LITTLE LOVE LETTER

NOV. I, 1968

By E.H.H. Belfast Dr. GARDEN GROVE, CALIF.

TO MY BRETHREN: In my October Little LoveLetter to you I rather quickly left off on one portion. A four page leaflet is too short on space. Much more could have been included on that division, and perhaps should have been. Please read deeply.

MY HEART'S DESIRE and prayer to God for our Brethren is, that they might be saved. Especially this concern for those who have sinned. And who has not sinned? Yet I can not write each and every one individually. For that reason I write any and all who might be concerned. Eternal life is in offing.

No one but has sinned and come short of the glory of God, (Ro.3:23). Redemption is in Christ Jesus, (V.24). Righteousness of God is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe, (V.22). Not one -- but need and could use more faith. Faith for many seems to sadly sink into the deep and desperate despair. They think they are gone-gone. For some of us this gone-gone may deepen more than others may think. There's need for help. Why give up? Try again, swim. Why go back, quit, walk no more? Get up and go-go. Rest is ahead.

The Apostle Peter went out, and wept bitterly after he had denied Christ thrice. But Christ knew, and prayed for him, that his faith fail not. "And when thou art converted, strengthen the brethren." "Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not,--"From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.-"Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life."(Lk.22:32 and Jno.6:64-68).

Apostle Paul, "I am carnal, sold under sin." When he would do good, evil was present with him.

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SIN IS. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Sad state. Why do we do wrong? And not good? Why? The Apostle Paul said that it was sin that dwells in him (that is, in his flesh)."Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." "In Adam all die." To set the mind on the flesh is death. Those who are in the flesh can not please God. Israel sinned, and entered not in because of unbelief. "But you are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwells in you."(Ezek.I8:4,Ro.8:9). This is our hope, our only hope. There is not any other. Our Redeemer, the Lord of hosts is his name.

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER

"O wretched man that I am; who shall deliver me from this body of death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord." "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."(Mk.9:24). "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;"--(Eph.I:7). Prophecy:(Is.I:I8), "though your sins be as scarlet, --though they be red like crimson,--."Crimson is a deep red. Scarlet is a deep bright red, life like, spirited. Sin can be that deep. "Thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."(R.3: I7). "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? (Mat. 3: 7). "O generation of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak good things." (Mat.I2:34).

Christ is the way, the truth, the life. "But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God,then the kingdom of God is come unto you."(Mat.I2:28 - then v. 3I). "Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men." All manner of sin. Mk.3:28 says all sin. (BUT ONE???)

IN CHRIST IS FORGIVENESS (Eph.I:7)

"Know ye not, that so many of us as are baptized into Jesus Christ are baptized into his death?(Ro.6: 3). V.4, Buried with him - raised up from the dead - walk in newness of life. Death-burial-resurrection. "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."(Acts 22:I6).

WASHED IN HIS BLOOD (continued)

"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness."(Ro.6:17-18). "And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God."(I Cor.6:11).

"UNTO HIM (emphasis?) that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,--to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."(Rev.1:5-6).

WHAT GRACE. What manner of love. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."(Ro.5:8).

ADVOCATE

Turn back? Walk no more? Continue in sin? But we do sin. Weak? Continue? God forbid. "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."(I Cor.10:12).

If we sin will we be forgiven? Christ said so, as already quoted. David prayed (Ps.6:2), "Have mercy upon me, O Lord; for I am weak:"-- "And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:"-(I Jno.2:1).(Ezk.18:30 & Acts8:22 & Rev.2:5). The word "Advocate" is same Greek word as "Comforter"--One called along side, to help. As a ship in distress.

PROPITIATION. "And he is the propitiation for our sins:--". "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."(I Jno.2:1 & 4:10). Propitiation, mercy seat, - place of covering sin. Appeasement. At-one-ment.

IF ANY MAN. "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death." This, I Jno.5:16, in another translation, "If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray to God, who will give him life." "BRETHREN, if a man be overtaken in a fault,--" "Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;-And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed."(Gal.6:1 & Heb.12:12-13). (I Jno.2:1--"that ye sin not.").EHH.

THE FIRST RESURRECTION.Rev.20,6

By Bro. Lackey,Springfield

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and ofChrist and shall reign with him a thousand years." Rev.20, I4The second death is in the lake of fire. V.I5And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Those who have part in the first resurrection, shall be priests of God and of Christ,and shall reign with Him a thousand years. I Pe.2,5 "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." What sacrifices are we to offer? Ro.I2,I-2 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

When we go through the likeness of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, as recorded in Ro.6,3-6, we are raised to walk a new life. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection. Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed,--" Col.2,I2"Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead."-- According to the above scriptures, We have buried the sinfulman, arisen to walk a new life, a Spiritual life, been renewed in the Spirit of our minds, a Spiritual resurrection. Dead to sin, alive unto God. We read in Ro.6,3 That we are baptized into Jesus Christ. Is there any other way to enter Christ? 2 Cor.5,I7 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, allthings are become new."--We also read Eph.2,I "And you hath

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he quickened,(made alive;Spiritually alive) who were dead in trespasses and sins;-" Verse 5"Even when we were dead in sins,& And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:"--How did they get into Christ? - "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Col.3,I "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above,where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Ro.6,II"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. I2Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof." Ro.8,I3 "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." Gal.5,I9-2I"Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which arethese; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings,murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God."

A CHANGE TAKES PLACE. Col.3,I2"Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness,long-suffering; I3"Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. I4 "And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. I5"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. I6"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. I7"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Is it not evident from the above scriptures, that a person is raised from a life of sin, into the Life that is in Christ Jesus? A spiritual life. A life of Righteousness in Christ Jesus. ((Thanks much,Bro.Lackey.Christ's Love) (Bro. Lackey wrote he was in hosp.2 wks in Sept.but home again and is able to be around with a cane.)

