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Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3
www.mocotoday.com
Volume 10 Number 4
Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Your Community. Your News.

75¢

Inside:

- Snow and Tell Pictures
- Community Calendar
- Local Columnists Insight
- Biblical Thought
- Weather History



The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.

- Psalm 97:6

Cover Photo
By: Lisa Aytes



Morgan County Today

Your Community. Your News.

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**Ms. Avery Pearl
Pet Columnist**

Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl

It's SNOW Y'all!

Ms Ivory and I woke up and went outside to do our business and everything was covered by this white stuff and boy was it cold.

I WUFFED IT! Ms Ivory, not so much. She ran back to the door and wanted in. Not me, I ran and played and jumped around! It was so fun. Cold but, fun. Pap had to make me come back in. Everytime they let us out, the same thing happens. I run like the wind and have all happy barks, trying to get Ricco or Ms Ivory to play, to no avail. I do kinda feel sorry for Ms Ivory, though. She couldn't run in the stuff, even if she did want to play. It is deeper than she is tall! Poor little thing. She doesn't have the fur that I do, so she gets cold easier than me. Even though, we do have the cutest little coats that Mimi bought us. I told you about that. She still gets cold from the white stuff.

Any-woof, hope you guys stay safe and warm during all this cold and snow.

Next week Pet Perspective will feature a great installment of Ms Avery Pearl Asks Dr Bristol. It's a good one so make sure to pick up a copy of Morgan County Today, to get it. For more of my Pet Perspective like and follow me on Facebook at Ms Avery Pearl.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Public Notice

The City of Wartburg has called for a special meeting to be held on January 31, 2024 at 4 p.m. in the conference room at City Hall.

Morgan County Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development

The Chambers first membership meeting scheduled for January 26, 2024 beginning at 11:30 at the Schools Central office.

DLARMC CHANGE IN MEETING TIME.

The Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center has changed its meeting date. The Center will now meet on the third Monday of the month at 6PM. Please make a note of this change.

Coalfield Genealogical and Historical Society Meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Senior Citizens Building at 6:00 PM.

Morgan County Republican Party meets the last Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at the American Legion in Wartburg.

The City of Sunbright is now accepting applications for a clerical position. Make arrangements to pick up/fill out an application at City hall. For more information call 423-628-5250

Morgan County Republican Party Meeting in January

There will be NO Republican Party meeting this month. Jody Zorsch will be out of town for a conference & the vice-chair will be helping with election preparations.

We will meet February 22 @ 7pm At the American Legion Hall in Wartburg.

COUNTRY FRIED STEAK DINNER

What - Country Fried Steak Dinner - with Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Fresh Baked Rolls, Dessert, Drinks - Coffee or Tea

Where - Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center

When - Saturday, February 3, 2024

Time - 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Cost - \$10.00

Dine-in, Carryout, or Delivery

Please Call 423-965-5000 Before 10:30 AM

All proceeds go to upkeep and maintenance of the center.

WEEKLY WEATHER



Tue 23	46°/42°	
Wed 24	53°/50°	
Thu 25	59°/52°	
Fri 26	58°/45°	
Sat 27	52°/38°	
Sun 28	45°/32°	
Mon 29	44°/31°	



Naomi Bonham's Fight for Railroad Safety



Michael Nance
Columnist

I have written many articles outlining how the Cincinnati-New Orleans, and Texas Pacific (CNO&TP) Railroad brought prosperity to Morgan County, Tennessee. Beginning in 1874, the railroad allowed our county's many industries and resources to be exported to the big cities, bringing much needed revenues to our communities.

But there was also a dark side of the railroad lines. Railroads also brought drifters and criminals into our county and there are numerous documented events of this nature. But that was not the only issue that the residents along the railroad had to endure. Industrial safety was in the infantile stages during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. One tombstone in the Mount Hope Cemetery, in Deer Lodge, is a monument to not only a deceased person, but also memorializes the struggles with early railroad safety.

It is impossible not to notice the tombstone of Francis T. Bonham when you arrive at Mount Hope Cemetery. It's an imposing monument, and one of the largest inside the cemetery. It was expensive and displays



Photo Author's Collection

almost unequalled craftsmanship when compared to other tombstones of the era. I immediately realized that such a monument to someone was intended to convey a message, and after researching Francis Bonham, my suspicions were confirmed.

The monument has the following etched onto its surface: "Francis T. Bonham Born January 31, 1879, Enlisted in Army October 30, 1901, Discharged October 29, 1904, Married April 9, 1905. Killed by a Train on the C.N.O. & T.P. RailRoad. April 28, 1911."

The monument was erected by his wife, Naomi Lyons. She was the daughter of, "Patrick C. Lyons of Pennsylvania and Margaret A. Jett of Wheat in Roane County. Naomi was their youngest daughter, born 1885 after her family moved to Morgan County."

Her husband Francis worked for the railroad as an electric signalman (telegraph equipment) maintaining the various signal wires throughout Morgan County. He was killed at work, due to what she asserts was a "negligent operation of the train." Her husband was run over by a train while working on an electrical relay inside tunnel number 23, between the communities of Glen Mary and Nemo.

Naomi sued the railway company almost immediately after the facts of her husband's death were revealed. Although the records available on the various cases leading up to the Tennessee Supreme Court are scant in detail, it appears that she did win a judgement of \$25,000 initially. This would be the equivalent of over \$750,000 in today's dol-

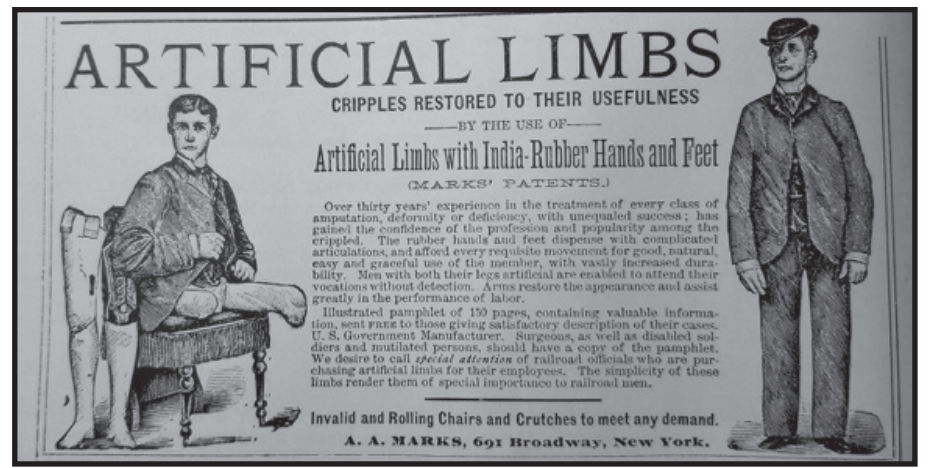


Image Author's Collection, Public Domain

lars adjusted for inflation. It also appears that the railroad was successful in reducing the damages in the Supreme Court to \$10,000.

Naomi would go on to marry Alex S. Henley Jr. later in 1911. He inherited a large amount of money, which he used to purchase a large tract of land in Anderson County that included the area where Norwood school is located today. Naomi went on to live a long life of what many would judge as privilege, but at the cost of losing her first love.

You might think that her story is unique, but the evidence is compelling it is not. As evidence, I offer a timekeeper booklet authored in 1924 and provided to railroad workers in 1924. On the flyleaf of the booklet it states, "One man out of every four is disabled each year, permanently or temporarily." I obtained this "timekeepers' booklet" from my family as it was formerly my grandfathers. He worked as a brakeman for the C.N.O. & T.P. during the years 1924 and 1925. He later became a local carpenter and pastor. He was mentally encouraged to leave the railroad, due to the many debilitating and fatal accidents that occurred to workers on that railroad. There are still many stories he passed down in the family concerning accidents he witnessed happening to railroad workers.

