladies Sunday School class is to purchase a box of variety teas and make one of these teabag covers. The first one is stitched around three sides of a folded paper. Just cut your paper a little larger than the tea bag and



twice as long, fold over and stitch two sides. Slip the teabag in the pocket and stitch the remaining open side. To make the other teabag cover, cut a piece that is 2 3/4" x 8 1/4". Mark at 3/4", 4 1/4", and 4 3/4", and fold on these lines. Decorate the front, make slits for ribbon to thread through, insert teabag and tie your bow.



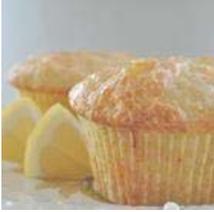
## Antique Utensil Windchimes

This project may be a little more difficult for my younger readers, but it might be a fun idea to employ Dad's or brother's help! Use OLD utensils that Mom says you may use (preferably from a rummage sale). The picture shows 3 forks, 2 spoons of varying sizes, and one knife. The center "hanger" is a fork with the tines bent and twisted in four directions, then the tips looped for hangers. A hole is drilled in the end of the handle and above the tines. The "clapper" fork (the one that hangs in the center and hits the others) has each tine bent out and twisted in a swirl pattern. The spoons are all hammered flat and normally the forks are, too. The designer of this chime, however, has put a blue marble in the twisted fork tines of the one that is hanging. Each utensil has a hole drilled on the end of the handle. Use strong fishing line to tie it all together and a short link of chain to hang. A friend of ours has one of these delightful chimes and it is really fascinating! It would make a great gift idea.



(From "Taste of Home" Prize-Winning Brunches.)

## Lemon Yogurt Muffins



2 cups flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
¼ teaspoon salt  
2 eggs

1 ¼ cups (14 oz.) plain yogurt  
¼ cup butter, melted  
¼ cup sugar

2 tablespoons honey

1 tablespoon grated lemon peel

Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt; set aside. In a bowl, beat eggs. Add yogurt, butter, sugar, honey and lemon peel. Stir in dry ingredients until combined. Spoon into greased muffin cups. Bake at 375° for 15 minutes or until a toothpick inserted near center comes out clean. While baking, combine 1/3 cup lemon juice, 1/3 cup sugar and 3 tablespoons water in a small saucepan; bring to a boil and boil for 1 minute. Drizzle over warm muffins. Yield: 1 dozen.

## Bacon and Cheese Breakfast Pizza



Pastry for single-crust pie (9 inches)

½ pound bacon, cooked and crumbled

2 cups (8 ounces) shredded Swiss cheese

4 eggs

1-1/2 cups (12 ounces) sour cream

2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

\*Roll pastry to fit a 12-in. pizza pan. Bake at 425° for 5 minutes. Sprinkle bacon and cheese evenly over crust. In a bowl, beat eggs, sour cream and parsley until smooth; pour over pizza. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes or until pizza is puffy and lightly browned.

Yield: 6 servings.

## Brown Sugar Oatmeal Pancakes



1 egg  
2 tablespoons canola oil  
1 cup buttermilk  
½ cup EACH whole wheat flour and all-purpose flour  
½ teaspoon EACH baking soda and salt  
1/3 cup packed brown sugar  
½ cup plus 2 tablespoons quick-cooking oats

In a small bowl, combine the oats, flours, baking soda, salt and sugar. In another small bowl, beat the egg, oil and buttermilk. Stir into dry ingredients just until moistened. Pour batter by 1/3 cupful onto a greased hot griddle. Turn when bubbles form on top; cook until the second side is golden brown.

Yield: about 10 pancakes.

## Orange Julius



1 can (6 ounces) frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed

1 cup milk

1 cup water

1/4 cup sugar

1 teaspoon

vanilla extract

10 to 12 ice cubes

In a blender, combine the orange juice, milk, water, sugar and vanilla. Cover and blend until smooth. With blender running, add ice cubes, one at a time, through the opening in lid. Blend until smooth. Serve immediately. **Yield:** 4-5 servings.

*It's a little too little to save,  
And a little too much to dump,  
There's nothing to do but eat it,  
And that makes the housewife plump.*

*Jewels for Mrs Brown  
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