NEWS AND NOTES

THIS IS October II, I968, and THAT IS the way it is. TIME will go on as God may will. "While the earth remaineth,--day and night shall not cease."

GOD OUR CREATOR is still up there on His Throne. "--He is the living God, and king of eternity:-".

CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR redeemed us from our sins in His own blood(washed us whiter than snow). He was victor over death, was received up into heaven,and sat on the right hand of God. "At the right hand of the throne of God" "-until I make thine enemies thy footstool" "Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign,till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death."

THIS AFTERNOON, right now, relatives and loved ones are there, or are now on the way, to the sad funeral of my Nephew, Leonard Drake. We couldn't go. Eugene, Oreg. is so far away. But we are with them in prayer, grief, thought, sympathy. In the sorrow, may our merciful Father grant His Care and Love. Leonard had a heart transplant at Stanford Aug. 22, bravely fought complications, but had to go Oct.7.

BROTHER ROBERT E. McCAY, Rt.2,Box 482A, Port Orchard, Wash.98366,--Please keep this address. They invite visitors up that way to look them up. Thank you, Bro. Robert, in love.

BROTHER C. C. McCLUSKEY, West Sacramento, has written that the church at Indian Springs had a 6 day gospel meeting, Aug.II-I7. Bro. H. E. McCAY brought the gospel sermons. Bro. Ron. Tibbs, also, takes his turn bringing lessons to the church. Bro. Ken. Harper also helps. Lately at Grants Pass,too.
BROTHER RONALD TIBBS and Sister Gail DesChains were united in marriage Sept. I8. "Bonne foi."

ADDED OCT.24. Letter today from Sister Lackey says she took Brother Lackey back to the hospital few days ago. He doesn't seem improving very fast. It often takes time improving. We hope fast, soon.

NEWS AND NOTES
(continued)

BROTHER ROY DABBS went into Surgery Oct.8,Tues. morning at 7, came out at 2:I5. Sister Dabbs said they took out top of vocal box and all of nodes on cords at left side of neck. Has throat catherized but hope will be able to talk later. What misery, these operation. May God grant much Love, and good health soon. They will apparently be there several weeks. Sister Dabbs also had surgery in Aug. orSep. It wasnt malignant, thankful for that. Let's shower them with many best wishes. (Mrs. Roy Dabbs,c/oBill Nelson,502 Nagara N. E. Albuquerque,N.Mex.87I07). (Added later. Bro. Roy is improving, slowly. Had intensive care I0 days;talks some. We're all glad.

BROTHER TOM NELSON,Sister Dabb's brother-in-law, and Bro. Allen Nelson's brother, passed away Sept. I9. He had a stroke Sept. I4, and he never did regain consciousness. May his family be comforted in Faith. All of us extendfullest sympathy.

BROTHER HOWARD STUDER, of Lorenzo, Texas, has just come out of the hospital recently. He hasn't been very well since the passing of his dear wife last January. BROTHER R. H. PEEL, of Crosbyton, still helps the church at Lorenzo much,although his wife hasn't been very well all year.

BROTHER ALLEN NELSONS gave report of the ones there who have been sick, or not up to I00% par: BROTHER JACK RENICK is not well, but keeps going. SISTER VERDA NELSON sick some, but better now. Their son CLAUDE was home on furlough in Aug. Card later from ANchorage is that he's on the way over-seas. No wonder they're all sick over it. Best of God's Love, BROTHER CLAUDE, and quick trip home. SISTER MARY SMITH has had bad foot problems, and it will be some time in healing. All keep chins up.

"YET MAN IS born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward." "Oh that my grief were throughly weighed, and my calamity laid in the balances together."Job? "But ye, beloved,--on your most high faith, praying in the power of the Holy Spirit, Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

NEWS AND NOTES
(continued)

BROTHER RALPH RHODES, and those of Kingman, Arizona, have written new and changed addresses, we thank them very much. Any one traveling over that way? Please look them up and give them all the encouragement possible. BROTHER G.H.(Hayes)MORRIS and family have moved to Stilwell, Okla. He and BROTHER LLOYD ALLGOOD were in Kingman recently, to move needed things back.

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS to every one every where for encouragement, addresses, and donations. We do very muchly appreciate, and "That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love,-" "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body---; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."--- There would not be a body if it were all only one part. As it is, there are many parts, and one body. All of you, then, are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

BROTHER GENE EDWARDS, BROTHER KENNETH WILCHER and BROTHER DOUG. LYTLE and their families are all at Hughes Brothers Ranch, Redvale, Colo. 81431. The Worship is at Bro. Gene's house. A new brother, Johnny Lyons, was baptized Aug. 4. That's good, and any one ever up that way should be sure to look for them and help in every way possible. God bless them.

THESE EIGHT PAGES, even as do all things, must end. Old man 1968 also is graying old. "Periodical" per Sept. Little Letter, possibly may be elongated. Fifty years ago was long, per se. That's th'way 'tis. I've tried. Please pe-ruse over. I know many have. "Praise ye the Lord- for he is good:" I'm unworthy. "-when I would do good, evil is present with me." "BUT THANKS BE TO GOD-VICTORY THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST." Emphasize it, He gives victory in Jesus.

"THEREFORE, MY BELOVED BRETHREN, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."(I Cor.15:53-58)LOVE GOD. GOD IS LOVE. The GOD of love be with you, all. Amen.

E'TUDE, et al, &c. In love, E. H. H.