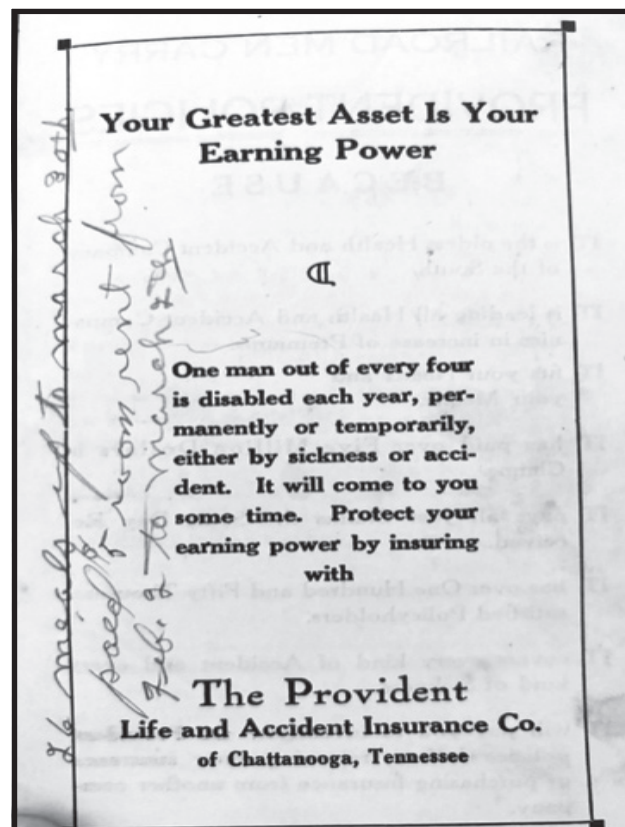


Image Author's Collection

Railway safety is in the forefront today, but the early 20th century was almost as dangerous as serving in a war zone. By 1913, worker deaths and injuries in the British railroad industry increased to over 30,000 in a single year." In America due to the many Railroad accidents, there was a boom in the artificial limb business.

Railroad safety would see drastic improvements by 1950. In no small part from the pressure of the Trade Unions and the legal actions of people like Naomi Bonham Hensley. So, the tombstone of Francis Bonham at Mount Hope Cemetery tells an important story of the road traveled to industrial safety in America today!

1 Oliver Springs Historical Society, Alexander Spotwood Henley Jr. Home - 104 Midway Drive, <https://oshistorical.com/midway-drive-property>, retrieved 12-23-2023

2 171 S.W. 79 CINCINNATI, N. O. & T. P. RY. CO. v. BONHAM. Supreme Court of Tennessee.

3 171 S.W. 79 CINCINNATI, N. O. & T. P. RY. CO. v. BONHAM. Supreme Court of Tennessee. The damages claimed by plaintiff are averred to arise on account of the death of her husband, T. F. Bonham, which occurred on April 28, 1911, in Morgan county, Tenn., in tunnel No. 23, located between Glen Mary on the north and Nemo on the south, through which tunnel the railway company's track was laid, over which track its trains were operated. At the time of his death T. F. Bonham was in the employ of the railway company, discharging the duties of an electrical signalman; his duties being to keep in proper order and repair all of the electric signals between Glen Mary and Nemo stations on the railroad line of the railway company, defendant.

4 British Railway Museum, published 2018.

— In Loving Memory —

Elaine Patterson, 84



Elaine Patterson, age 84, of Wartburg, passed away on Saturday, January 13, 2024.

Elaine was born in Hazard, KY, and lived in Dayton, OH, Sunbright, TN, and Calhoun, GA. She worked at Crown Craft in Calhoun, GA, also Volunteered many years at Gordon Hospital in GA, and worked after school program at Elementary School in GA.

She was preceded in death by
Husband: Raymond Patterson,
Parents: John and Reva Baker Edwards, Sisters: Sandy, Dempa Lee, Brothers: Tate, Dale, Jerry, and David.

Elaine was a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Calhoun, GA, for many years she served as treasurer and was involved with Bible School. She has been a devoted Christian all of her life from a young child.

She is survived by her Sons: Johnny Simpson (Connie), and Doug Patterson (Daina)

Daughter: Christine Eaton (Todd)

Sister: Dana Cloud (Reggie)
Grand Children: Carrigan Adams (Jimmy), Ashley Erickson, Brandon Eaton, Blake Eaton (Kim), Bryant Eaton (Blanca), and Bree Patterson.

Great Grand Children: Jase, Stella, Caden, Noah, Audrey, Elsie, Matthew, Christopher, Natalie, Brileigh, and Ryder

Also surviving are a Large host of nieces and nephews
Special friend Kayla and Tyler Haney, JoAnn Stone, and Dottie Hutcherson

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, from 11am-1pm, Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg. Funeral Services will follow at 1pm with Bro. Reggie Cloud officiating. Internment will be private.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Elaine Patterson.

Little Danzie Ray Seiber



Little Danzie Ray Seiber, went home to be with the Lord, January 12, 2024.

He is preceded in death by his parents Danzie Ray and Betty (Freels) Seiber, grandparents Andy and Miley Seiber, John and Verdina Mae Freels.

He is survived by 3 brothers Jimmy Gossett of Crossville, Eddie Dean Gossett (Kathy) of Lancing, Curtis Taylor and wife Betty Joe of Kodak.

Sister Daranda Andrews and husband Mike of Clinton.

Nephews Shannon Gossett of Crossville, Jonathan Lay of Lancing, Mikey Andrews of Clinton, Johnathan and Logan Taylor of Kodak.

Nieces Heather Andrews of Clinton, Trishta Lee and husband Torri, Ashley Ray, Payton Miracol.

Also surviving are a host of great nieces and nephews.

Aunts Bessie Gilmore, Allene Jones (Bob).

A host of cousins and 1 special cousin Cookie.

Most of all a special thanks to his best friend and caregiver Alonzo.

The family will receive friends Monday, January 15, 2024 from 12-1 pm Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg. Burial will be in the Seiber Family Cemetery, Briceville, TN.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Little Danzie Ray Seiber.

Obituaries must come from a funeral home to be in the newspaper.

Psalm 86:4-5

**4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.**



Brenda Jones, 75



Mrs. Brenda Jones, age 75 of Mossy Grove went home to be with the Lord on January 15, 2024.

She is preceded in death by her parents Lloyd and Hazel Jones; sibling Joyce, Jean and Randall.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years Charles Jones; son Steven (Erin) Jones and daughter Katina (Denny) Richardson; grandchildren Brad (Maceny) Richardson, Derrick (Brooklyn) Richardson, Austin Richardson (Mackenzie Bird), Erica Jones, Steven (Abigail) Jones, Colton, Eli & Ty Richardson;

great grandchildren Raelynn, Ryleigh, Kylie, Rainey and Addison Richardson; sisters Joyful VanNorstran, Wanda Quinn, Faye Hamby and Gail Berryhill.

Brenda was a member of Union Baptist Church for many years and loved serving the Lord alongside her husband and numerous mission trips through the years.

The family will receive friends Thursday, January 18, 2024 from 11:00-1:00 p.m. at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg with the funeral to follow at 1:00 p.m. with Bro. Jason Lowe and Bro. Jim Disney officiating. Interment will follow in the Jones Family Cemetery in Mossy Grove.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mrs. Brenda Jones.

— In Loving Memory —

Odalene Cole Payne, 87



She leaves behind her children Jill (Randy) Love and Pam (Scott) Cochran; grandchildren Jerry Walker, Christie Love, Courtnie (Brooks) Love, Capt. Mac (Hannah) Cochran and Haley Grace Cochran; great grandchildren Addie, Henry, Oakley, and Gabby and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Odalene Cole Payne, age 87, of Sunbright passed away January 17, 2024. She was born March 3, 1936 to the late Mac and Gertrude Cole.

Odalene was a lady of many talents. She enjoyed cross stitching, crocheting, gardening, painting, canning and enjoyed working in her flowers. She loved her family and especially loved spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; son Kevin Walker; sisters Lattie Cole, Opal Durden; brothers O.C., Ozelle, Odell, and Edward Cole.

The family will receive friends Sunday, January 21, 2023 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 12:00-2:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 2:00 p.m. Interment will follow in the Flat Rock Cemetery in Deer Lodge.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Odalene Cole Payne.

Mary Evelyn (Nance) Schneider, 91



She is survived by her sons Bobby (Elinor) Crouch of Lancing, Joe Kerger, Howard (Debbie) Schneider of Brandenburg, Ky., Danny (Tami) Schneider of Brandenburg, Ky., and Albert (Kim) Schneider of Brandenburg, Ky.; brothers Bill and Ralph Nance of Wartburg, Tn.; sisters Mildred Painter of Harriman, Tn.; 7 grandchildren; 14 great grandchildren; 6 step grandchildren; 4 step great grandchildren; 1 step great, great grandchild.

Mary Evelyn (Nance) Schneider, age 91 originally from Lancing, TN passed away January 14, 2024. She was born August 31, 1932, to Arthur and Susie Nance.

Mary was a member and a regular attendee at the 1st Baptist Church in Brandenburg, Ky.

She is preceded in death by her husband Albert E. Schneider; parents Arthur and Susie Nance; brothers Raymond, Junior, and David Nance; sister Wanda Landrum, Jewell (Nelson); 2 stepsons Carl and Ronnie Schneider.

