

PARABLES

G R K Y Q G C E A G S N O S O W T J B O H T Q A
 P E R Z L T A L E N T S O J R Y W H T J T H K X
 K T S B G D I T N A V R E S L U F I C R E M N U
 E T J Y V N O T H I Q D K E U Q S D C B G B G W
 E A F E E A A O H F B W W R D E B T O R S K P X
 G R A N T B N T C E C N Y A Y L R J A S R D R Y
 D X Q O T K H E I W T L G T A O O D X K E W O T
 U F Y M H F I E V R C K T I A O S S I K W O D D
 J L L T C S D E K A A D G D N Z N K T O O I I Z
 T D O S J Y T S E Y E M B B V X A K S S S Q G B
 S S O O T T R C M D T L A B R P M H C M H U A I
 U E F L M W E N U N P O A S Z W D F T U Q E L A
 J U H N D J A R Q B F R R J T N N J G A J W E F
 N G C S L Z S L Q M R U Q E W V A L H B O N O P
 U M I H N E U O S E R L N A I P B A R E E X O G
 R V R X I B R X N J M V B P Z U S B I P A O T S
 Q V F D J W E F E U I I T Y C L U O C C W J D Y
 M M A B E D I U V R N P T Y Z N H R E E B N N N
 E K L O E G F R G M B L Y K C R F E G D U T R H
 X L X R C B R I A F P O E G E U A R G O Y B L V
 O Z R Y S Z N O O Y M S L G V X K S P G Q V O M
 D O P C S D E E S D R A T S U M D V A M Z H H
 Z C Z J Z V K V L F H D B R W B X B B C B D L A
 Q M T P W F L D N E I R F F D C O A G I W U W O

Words to Find:

Sower
 Tares
 MustardSeed
 Leaven
 HidTreasure
 UnmercifulServant
 Laborers

TwoSons
 Hsbandman
 TenVirgins
 Talents
 Debtors
 Samaritan
 Friend
 RichFool

BarrenFig
 LostSheep
 LostMoney
 Prodigal
 UnjustJudge
 Pounds

Answers at:
<http://www.openthoumineeyes.com/Puzzles/Parables.htm>

The Boys Will Laugh

H. A. Ironside


I remember when I was a boy how my dear mother would draw me to herself and speak to me so solemnly of the importance of trusting the Lord Jesus Christ as my Saviour, and I would say to her: "Well, Mother, I would like to do it, but the boys will laugh at me."

Mother used to say, "Harry, remember, they may laugh you into Hell, but they can never laugh you out of it!" Oh, how that used to go home to me, and it stayed with me all through the years. Yes, men may sneer, ridicule, and not understand us as we come out for Christ, but after all, His is the only approval worth having.



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Partners

There are no "self-made" men as too many boast. All of us owe a great debt of gratitude to many in our lives, including: God, parents, teachers, brother, sister, husband, wife, police officer, or friend. Someone in our lives has made a lasting impression, encouraged, or helped us in ways that helped direct and improve our lives as this poem by T. D. Elliot (from *Scripture in Poetry and Other Goodies*) reminds us:

The pump organ at church gave the sweetest sound That anywhere on earth could be found. The keyboard artist had such a skill, The notes just seemed to jump forth at will. So much so that his friends soon spied That he just seemed to reek with pride.



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No Good Thing

H. A. Ironside, from *The Continual Burnt Offering* (4/1943)

"For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not."

Romans 7:18

Every one of us is by nature worse than anything he has ever done. The natural heart is a den of every kind of evil (Matt. 15:19). The flesh is incorrigibly corrupt and can never be improved (Galatians 5:19-21, Romans 8:7). It is all-important that this be recognized and judged in the presence of God. When thus dealt with, we cease to look for good in ourselves, and realize that it is from the new heart (Ezekiel 36:26, Matthew 12:35), given in regeneration, that all good must come. Then we shall find that, as we walk in the Spirit, we shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh (Galatians 5:16). Our boast will then be only in the Lord (Psalm 234:2), for we shall realize that all is grace from first to last.

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Partners

Continued from Page 1

When the urchin who worked the bellows said,
"We're partners," the musician shook his head.
"You little tramp, you're only a chump
Who knows no more than how to pump
Get back to the job you're paid to do,
And I'll deal later with the likes of you."

He didn't realize the trouble he faced,
Because he'd spoken the words in haste.
But none the less, his saying came true,
(With maybe a lesson for both me and you).
Now the lad was crushed by what he said,
And a teardrop fell as he turned his head.
For he had been thrilled, fulfilling a dream
That he was part of a musical team.
Now he was downhearted as he went to the door
And back to the bellows, but pumped no more.
Now it was time for the service to start,
But the lad sat there with a broken heart.
The organist, though, in his elegance stood

"The men who are lifting the world upward and onward are those who encourage more than criticize." — Elizabeth Harrison

To gain all the recognition he could,

Then sat at the organ as the lights turned dim,
Knowing that every one's eyes were on him.

He pounded the keys as a showman will,

But no notes came, as the bellows were still.

First horror filled his eyes, then tears,

As he was embarrassed the first time in years.

He ran from the platform as reality hit,

That all of his talent didn't help him a bit.

Without the bellows and help from the lad,

It nullified all of the training he'd had.

With heavy heart he sprang to the door,

And found the lad weeping alone on the floor.

He gathered him up and gave him a hug,

As he felt his heartstrings receiving a tug.

He carried him forth to the front of the crowd,

And there in a voice so clear and loud

Said, "Ladies and gentlemen, here's the one

Who's been my partner in all I've done."

He hugged him and said as he sent him along,

"Now if you're ready, partner, let's burst into song."

They played as hearts thrilled at what did seem

The greatest moment ever to a musical "team".

Perhaps there is someone in

in your life that helped turn your life in a good direction. Today would be a good day to write a letter, call, or remind him of how he helped you. Everyone needs encouragement!

No Good Thing

Continued from Page 1

"Less, less of self each day,
And more, my God of Thee;
Oh, keep me in Thy way,
However rough it be.

Less of the flesh each day,
Less of the world and sin;
More of Thy love, I pray,
More of Thyself within.

Riper and riper now,
Each hour let me become;
Less fond of things below,
More fit for such a home.

More molded to Thy will,
Lord, let the servant be;
"Higher and higher still,
Nearer and nearer Thee."

Biggest Lie

Author Unknown

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"
Romans 3:23

"If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." 1John 1:8

A clergyman was walking down the street when he came upon a group of about a dozen

"It would be easier to find a man that had not done any one sin that to find a man who had done it only once. Sin multiplies. We must either overcome sin, or it will overcome us." — D. L. Moody

boys, all between 10 and 12 years of age. The group had surrounded a dog. Concerned lest the boys were hurting the dog, he went over and asked, "What are you doing with that dog?"

One of the boys replied, "This dog is just an old neighborhood stray. We all want him, but only one of us can take him home. So we've decided that whichever one of us can tell the biggest lie will get to keep the dog."

Of course, the Reverend was taken aback. "You boys shouldn't be having a contest telling lies!" he exclaimed. He then launched into a ten minute sermon against lying, beginning with, "Don't you boys know it's a sin to lie?" and ending with, "Why, when I was your age, I never told a lie."

There was dead silence for about a minute. Just as the Reverend was beginning to think he'd gotten through to them, the smallest boy gave a deep sigh and said, "All right, give him the dog."

"The very heart and root of sin is an independent spirit. We erect the idol self, and not only wish others to worship, but worship it ourselves."

— Cecil