



Times Remembered Betty A. Young
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Blackberry Picking #2

mower before they could flower, but these past few years we had allowed them to mature.

Early one morning, a few weeks ago, I donned a long sleeve shirt, jeans, boots, hat and gloves, sprayed my clothing with insect repellent to ward off the chiggers, and walked thirty feet or so from our air-conditioned kitchen to the blackberry patch. There I managed to pick about a quart of berries, probably enough for a pie; I chose to cook them and make a little blackberry jam. I served them with hot biscuits, but the yield seemed small for an hour and half of picking.

I recall all the times we picked blackberries as a child growing up. My mother and father were accustomed to picking wild berries, nuts, greens and

other fruits. They could usually tell when the crops would be plentiful, and where to find them.

I was fourth of four children, so by the time I was old enough to pick berries some of my older sisters had married and left home. Therefore, Mom liked for me to go with her, she said my eyesight was good and I could watch for snakes; plus, I did pick some berries.

Mom and I wore jeans, long sleeved shirts, sturdy shoes and straw hats. We would pick on our farm; then if we didn't have enough we would go to Granny's and pick.

We carried as many buckets and containers as possible, depending on whether we had to walk a long way or ride. The yield varied from year to year; sometimes 2 gallons then sometimes 8 gallons or so. Mom usually would freeze half of the berries and make jam from the rest. And of course we had blackberry cobbles often during the summer.

Snakes were always a

concern, but one of my memorable experiences was when Bob and I were picking berries when we first got married. I was busy at one end of the berry patch and he had gone deep into the thicket. Things were pretty quiet for a while. Then suddenly I saw Bob toss his bucket of berries in the air and make a quick exit. He let out a yelp and yelled, "snake, snake, snake." Afterwards he said that he had reached to pick a berry, only to discover that the "berry" was the eyes of a snake that was lying on the vine.

Unfortunately it seems that the wild blackberry vines are becoming more scarce or inaccessible. Much of the land once roamed has been developed for housing or commercial use, many roadsides are mowed or sprayed with chemicals. Perhaps I should put away the mower, and allow our little patch of blackberries to remain there.

Check out Betty's grandson, Colton, on Page 15

Is There Any Good News in America?

by BOB CASEY, Preacher
Church of Christ, 262 Broadway, Irvine, KY

Unless you are not a reader of newspapers, or perhaps you are not watching the current news, or the TV, then you might be one who considers the present status quo in America to be business as usual.

It seems to me that our nation is on a downward spiral from the which it may never recover. Some may be saying it this time, "Here comes another doomsday or prognosticator." But what evidence do we have to foresee that all is not well with America, and for the rest of this world for that matter. Paul wrote in **II Timothy 3**, "This know also that in the last day, perilous times shall come." I do not know how much worse this present world will become, but at present time it is a very dangerous world. Wars in the name of religion is being waged upon more than eleven nations, upon the which I believe that God is not favoring any of them. Drug murders right here at home are also raging. It is not even safe to drive our highways because some one drunk upon alcohol or drugs may run over you or cause a terrible wreck, or even shoot you if they consider that you may have cut them off. Even our borders are being infiltrated with men from the middle east who may join hands later to bring havoc upon our country.

What are some of the reasons all these things are happening? Here in **II Timothy 3**, Paul said: "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God, having only a form of godliness, but denying the authority of the gospels." Then saying in **verse 13**, "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse even saying in chapter **4:3**, "That man shall not endure sound teachings, and shall turn away their ears from the truth." How sad it is that in today's religious world only about 2% of people believe the Bible as it is truly written. Jesus says in **Matthew 24:12**, "And because iniquity shall abound. The love of many shall wax cold." This happens when Jerusalem was destroyed, and perhaps this is an indicator that it will happen again soon. Is there any hope for our nation? Yes! If American will repent and turn back to God. **Luke 13:1-3**, the answer is very clear, "except ye repent you shall perish." In **Acts 17:30** God commands all men to repent. Then in the seven churches of Asia, only one did the Lord not call to repentance. This was the church of Philadelphia that had not denied His name. Perhaps we need the same admonition, "Repent or I will come and remove thy candlestick out of its place." **Anathema, the Lord is coming soon!**

Sincerely, Bob Casey (859) 369-4165

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Hold thy peace, and come out of him!" And when the unclean spirit had torn him and cried out with a loud voice, he came out of him.

MARK 1: 25, 26

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BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

Blessing, Reproof, Willingness, Inspiration

1. Is the book of Malachi in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What color is the great throne on which God sits while passing final judgment? Gold, Silver, Purple, White
3. In II Timothy 3, all scripture is given by the "what" of God?
4. According to Paul, who pretends as an angel of light? The Unholy, Satan, Herod, The Wicked
5. Which epistle warns against patronizing prostitutes? Luke, Romans, I Corinthians, Philipians
6. In the book of Ephesians, "what" of the spirit is the word of God? Sword, Praise, Love, Lamp

Bible Trivia Answers are at the bottom of Page 10

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Friday, August 1st @ 6pm

Back to School Bash & Clothing Giveaway at Ivory Hill Baptist

Ivory Hill Baptist Church, 8430 Winchester Road, Irvine is having a back to school bash and clothing giveaway Friday, August 1st starting at 6 p.m. There will be crafts and games for children of all ages. There will also be free clothing. If you would like to donate clothing, you can leave it in bags on the church porch. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Saturday, August 2nd @ 7pm

New Harmony Boys to Sing

Pine Hill Baptist Church will have a gospel singing on Saturday, August 2, starting at 7 p.m. Featured singers will be the New Harmony Boys from Hazard, Ky. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday, August 2nd @ 7pm

House of Prayer Gospel Singing

There will be a Gospel Singing at House of Prayer, 535 Dark Hollow Road, Irvine, on Saturday, August 2, 2014, starting at 7:00 p.m. Featured singers will be The Abrams Family from McKee and The Praise Singers. Everyone is welcome. There will be refreshments afterwards.

Wednesday & Thursday, Aug. 6th & 7th

St. Elizabeth Basement Sale

The next Basement Sale at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church in Ravenna, will be a two-day event on Wed. & Thur., August 6 & 7, 2014. On Wednesday August 6, the time will be 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., and on Thursday, August 7th from 7:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The sale will take place in both the church basement and the church hall, due to the large volume of merchandise. Lots of good clothing and shoes for all the family, household items, books, CD's, collectibles, (new & old) and much, much MORE!

Sunday mornings @ 9am

Irvine First CG Broadcast

Irvine First Church of God with Bro. Stanley Hutchison would like to have you listen in to their radio broadcast on WIRV-1550 AM, Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. If you don't have a home church, we invite you to our services: Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Preaching Service 10:45 a.m., Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m., Wednesday Evening Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and listen in!

seeds of Hope

"In times of trouble may the Lord answer your cry," he writes. Not hear your cry, nor think about your cry nor put your cry on His waiting list. But may He answer your cry. Life is filled with unexpected tragedies. One moment everything is the way we had planned it to be and the next moment things are upside down. Often we are faced with unforeseen temptations that present choices we never thought we would have to face. But we do not face life alone. We have the protection of God, the power of the risen Christ and the presence of the Holy Spirit to rescue us from defeat. We cannot avoid the trials or tragedies of life. Nor do we need to face them alone. God is there to protect and defend us. Victory is ours when our lives are in God's hands. **PS 034 July 30, 2014**
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