The family will receive friends Friday, January 19, 2024, at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 12:00-1:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 1:00 p.m. with Rev. Ralph Nance and Rev. Randal Landrum officiating. The family will be having a private burial.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mary Evelyn Schneider.

Obituaries must come from a funeral home to be in the newspaper.





**Tom Redmon
Columnist**

I Do Remember Bill Harris

Back in 2018 when I started writing for the Morgan County News, I wrote an article about one of my classmates that I feel deserves a lot of praise so I feel I need to write about him again in the Morgan County Today.

Bill came to our Wartburg High School during the 1949-50 school year. He was a student that everyone got to know well in

just the first few weeks. You might say he was flirtatious and he became very popular, especially with the girls. Some of the boys counting me, was no doubt a little jealous.

Bill was handsome and very athletic. He played football and basketball and he was good at both. He was lucky his sophomore year to play both sports for Coach Homer Rice. Coach Rice got him and Allen Redmon to help him coach the girls team. We were really fortunate and lucky to have Homer at our school in 1950-51. We were undefeated in football and our record in basketball was great. Some of the boys on the team were Ralph Goodman, Ray Bardell, Paul Langley, Bill Harris, and Allen Redmon.

I remember that Bill teamed up with Allen Redmon. After Bill had been there a few months when you saw one, you'd see the other as well.

After football practice we went down to Potter's Falls many times. One time Bill dove too deep and hit the rocky bottom. He came up bleeding profusely but went on swimming with a big knot on his head. He was born in Fork Mountain so he was a tough country boy like the rest of us.

One of the sad things about Wartburg School was that we didn't have a football field; we played our games on the rocky playground and believe me when you were tackled it hurt. Coalfield and Sunbright had lighted fields. It didn't look good on Wartburg officials and community. I think Homer Rice would have stayed there another year if we had had a field. I remember Bill and Allen working hard to convince the town of Wartburg to build a field. Still to this day I don't think Wartburg supports the high school like they should. Wartburg has the largest school in enroll-

ment in the county but most of the time there are losses in football.

Bill Harris stayed at Wartburg until his senior year because he joined the Marines in 1952 and went to Korea right away. It's hard to imagine Bill sitting in a fox hole in the cold hills of Korea but that's where he was, manning a machine gun.

Bill stayed in the Marines for twenty-two-years and came out as a Major. He completed his high school in the service and got his B.S. and Masters in Arizona.

After the military Bill and his wife Louise Lavender moved to Ohio where he got involved in the automobile business. He built it up to be one of the largest in Central Ohio. I'm sorry I meant to bring Louise into the story because they went together in high school and married soon after she graduated. Louise was a big part of the Harris Family and was a good wife who helped him both in service and in civilian work. For you see Bill served his country both in the Marines and as a member of the Ohio House of Representatives and Senate.

If you had told me one of my classmates would do something like this, I would have said Bill Harris would be the one. When Bill first came to Central High, I saw it in him. He was a natural born leader of people. He was elected Freshman Class President and he could have been elected any office in school.

Bill was first elected to the Ohio House of Representatives and then Speaker of the House. Almost before he took the speakership, he was talked into running for the Senate and he won the Senate and was elected President of the Body.

The people of Ohio loved Bill Harris and he in turn did so much for them.

We had several men from Morgan County I am proud of and Bill Harris is at the top of the list. I am proud to write about Bill Harris again in the Morgan County Today. He's a hero!



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Historically Speaking

If I am So Lucky

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Linda Holmes tells us of her experience learning about a long deceased relative who had written letters and kept a diary during the Civil War. She then tells about how she went about writing a book to capture a very intriguing story. I think you will enjoy it.

I never intended to write a book. But retirement can sometimes present a lot of possibilities and, quite unexpectedly, I found that I needed to write one after all.

I retired in September 2016 after a 26-year career in the Science Education Programs unit at Oak Ridge Associated Universities. As Associate Director of Science Education, I was responsible for several groups that managed internship and postdoctoral programs for the major US agencies that conduct scientific research. These programs brought students and postgraduates to these agencies to become immersed in the agencies' missions and become part of the pool of potential employees from which those agencies could draw. Along the way, the participants enhanced their resumes and got valuable experience.

ORAU's administration of the programs encompassed everything from conducting recruitment efforts, providing online application mechanisms, convening review panels and facilitating the selection process, paying the individuals for their participation, and conducting follow-up assessments. It was a rewarding endeavor, knowing that we were helping to enhance our nation's science capabilities.

But in January 2017 after I spent three months getting used to the absence of 60-hour weeks, I needed a project. I remembered the letters and diaries written by my great-great uncle (oldest brother of my great-grandfather on my mother's side) during his service in the Union Army from 1862-1865. These letters and diaries had been languishing for nearly 160 years, most recently in a cupboard in my basement! I thought to myself that now would be a great time to do something with them.

Everyone before me had dutifully kept them, but no one did anything about preserving them or their content. The paper was disintegrating and the pencil and pen fading. Soon there would be nothing left of this fantastic historical record. I knew it was up to me to save the words of my ancestor who took the time to chronicle his experience.

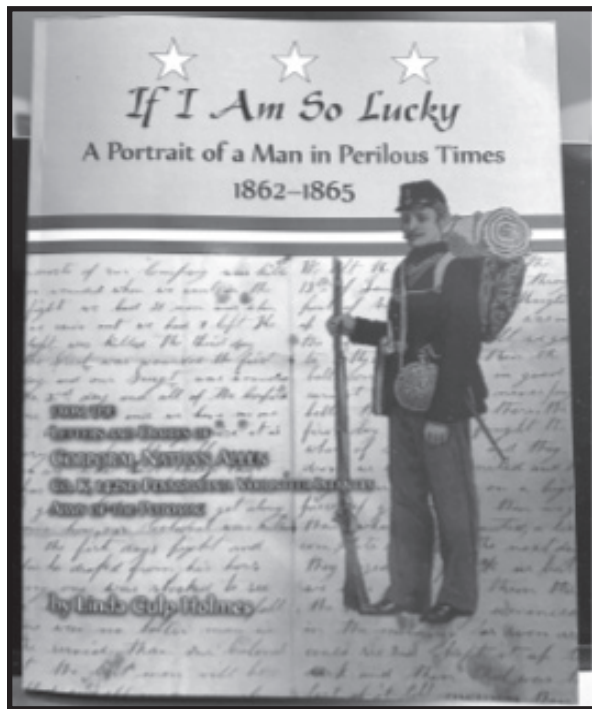
So, I set about capturing the content. That was all. Save the letters and diaries from the ravages of time. I didn't know anything about the writer or about the Civil War for that matter. Along the way, I got curious. And it was a curiosity that wouldn't go away. There was so much in the letters and diaries that needed explaining. So many events, battles, policies. So much ugly politics. So many people I didn't know. Not to mention a whole new vocabulary.

And so, what started out as a transcription of this man's words into a more permanent medium became a full-blown research project – one that took 6 ½ years. I wanted to know everything about this soldier – where he went, what he was doing, who he was with, and who he wrote to. Above all, I wanted to know the man who wrote these words so long ago and to understand the time in which he lived.

The soldier's name was Nathan Allen. He was 25, the oldest of 10 children, when he joined the 142nd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry because, like so many of his friends, he believed in the cause of preserving the Union. That was in August 1862 after the war was already more than a year old. His father owned a 50-acre farm that raised potatoes, apples, and grain as the family business. Nathan couldn't have been less prepared for war. But go to war he did.

After carefully reading Nathan's every word, I learned the kind of man he was. I learned about his most treasured beliefs, the value his friends and family brought to his life, the illnesses

he suffered, the devastating loss of close friends and extended family in such a cruel war, what happened to him during the Battle of Fredericksburg, and how he felt about his commanding officers and the top generals of the Union Army.



If I Am So Lucky, is the book by Linda Holmes that tells the story of her great-great Uncle, Nathan Allen, and his experiences in the Civil War

I relished learning how he traveled from place to place, how he acquired items beyond the government issue food and equipment, how he reacted to Black soldiers joining the Union Army, how he dealt with the anti-war sentiment in his own home town, what happened to his friends and colleagues, what medical care he received; what he ate and how he felt about Uncle Sam's rations, and the strong belief in God that he asked to carry him safely home.

Along the way, I researched many of the topics that intersected with Nathan's experience – topics such as the process of parole, methods of army recruitment, the prevalence of guerrilla warfare, the mechanism that delivered army rations, the election of 1864, the disruptive activities of anti-war protesters, the cost of farm products and sutler merchant wares, the role of Black soldiers in the war effort, the accuracy of Civil War weaponry, the problem of desertion, the role of the color bearers on the battlefield, public reaction to the draft and ways to avoid it, the existence of volunteer organizations to help soldiers, the soldiers' use of an express system to send home their pay, and the contributions of the US Balloon Corps, among others. Every day brought me new and exciting information about Nathan, the war, and 19th century life in general.

