

NEWSLETTER

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THE DAY AFTER

The Title came to me after I realized that this weeks Newsletter goes out on the 26th of December. "That's the day after Christmas," I thought.

All Newsletters are about Scripture, for the most part. I add, now and then, some practical and personal experiences that I've lived or learned from others - things I think about, "**The Day After.**"

It's necessary that I lean on others a great deal. But, don't we all stand on the shoulders of great men of the past - parents and pastors? I managed to graduate from Antelope Valley High School by the skin of my teeth. And, while I did receive an AA Degree from Hartnell College in Salinas, Ca., I know my limitations when it comes to brains. I'm not smart enough to tackle those deep subjects, like Astro Physics; not that I'm not interested.

But, when it comes to decision making, I consider myself smarter than the average guy of my age. And, a whole lot smarter than anyone born within the last 40 years (light years ahead of those born in the 90's).

Never have I woke up the "**day after**" with a tattoo on my body - without a clue of how it got there. I have never looked in the mirror the "**day after**" and saw piercing anywhere on my body. Never gonna happen!

I did some dumb stuff in high school; like, skipping classes. But, I never smoked a "joint." That's what marijuana was tagged, back then. There were always parties, of course. And, where there's a party, there's booze. However, I did not like "**the day after**" feeling, at all. Two times - max; that's it! And none, zip, nada for the last 40 years - if I need to come up with a date of the last time I took a sip of an alcoholic drink. I (and my wife) dumped the smoking habit in the late 60's - one of the best things I've (we) ever stopped doing.

Some of my '**good-decision-making-wisdom**' came from growing up in the 40's and 50's, I'm persuaded. Life was presented in a much different way back then, than it is today. We were close knit families but, that era also gave us a strong, individualistic feeling of being in charge. You know, a **James Dean** kind of stance.

We did not have a whole lot, in terms of material things in the 50's. We didn't expect much, either. And, what we had, was purchased strictly within the means of

the family income. We weren't concerned with credit, usually paying cash-even for the family car.

Perhaps, coming up in the 50's is why I looked at everything that opened up to me, with an adventurous eye. I saw every opportunity as if it was just for me, regardless of what others thought or did. Without saying the word and certainly, without any sort of a plan, life has been one big "WOW!"

Then, in 1959, God opened up salvation to me. I was saved by trusting in the Person of Jesus. His shed blood on Calvary's Cross paid sin's debt for anyone; but it was for me, especially. To me, I was the only guy that needed to be saved. I didn't care what others thought or did because God was speaking to MY HEART, personally.

God's love pricked my heart, and thoroughly convinced me of sin and the exceeding sinfulness of it. The Holy Spirit removed the callousness and hardness of my heart and I saw the iniquity there, laid open and bare. The plague and corruption filled my heart and I discerned that I was a sinner in desperate need of God forgiveness. [adapted from John Gill's Commentary]

Salvation was just too wonderfully righteous not to accept God's love offer. I repented and trusted Jesus as MY Savior and was immediately set free from sin. Life has changed! "WOW" has been replaced with "Amazing;" as in, **GRACE**.

It's amazing that God loved me enough to saved me and use me in His service. It remains amazing that God still does use me, after nearly fifty years.

Every "**day after**" the day I was saved, has been a glorious walk for me. With 50's wisdom, I'm too smart **not** to continue to seek the kingdom of God. With imparted wisdom from the Holy Spirit, I seek the kingdom, **first** (Matt. 6:33).

As an average guy, I use every Scriptural item available to help me script the weekly Newsletter. Wikipedia, the dictionary/encyclopedia Web site, is something that I reference, a lot. But, when I 'googled' "**The Day After**," looking for resources on the end times, I was quite surprised.

I expected to pull up articles about the End Times that used the phrase, "**The Day After**." "Surely, I could get something on Armageddon, at least," I thought.

"**The Day After**" phrase was there; but, it wasn't about the end of the world, not in the sense that John wrote in the Book of Revelation. Rather, "the day after" listed a TV movie (which, I never saw) about nuclear war entitled, "**The Day After**." God may use nuclear war at the end the world but, it won't be in a Hollywood manner, to be sure.

However, the phrase, "**The Day After**" was found everywhere on the World Wide Web. There was, "The Day After Tomorrow; which, dealt with Global Warming. And, many other sites offered information about 'the day after'

some disastrous event hit the world. There was "**The Day After**" Katrina; "**The Day After**" some battle that took place, somewhere in Iraq. And, there were late breaking items; such as, "**The Day After**" the Mitchell report; which, covered the steroid scandal in baseball.

I tried to find something - anything, on the Second Coming; or Revelations or, Eschatology (end-times) utilizing the phrase, "**The Day After.**" But, after scrolling through 20 pages, then page 29 and finally, page 39, I stopped. I was not going to search anymore. Can you imagine what I would feel like "**The Day After**" (or, the year after) I searched all of the 141,000,000 sites that were available under the title, "**The Day After?**"

So, it was my intention to write about **The Day After** Jesus returns, making a plea for people, everywhere, to prepare themselves for that day, NOW! That intention remains, and does so everyday. Friend, don't wait till the brightness of His coming scorches the earth. **The Day After** Jesus comes will be too late for anyone who isn't ready for His coming.

You might read this the day after or, the day after that. You might delete it, without reading it at all. What you do with this article it up to you. It won't matter much the day after; but, what you do with Jesus and His salvation, today matters. It matters today, the day after and for eternity. Trust Jesus, now!