

GOOD NEWS IN THE GOODNEWS LETTER, AGAIN! Mariah is doing so good that she may be home before her parents know it (Ha! And, Praise the Lord, too).

We hear that Tatianna is about a month away from going home. God is Good, remember!

# GOOD NEWS LETTER

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## MADISON AVENUE

This article isn't about the fashion and advertising hub located in the New York City borough of Manhattan.

It's about any of the BYWAYS named 'Madison' that every city in America has - those busy avenues that try one's patience.

Sacramento has a Madison Avenue. It's a three lane thoroughfare connecting the cities of North Highlands, Carmichael and Citrus Heights and Orangevale. It runs into the city of Folsom, before running out, itself.

And, is it busy! There are thousands of cars everyday on this Madison Avenue. I know, I drove this "**Highway of the Nations**," this week; not a normal way to go for me.

I noticed a ton of cars, trucks and automobiles of every make. Yep! It is busy - a gotta hurry up and get there, sort of passageway of the world.

But, it's not the driving. That's acceptable. The roads are smooth and roomy. Nevertheless, it can be edgy, somewhat. It's when the traffic stops that gets to preachers.

Preachers do not like to be in worldly situation unless they can preach to the world about Jesus. That's my thinking, anyway. I find myself asking a lot from the Lord when I'm stuck in traffic. Here I am, I feel, stuck in among the nations - and, I can't quote a verse of Scripture to them, either.

When traffic wasn't moving, I prayed, "**Lord, change the light.**" Next, I started singing a hymn, like: "**IN THE MORNING OF JOY.**"

While, waiting for the Lord to answer (or the light signal to change), the nations of the world threw their stiffest competition at me. Driving time is when worldly pressure becomes the strongest, it seems; at least, it is on Madison Avenue. I can't preach and I won't use the horn. The only other response is the IQ sign; which, I always see on Madison Avenue. But, that's out!

Oh, yes! There's patience! But, this is traffic. And, look at this guy in the car next to me. He's so loud that I can't help but turn my head to see who's the idiot.

It sounds more like he's in the back seat of my car. With all the windows rolled down, the top of his car lowered and the trunk wide opened, he cranks up the noise box to its **MAX!**

I'm thinking, "The guy must know which cars carry preachers. Why else would he point the amplification directly at my automobile?" It's maddening!

**"Boom, Boom (pause) Boom, Boom, Boom!"**

And, boy, is it hard to continue singing the same joyous song. Without even thinking, I change to **"There's A Great Day Coming."** I can be loud, too. So, I amplified the part that says, ***"When the saints and the sinners shall be parted right and left."***

Only the Lord heard me, too; convicting me for judging the man with the noise maker. "Lord," I whimpered, "The light?"

Then, a second later and, in strong voice, I ask for leniency, again. **"Please, Lord, the light!"** I don't noticed, but my voice raises in pitch and the words become much longer in duration. It's all because of the guy next to me. I cannot let Madison Avenue effect me this way, I determined. I won't let it effect me!

Finally, the light changes to green and we're off; in **"petal to the metal"** fashion. "Where are all these people going, Lord? Who are they. I've never seen them in church. Where are all these people running to?"

## **THEN, AS IT ALWAYS DOES, SCRIPTURE COMES TO MIND**

First, how the nations (the heathen) differ from God's people. **"Therefore... Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat"** (or, the traffic on Madison Avenue)...**"The life is more than meat"** (Lk 12:22-23). **"For these things do the nations of the world seek after:"** (Lk 12:30).

Secondly, what the nations think about preachers (and, saints). **"Ye shall be hated of all nations for My name's sake,"** Matthew 24:9.

Thirdly, the reason we are among the nations. **"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world,"** Matthew 28:19-20.

A joy comes to my heart again and I begin singing one of the gospel standards: "The Old Rugged Cross," "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" and, "He Looked Beyond My Sin And Saw My Need."

I feel much better. Now, if the Lord would do something about **that noise box...!**