So, how did I find out about all these things? By reading a lot of books and portions of books, (including transcriptions of the letters and diaries of other soldiers in the 142nd), but mostly by accessing all the records that are available online – maps of battles showing exactly where the 142nd was located; official records that told, for example, the exact route the 142nd followed in their march from the Fredericksburg area to Gettysburg; communications between generals that determined where the 142nd was to be sent; information from national battlefield parks; records of all the soldiers in the Pennsylvania infantry, artillery, and cavalry; the ancestry.com database where I found all but a couple of the 150 people Nathan mentioned in his correspondence; and newspapers.com where I could read letters from Nathan's colleagues sent to their home newspapers about the regiment's experiences.

There were so many resources online that I barely had to pick up a book. Had I attempted this project 40 years ago, I would have had to travel far and wide to collect the same information that was now at my fingertips on the computer.

So, with all this research, a book started to emerge. There are literally thousands of books written about the Civil War. What did I have to add? Nothing about the war itself, the battles, strategies, tactics, politics, leadership personalities. But I could illuminate Nathan Allen, what he thought, feared,

and treasured. And I could explain all the things he talked about – parole, Copperheads, Libby Prison, picket duty and on and on. I knew I had something unique in that all other books based on soldiers' letters and diaries publish the content itself without explaining any of the references the writers make to events and people. The result is that readers must do their own research. I wanted my readers to have the benefit of what I learned. So, it's all included in the book – in text boxes, sidebars, and footnotes to enhance the main text.

When my book was mostly written, I began to shop it around. It took me a while to figure out where it belonged. It is not a book of Civil War scholarship that shows some new aspect of a battle or a famous person. It occupies a unique niche of social history and genealogy. Once I understood that, I was able to find a publisher who was interested in publishing and marketing it. My book is about a man in the context of a horrific war and in the context of 19th century society. The man as well as all the things he wrote about are the message.

As I began to prepare the manuscript for publishing, I had to learn a lot about Microsoft Word, dealing with textboxes, page numbering, pagination, and endnotes. Because of all the people Nathan mentioned in his letters and diaries, I also had to learn how to code an index. Then I needed to brush up on writing a preface and an introduction and prepare acknowledgments.

When I struggled to figure out some aspect of manuscript preparation, Google became my best friend. I also had to enlist the help of a cartographer who could provide maps that showed exactly where Nathan's regiment was stationed during all the battles in which he participated. And I needed to engage an index checker and copy editor to point out typos and grammar faux pas and to school me on the finer points of the Chicago Manual of Style.

In his letters home, Nathan continually said he would like to do something special when he got home after his three-year stint in the army was up, "If," he said "I am so lucky." So, that became the title of the book: "If I Am So Lucky: A Portrait of a Man in Perilous Times, 1862-1865. It is published by Heritage Books, Inc. and is available on their website at www.heritagebooks.com and at Amazon.

Studying Nathan's journey and making one of my own was a labor of love and an enlightening task. After immersing myself in the Civil War – a particularly ugly chapter in our history that seems to have echoes in current times – I found one inescapable take-away: We must study history – learn about it, understand it, and embrace it, the good, the bad, and the ugly. because knowledge of our past may be the only antidote to making the same mistakes our forebears made.



Linda Culp Holmes

Thanks, Linda, for a most interesting story. I highly recommend the book, *If I Am So Lucky*. While it is based on letters and diary content, the book is far more than that. It explains much about the Civil War and includes in-depth analysis of many aspects of that war. The focus is on the 142nd Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry but application can be made to many other units and battles than the ones fought by Nathan Allen. I encourage you if you have any interest in the Civil War to consider this very detailed and comprehensive book that so eloquently conveys the atmosphere that existed during that awful time of war.

MOMENTS IN TIME

- * On Feb. 5, 1922, DeWitt and Lila Wallace self-published and marketed the first Reader's Digest magazine, designed to provide abridged articles on a wide variety of subjects for easy reading. It eventually gained a circulation of more than 10 million copies in the U.S. and is still believed to be the best-selling consumer magazine in the country.
- * On Feb. 6, 1911, Ronald Reagan was born in Tampico, Illinois. Reagan spent 30 years as an entertainer in radio, film and television before winning the California governor's seat in 1966. Elected as America's 40th president in 1980, he survived an assassination attempt and became the most popular president since Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- * On Feb. 7, 1301, King Edward I of England gave his son Edward (later King Edward II) the title of Prince of Wales. Edward I had conquered Wales and ordered the execution of David III, the last native Prince of Wales, in 1283. To this day the title "Prince of Wales" is reserved exclusively for the heir apparent to the British throne.
- * On Feb. 8, 1983, a 5-year-old thoroughbred stallion named Shergar was stolen from a stud farm owned by the Aga Khan in County Kildare, Ireland. Worth a stunning \$13.5 million and commanding stud fees of approximately \$100,000, the animal was never seen again. No ransom was paid and the case was never solved.
- * On Feb. 9, 2008, Turkey's parliament approved two constitutional amendments easing the ban on women wearing Islamic headscarves in universities. While the government claimed the ban would result in many girls being denied an education, the secular establishment saw it as a step in allowing a more prominent Islamic influence on the state.

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STRANGE BUT TRUE
By Lucie Winborne

- * Ever wonder why your kitty tries to play or even fight with its own reflection in a mirror? Animal specialists believe felines don't realize that their image isn't another animal because it has no scent.
- * And speaking of scent, the Odeuropa research project has created an online encyclopedia dedicated to the history of smells.
- * Vomitoriums in ancient Rome weren't actually spaces for gastronomic feasting and purging, but an architectural feature in stadiums that allowed for more efficient crowd exits.
- * Null Island gets its curious moniker from its coordi-

- nates: zero degrees latitude and zero degrees longitude. It also doesn't exist, but is the result of a common error in GIS data.
- * ChatGPT can easily be convinced it's wrong, even when it's right.
- * Irving Berlin dedicated all royalties from "God Bless America" to a fund of the same name, specifically for the benefit of such youth organizations as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts in New York City. To date, more than \$10 million has been raised.
- * Researchers at Dublin City University found that soccer goalkeepers process both visual and auditory cues more efficiently than other players, as well as non-players, which could

- be the clue to their speedy reactions during games.
 - * By 2027, Sweden plans to boast a city made entirely of wood.
 - * The last U.S. conviction for blasphemy went to atheist activist Charles Lee Smith in 1928, after he rented a Little Rock, Arkansas, storefront and put a sign in the window reading: "Evolution Is True. The Bible's a Lie. God's a Ghost." Because, as an atheist, he couldn't swear the court's usual oath to tell the truth, he also couldn't testify in his own defense.
- ***
- Thought for the Day: "If people are doubting how far you can go, go so far that you can't hear them anymore." --Michele Ruiz

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	6		2					7
5				4				9
2		7			6	3		
		1		3		7		
	4		9					8
7					8		6	1
1			7		5	9		
		6	3					5
	8			1				2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Hot tub
- 4 Pack (down)
- 8 Honeycomb division
- 12 Joke
- 13 Teen fave
- 14 Celestial bear
- 15 Capote nickname
- 16 Difficult problem
- 18 Celery unit
- 20 Pantheon member
- 21 Morays
- 24 Twilight, poetically
- 28 "Bravo!"
- 32 Wry Bombeck
- 33 Raw rock
- 34 Begets
- 36 Melody
- 37 Actress Meg
- 39 Maintains
- 41 Wheel connectors
- 43 Bake sale orgs.
- 44 — Victor
- 46 Dugout seating
- 50 Sociable and lively
- 55 "Caught ya!"
- 56 Medicinal plant
- 57 Vogue rival
- 58 Singer Phair
- 59 Reporter's quest

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18			19				20					
			21		22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31		32			
33				34				35		36		
37			38		39				40			
41				42		43						
			44		45			46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54			55		
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

- 60 Workout count
- 61 Mimic
- DOWN**
- 1 Boot camp VIPs
- 2 Section
- 3 Water, in Mexico
- 4 Hearts, slangily
- 5 Big fuss
- 6 Calendar abbr.
- 7 Advertise
- 8 Get cozy (with)
- 9 Blunder
- 10 Baton Rouge sch.
- 11 Felon's flight
- 17 Eggy quaff
- 19 Triathlon segment
- 22 Secular
- 23 Razor sharper
- 25 Algerian port
- 26 During
- 27 Red planet
- 28 Mrs. Dithers of "Blondie"
- 29 African antelope
- 30 "Hud" actress Patricia
- 31 Faxed
- 35 Equine homes
- 38 Butterflies
- 40 Language suffix
- 42 High school subj.
- 45 Declare
- 47 "The Lion King" lion
- 48 Intel product
- 49 Visibility hindrance
- 50 Fire
- 51 Flamenco cheer
- 52 At once
- 53 — -de-France
- 54 Jungfrau, for one

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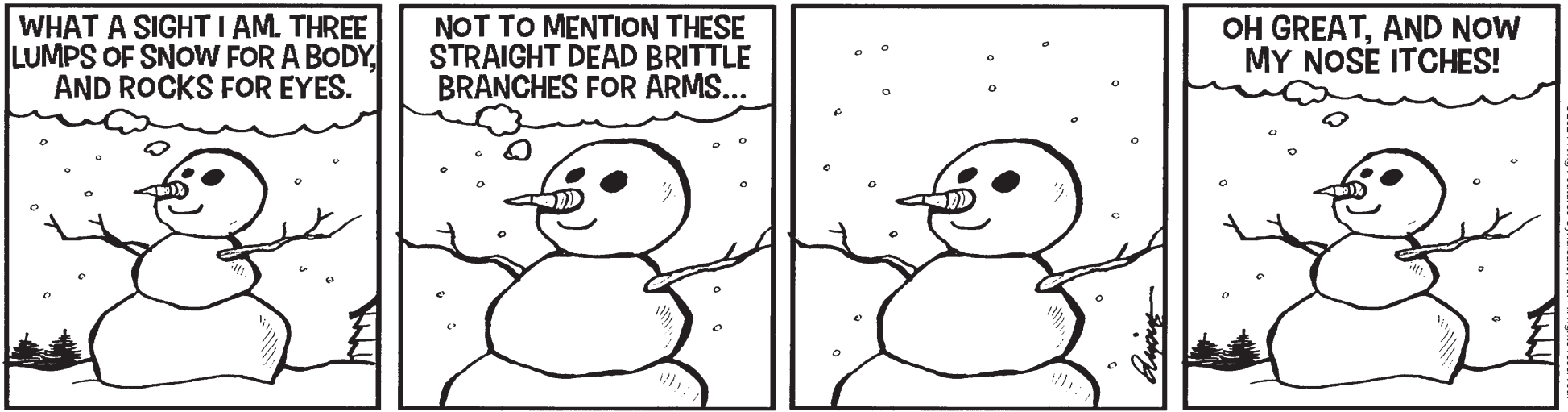
- VEE
- ARNBET
- ♥ TARSE
- ♥ GSNI
- GAVEAR
- ♥ ADG
- ♥ ENVI
- STOEB
- ♥ TNU
- SEVEAR
- REGEV
- ♥ IDAR

Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

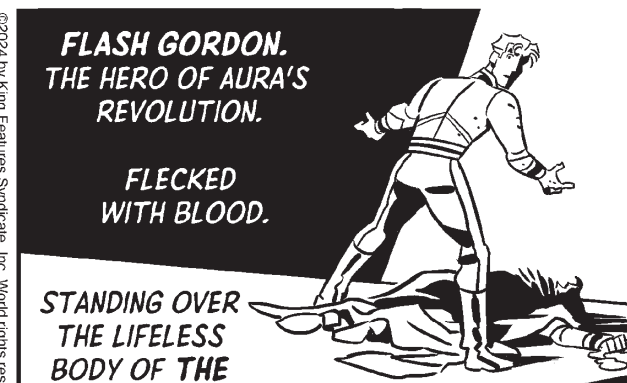
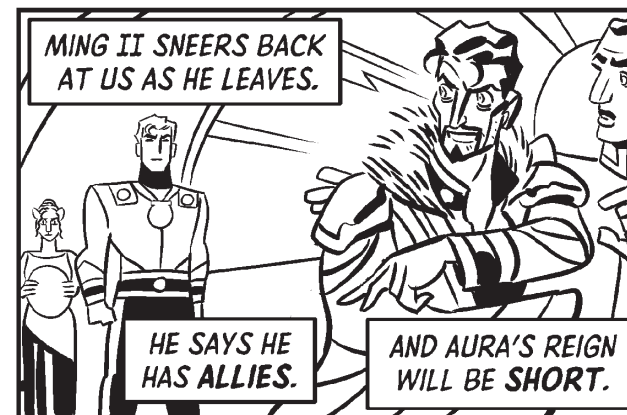
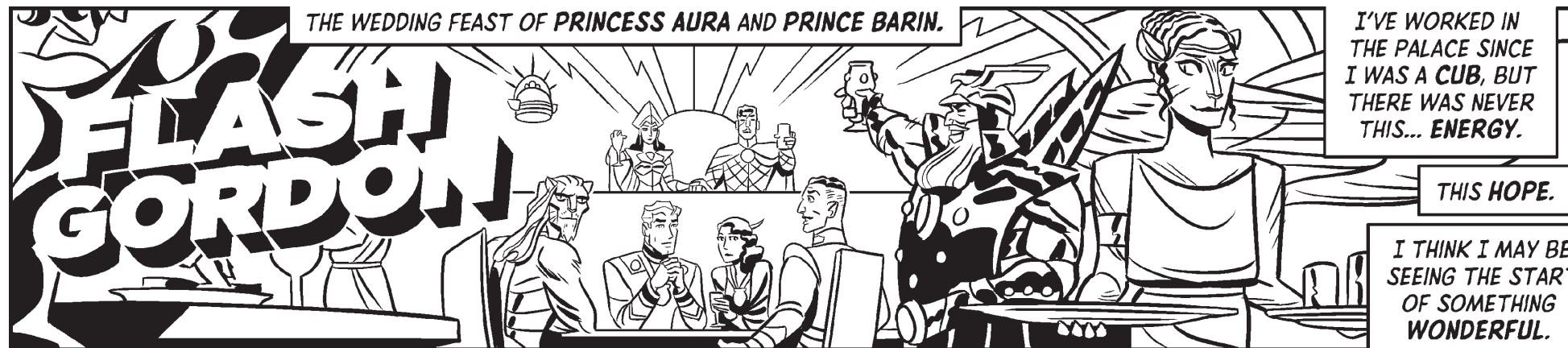
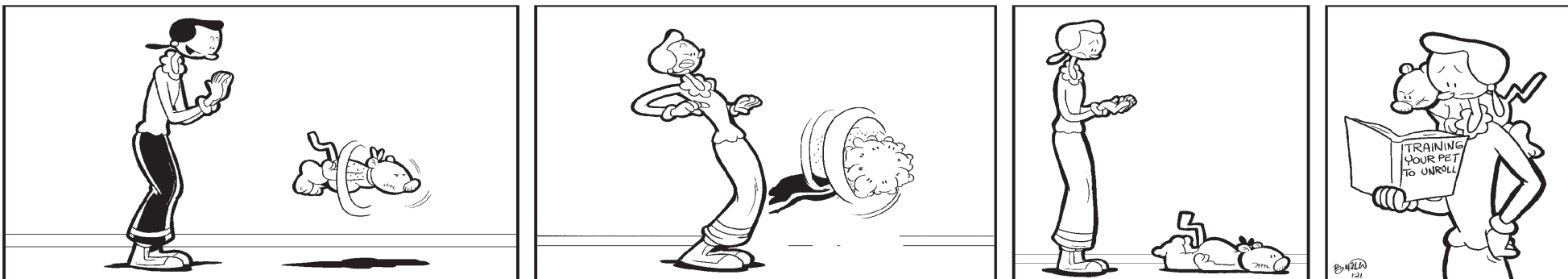
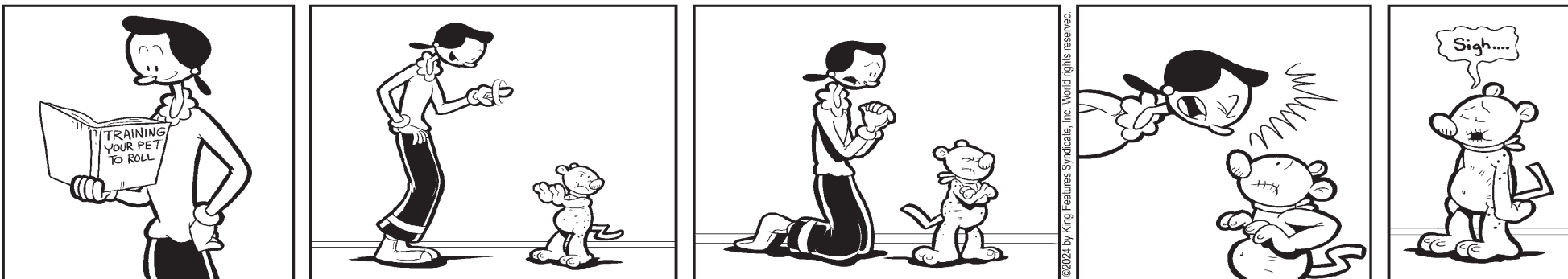
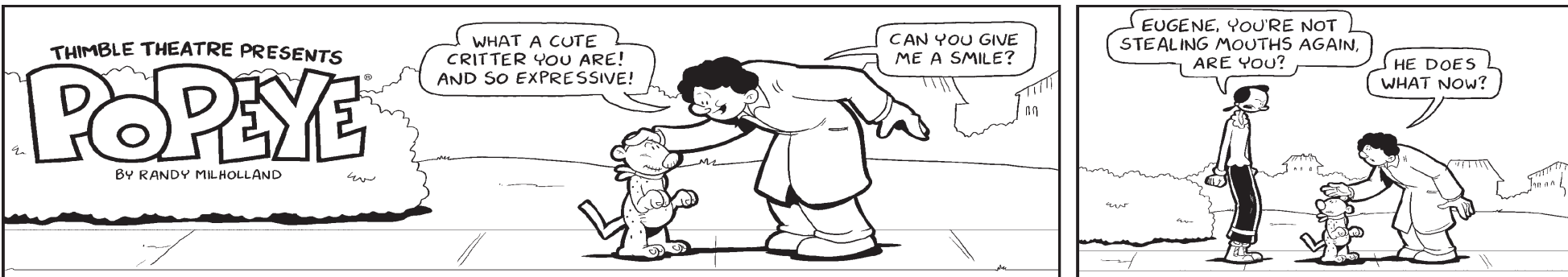
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Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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Morgan County Today

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Elijah West Becomes Eagle Scout

Congratulations Elijah West from Scott County on becoming an Eagle Scout.

His service project was restoring a civil war cemetery in Huntsville. It took him and his troop 531.5 hours to complete it.



Chloe Howard Heads to State

Chloe Howard "Morgan County Fairest of the Fair" is on her way to compete in the upcoming state pageant.

She will represent Morgan County well.



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2024 Soul

IRS Delays New Crypto Rule



David Zubler
Columnist

The Treasury Department and IRS released an announcement informing businesses that they do not have to report the receipt of digital assets the same way as they must report the receipt of cash until Treasury and IRS issue regulations.

The new law could have sent many business owners to jail for failing to immediately report crypto transactions over \$10,000.

The law required businesses to report any crypto payment received over \$10,000 within 15 days of receiving the payment. The payments

were required to be reported on Form 8300, Report of Cash Payments over \$10,000 Received in a Trade of Business.

The new rule involved many snags which made some of the reporting requirements impossible at this time. For instance, crypto stakers would have a problem listing Ethereum's social security number since it's a decentralized network.

Additionally, there are complex issues which the IRS failed to address. After the new rule was created, many experts expressed concern that businesses were not capable of meeting the reporting requirements such as blockchain miners, decentralized exchange users, and validators.

The rule is vague regarding the standard to measure the value of cryptocurrency transaction.

Details of traders' activities could impact whether they are required to report transactions.

"Businesses... do not have to report the receipt of digital assets the same way as they must report the receipt of cash until Treasury and IRS issue regulations," the IRS and the Treasury Department said in a joint statement. "This particular provision requires Treasury and the IRS to issue regulations before it goes into effect."

Due to the complexity of many issues in the new rule, many experts believe the rule will not be enforced for a lengthy period and possibly several years.

David Zubler is a nationally known tax accountant and Enrolled Agent that resides in East Tennessee. He is the author of six tax books and a syndicated columnist who has shared tax advice on podcasts and national TV and has been referred to as America's Tax Guru. He is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. He represents clients nationwide before the IRS and provides tax strategies, and tax education, including David's one-minute tax tip radio recordings at YourTaxCare.com. David can be reached at

God's Time



John Burns
Opinion Columnist

God begins the Bible narrative with an allusion to time. The phrase ‘In the beginning’, has caused great division in our world. At war is God’s reality verse man’s perception of reality. God’s reality we call faith. Men’s perception of reality, we call religion.

The creator of the universe we call home, told our story before it unfolded. The sovereignty of God is outlined in the pages of the Bible. From

Genesis to Revelation, God went out of his way to explain to humans, that they are pawns in a pre-determined love drama.

God exists completely outside of how humans experience time. Our time is outlined in scripture. God is eternal. He is the definition of infinity. If science wants to solve the infinity question, they should return to the math and science of creation, outlined in scripture.

The word beginning, is a statement God made to relate when he began the process of creating our world inhabitable for men. The Bible states that our world was created perfect. Yet, genesis 2 claims that the world became without form and void?

The word became requires a change. Going from one form to another. This seems to insinuate, that something caused our creator to allow the earth to become without form and void. The Bible teaches that God began to move the world that then was, from chaos to order.

The narrative begins on day one. Science aligns with the 6 day narrative, all the while trying to refute an intelligent designer over creation.

The laws of entropy were established by God in Genesis 1. God began restoring order, by moving away from the chaos caused by Lucifers rebellion, sometime between the beginning and day one of creation. Entropy, is the movement from chaos to order.

Our story does not begin with Adam. It begins with the knowledge of the order of creation. God created 4 things. The heavens, of which there are three outlined in scripture. The earth. Angels, to include Cherubim, Seraphim, and Archangels.

There are three archangels: Lucifer the anointed Cherub that covereth, of the Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14 narrative, Michael the guardian and warrior angel protecting the offspring of Abraham. And Gabriel, the angelic messenger.

There are no female angels.

This is very important to begin to understand why God created man in his own image. Only humans were created for the distinct purpose of being saved. The unique role a woman plays in salvation should put to bed how God sees equality between the genders.

A woman possesses the most exalted tabernacle in human history. Her womb is where the matrix of Numbers 12 begins it’s journey. The Matrix is the 33 trillion cells that make up the tabernacle of the human condition. We are a Spirit, that possesses a Soul, while occupying a tabernacle we call the body.

Humans are a product of a war going on between Lucifer, and the one third of the angels who followed him in his rebellion, and the God of creation. The sooner you settle it in your heart, that you are alive to replace the worshippers lost in Lucifer’s rebellion. True replacement theology!

Albert Einstein is given credit for his Quantum theory, identifying time as a companion to the three spatial dimensions of length, width, and height. Paul gave us his quantum theory in Ephesians 3:18 that holds the key to distinguishing what is most important to God.

Time is most important to God. It is more important than the three-dimensional space you occupy on Sunday or Wednesday. Jesus Christ requires a believer to spend time in scripture every day, if they intend to be counted noble enough to rule and reign with him in his coming kingdom.

Jesus Time is found in his own admission; I am the light of the world. Christ was saying, that I am the creator who spoke light into existence on day one.

I clothed man in my light. Darkness caused man to question my word and touch and eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Its time had not come yet to be partaken of, for that tree would become the cross of Christ in 32 AD on Passover.

God is sovereign over the affairs of men. He determines life and death. Eternal life is to be clothed in the light of Christ. A return to being the new creation relationship enjoyed by Adam and Eve, until the serpent beguiled them. To be born again is to be clothed in light from messiah.

The light of day one was different from the light of the sun and moon established on day 4. Interestingly, modern science still wrestles with the speed of light. The methods of measuring light have accelerated in this century with the discoveries in Physics.

If scientists would accept the Bible narrative, and learn the ancient Hebrew language as it pertains to numerical valuations assigned to letters, I believe discovery will again point to God as sole creator. He is the light of the world, who laid down his life for a world that deserves not his forgiveness.

God keeps Bible time much differently than men keep time. Learn Bible time and you will indeed become a light in this world. God gave us human time in advance.

Our entire history was revealed in advance when God gave Moses the Torah on Sinai, and continued all the way through the Apostolic period ending with Jesus Christ Revelation as given to John.

The Bible is a miraculous book of divine literature. 66 individual books, ascribed to at least 40 authors, revealed over 3000 years, all pointing to Christ dying, Christ being buried, and Christ rising again.

The most preposterous debt payment plan in human history, all conceived by the Trinity of creation, and revealed to men in God time, as he unlocked the mystery of our past, our present, and our future, as believers or non-believers. Freedom to choose as a gift from God!

He was crucified upon a cross of wood, yet he created the hill upon which it stood.

He is alive forevermore, and he is returning for his virgin bride very soon.

JB RLTW 3-27-2023

Staff Sergeant John Burns enlisted into the United States Army on September 23, 1987 as an 11C Infantry Mortarman. He graduated from the 7th Infantry Division, Ranger Class 11/89 and served in the invasion of Panama, Desert Storm and the Battle of Mogadishu while assigned to the 75th Rangers.

Some of his many decorations, awards and badges include; Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Sniper Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantry Badge and Expert Infantry Badge. Throughout his prestigious military career, he traveled to forty-five countries on five continents and all but two states while serving in the military.

He currently serves as the Chaplain for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. His devout faith demonstrates to all he comes into contact with that he believes nothing but the blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse us from all unrighteousness. He enjoys writing and teaching God’s Word while sharing his faith with a dying world.

Opinions expressed by readers and columnists do not necessarily reflect those of Morgan County Today



answer

R	A	V	A	G	E															
A		E				V														
I		R			B	E	S	O	T											
D	A	G			A					I										
		V	E	I	N					G										
		E				T	U	N												
		R				E														
A	S	T	E	R																
E																				

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

4	6	9	2	5	3	8	1	7
5	3	8	1	4	7	2	9	6
2	1	7	8	9	6	3	4	5
8	5	1	6	3	4	7	2	9
6	4	2	9	7	1	5	8	3
7	9	3	5	2	8	4	6	1
1	2	4	7	6	5	9	3	8
9	7	6	3	8	2	1	5	4
3	8	5	4	1	9	6	7	2

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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



The Bulldog Banner



Cole Burchell
(CatFish Cole)

30 Years of Presidential Success in Economic Statistics

By: Cole Burchell

As part of a school project looking into the success of one of our recent federal executives, I have accumulated data on specific aspects of the economy under the last five presidents over the past 30 years. These men include our incumbent Chief Commander Joe Biden, alongside Donald Trump, Barack Obama, George W. Bush, and Bill Clinton.

I will be covering three issues: unemployment, poverty, and the real median household income. To fairly compare each president's effect on the statistics, we will be looking at their first three years in office, since Joe Biden hasn't yet fulfilled his first term in its entirety. If you wish to see further statistics relating to these issues I have included charts outlining more information allowing you to compare these individuals more accordingly.



Daniel Bunch
(Big Man Dan)

Without any further, here is what I have found...

Unemployment Rate - the percentage of the population facing unemployment.

My method for determining an **Unemployment Rate** over the various years of each presidency is I take the unemployment rate of each year for instance with Joe Biden, I added the rate from 21' 22' & 23' then divided this sum by 3, and in that instance was given the result of 4.2% on average for this timespan. I have also added the number of individuals who throughout this time, in this example 3 years, should face unemployment.

Notes:

*Unemployment applies to all individuals above the age of 16 who have actively searched for work within the past four years but were unsuccessful in their efforts.

The Biden Administration:

The average annual unemployment rate over the first 3 years under the Biden Administration was **4.2%** or around **14,002,800** individuals were unemployed on average at any given time.

The Trump Administration:

The average annual unemployment rate over the first 3 years under the Trump Administration was **4%** or around **13,068,000** individuals were unemployed on average at any given time.

The Obama Administration:

The average annual unemployment rate over the first 3 years under the Obama Administration was **9.3%** or around **28,755,600** individuals were unemployed on average at any given time.

The Bush Administration:

The average annual unemployment rate over the first 3 years under the Bush Administration was **5.5%** or around **15,818,000** individuals were unemployed on average at any given time.

The Clinton Administration:

The average annual unemployment rate over the first 3 years under the Clinton Administration was **6.2%** or around **16,330,800** individuals were unemployed on average at any given time.

* % represents the percentage of the population

* The number represents the individuals who were unemployed on average at any given time during that time period

Unemployment Rate	Over 1st Term (4 Years)	Over First 3 Years in the 1st Term (Listed Above)	Over 2 Terms (8 Years)	Over Entire Presidency Excluding Recession Periods
J. Biden	Not Completed	4.2% or 14,002,800	NA	No Notable Recession Periods
D. Trump	5% or 16,370,000	4% or 13,068,000	NA	4% or around 13,068,000 (Without 2020)
B. Obama	9% or 27,936,000	9.3% or 28,755,600	7.5% or 23,625,000	7.2% or 22,766,400 (Without 2009)
G. W. Bush	5.5% or 15,889,50	5.5% or 15,818,000	5.3% or 15,597,900	5.2% or 15,230,800 (Without 2008)
B. Clinton	6% or 15,900,000	6.2% or 16,330,800	5.2% or 14,107,600	No Notable Recession Periods



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Keep away from people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you feel that you, too, can become GREAT!

- Mark Twain



The Bulldog Banner



30 Years of Presidential Success in Economic Statistics

Poverty Rate - the percentage of the population in poverty.

My method for determining a **Poverty Rate** over the various years of each presidency is I take the poverty rate of each year for instance with Joe Biden, I added the rate from 21' 22' & 23' then divided this sum by 3 and was given the result of 11.5% on average for this timespan. I have also added the number of individuals who throughout this time, in this example 3 years, were considered under the poverty line.

Notes:

*In 1993, 1 person living on \$19 or less a day or making \$6,970 or less annually was in poverty, and a family living on \$39 or less a day or making \$14,350 or less annually was in poverty.

*In 2023, 1 person living on \$40 or less a day or making \$14,580 or less annually was in poverty, and a family living on \$82 or less a day or making \$30,000 or less annually was in poverty.

The Biden Administration:

The average annual poverty rate over the first 3 years under the Biden Administration was **11.5%** or around **38,525,000** individuals faced poverty on average at any given time.

The Trump Administration:

The average annual poverty rate over the first 3 years under the Trump Administration was **11.5%** or around **37,570,500** individuals faced poverty on average at any given time.

The Obama Administration:

The average annual poverty rate over the first 3 years under the Obama Administration was **14.8%** or around **45,761,600** individuals faced poverty on average at any given time.

The Bush Administration:

The average annual poverty rate over the first 3 years under the Bush Administration was **12.1%** or around **34,799,600** individuals faced poverty on average at any given time.

The Clinton Administration:

The average annual poverty rate over the first 3 years under the Clinton Administration was **14.5%** or around **38,193,000** individuals faced poverty on average at any given time.

* % represents the percentage of the population

* The number represents the individuals who were unemployed on average at any given time during that time period

Poverty Rate	Over 1st Term (4 Years)	Over First 3 Years in the 1st Term (Listed Above)	Over 2 Terms (8 Years)	Over Entire Presidency Excluding Recession Periods
J. Biden	Not Completed	11.5% or 38,525,000	NA	No Notable Recession Periods
D. Trump	11.5% or 37,651,000	11.5% or 37,570,500	NA	11.5% or 37,570,500 (Without 2020)
B. Obama	14.5% or 45,008,000	14.8% or 45,761,600	14.4% or 45,360,000	14.4% or 45,532,800 (Without 2009)
G. W. Bush	12.3% or 35,534,700	12.1% or 34,799,600	12.5% or 36,787,500	12.3% or 36,026,700 (Without 2008)
B. Clinton	14.3% or 37,895,000	14.5% or 38,193,000	13.3% or 36,082,900	No Notable Recession Periods

Data & Information:

https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNU04000000&years_option=all_years&periods_option=specific_periods&periods=Annual+Data

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/200463/us-poverty-rate-since-1990/>

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/topics/poverty-economic-mobility/poverty-guidelines/prior-hhs-poverty-guidelines-federal-register-references>





The Bulldog Banner



30 Years of Presidential Success in Economic Statistics

Real Median Household Income - Median income is the level of income that divides the units in a group into two equal parts, one half having incomes above the median and the other half having incomes below the median.

My method for determining a **Real Median Household Income** Growth over the various years of each presidency is I take the real median household income from the beginning of a president's term for instance with Joe Biden, I took the income from 21' and then determined the percent of change and the actual cash amount in which it grew or decayed compared to the income in 23'.

Notes:

*Real Median Household Income includes all individuals above the age of 15 within a household and represents the actual income of that household after taxes.

*All data has been converted accordingly with inflation and all values are equal to today's dollar value, and it is expected for the median income to rise so for comparison it might be better to look at how much the income increased under each president and not its actual value. It wouldn't be fair to compare Clinton's beginning 35,075 with Biden's 80,084 for example instead compare Clinton's \$3,749 gain to Biden's \$3,635 loss.

The Biden Administration:

The real median household income decay percentage over the first 3 years under the Biden Administration was **-4.5%** losing around **\$3,635** from its original value of \$80,084 to \$76,449.

The Trump Administration:

The real median household income growth percentage over the first 3 years under the Trump Administration was **12.4%** gaining around **\$7,939** from its original value of \$64,143 to \$72,082.

The Obama Administration:

The real median household income growth percentage over the first 3 years under the Obama Administration was **3.8%** gaining around **\$1,978** from its original value of \$52,516 to \$54,493.

The Bush Administration:

The real median household income growth percentage over the first 3 years under the Bush Administration was **6.9%** gaining around **\$3,156** from its original value of \$45,448 to \$48,604.

The Clinton Administration:

The real median household income growth percentage over the first 3 years under the Clinton Administration was **10.7%** gaining around **\$3,749** from its original value of \$35,075 to \$38,825.

* % represents the percentage of change from the beginning to the end of that timespan

Unemployment Rate	Over 1st Term (4 Years)	Over First 3 Years in the 1st Term (Listed Above)	Over 2 Terms (8 Years)	Over Entire Presidency Excluding Recession Periods
J. Biden	Not Completed	4.2% or 14,002,800	NA	No Notable Recession Periods
D. Trump	5% or 16,370,000	4% or 13,068,000	NA	4% or around 13,068,000 (Without 2020)
B. Obama	9% or 27,936,000	9.3% or 28,755,600	7.5% or 23,625,000	7.2% or 22,766,400 (Without 2009)
G. W. Bush	5.5% or 15,889,50	5.5% or 15,818,000	5.3% or 15,597,900	5.2% or 15,230,800 (Without 2008)
B. Clinton	6% or 15,900,000	6.2% or 16,330,800	5.2% or 14,107,600	No Notable Recession Periods

Data & Information - https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNU04000000&years_option=all_years&periods_option=specific_periods&periods=Annual+Data

I hope you were able to find this data intriguing as I have, although one can not solely place blame upon one individual for the success or decline of the economy, not even the president. Many factors influence it and connect it. Anyhow I would like to thank Mr. Michael Poland for assigning me the essay that inspired me to write this as I have enjoyed looking back and comparing the last 30 years of our nation's growth and prosperity.

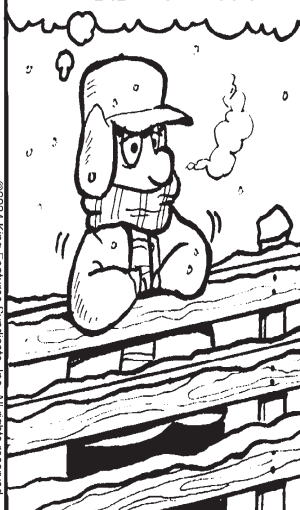
Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

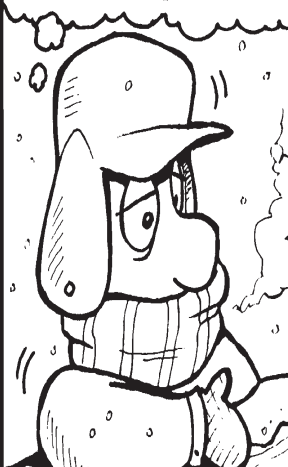


Amber Waves

WOW, IT'S REALLY A COLD ONE OUT HERE THIS MORNING!



I CAN'T FEEL MY TOES. GONNA GET THOSE CHORES DONE QUICK AND GET BACK INSIDE.

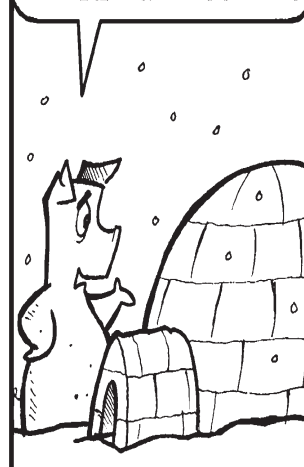


SURE GLAD I'M NOT THAT POOR LIVESTOCK THAT HAS TO PUT UP WITH THIS WEATHER.



by Dave T. Phipps

COME ON, LOU, LET ME IN. I'M SORRY I TEASED YOU. I THOUGHT YOU WERE MAKING A SNOWMAN!



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Revelation Chapter 20



Melvin Howard

This is probably the most misunderstood chapter in the book---and the most misused. Never have so many extracted so much from so little. This chapter has been the “happy hunting ground” for those mesmerized by the doctrine of an earthly reign of Christ for one thousand years following his second coming. The truth is, there is no biblical basis for this eschatological system (doctrine of the last things).

(Rev. 20:1-3) The binding of Satan: A messenger of God descends from heaven to bind the dragon, the old serpent---Satan. The “serpent” figure is reminiscent of Genesis 3:1. There are several symbols here---key, abyss (pit), chain, dragon, and thousands. Why should one of these---the one thousand years---be singled out for a literal interpretation?

Premillennialists contend that this context provides the basis for their notion that Christ will return to the earth and reign for one thousand years from Jerusalem, but there is nothing in this paragraph that remotely hints of that. The term “thousand” is found more than twenty times in the book of Revelation; never is it employed in a literal sense. This is no more a literal 1,000 than the 144,000 of chapters seven and fourteen. The millennialists make the same mistake as the “Jehovah’s Witnesses.” The 1,000 may be a symbol of completeness, or it may simply suggest a long period of time. Those who subscribe to “realized eschatology,” commonly known as the Max King doctrine, allege that this one thousand years represents the forty-year span between the death of Christ (A.D. 30) and the destruction of Jerusalem (A.D. 70). How in the name of common sense would a thousand symbolize forty? During this one thousand-year era, Satan is said to be “bound,” which, in some way, suggests that he cannot “deceive” the nations. These two expressions appear to be equivalent. This likely indicates that during this period the sacred Scriptures have free course of circulation. 2 Timothy 2:9 “Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.”

(Revelation 20:4-6) The reign of the Saints: The “thrones” which were given unto those martyred for Christ reveal that death does not end the scene for the Christian. The dead lived! Regardless of how dismal the circumstances may appear, God is in control and his cause will triumph. The mention of thrones is a promise of victory. These victorious ones are to reign with Christ for one thousand years. But what precisely does the one thousand years represent? A variety of views prevail. (a) The era reflects the intermediate state of the martyrs after death (Mounce). (b) The one thousand years is the equivalent of the entire Christian dispensation (Winters). (c) The millennium involves the use of a number (10x10x10=1,000) as a symbol for completeness. The victory of the saints is complete compared with the more limited era of persecution (Roberts). (d) Those who take a historical approach see the victory as focused primarily on overcoming the onslaughts of both pagan and papal Rome (Barnes; Hinds).

The “first resurrection” does not refer to a resurrection of the righteous, just before an earthly reign of Christ, to be followed one thousand years later by the resurrection of the wicked. There will be a general resurrection of the dead, which will involve, at the same time, both good and evil persons (John 5:28-29 “Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, 29 And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection

of damnation.”; Acts 24:15 “And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust”). Some feel that the “first resurrection” is an allusion to the victors’ baptism at the time they became Christians (Rom. 6:3-5 “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.”; Colossians 2:12 “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). It may be more in harmony with the context, however, to conclude that this “resurrection” symbolizes a relief from a period of horrible persecution, somewhat analogous to the figurative resurrection portrayed in Ezekiel 37, which foreshadowed Judah’s release from Babylonian captivity.

(Rev. 20:7-10) A brief era of terror: Many believe that this section hints of a last-ditch attempt by Satan to destroy the work of Christ preceding the Lord’s return. It may suggest a period during which the Scriptures either are quite scarce again or almost wholly ignored---the effect would be the same in either event. At any rate, Satan’s effort will be futile. He and his cohorts are cast into hell eternally. The term “tormented” artues for conscious punishment. Moreover, this is the very realm to which all the unfaithful will be consigned (Matthew 25:41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels).

(Rev. 20:11-15) The final judgment: This section describes the great day of judgment, which signals the end of the material universe. Judgment is universal (Acts 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”; 2 Corinthians 5:10 “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”), involving both the “great” and “small.” Moreover, judgment is according to what is written, depending upon the dispensation of the one’s earthly sojourn (Rom. 2:16). The dual nature of man is seen in the fact that Hades (the spirit realm) and the grave and the sea gave up the dead ones that were in “them.” Note the plural; it distinguishes the receptacle of the body from that of the soul.

Too, note the term “works,” the equivalent of “obedience.” Let those who think that salvation is a matter of unconditional grace see the great emphasis upon “works” in this concluding book of the Bible (2:5; 3:2; 22:12).

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BIBLE TRIVIA

By Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Habakkuk (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Joseph was buried in a plot of ground at Shechem costing how many pieces of silver? 1, 7, 30, 100
3. Which metal, used to sharpen other metals, does Proverbs 27 compare to friends? Gold, Silver, Iron, Tin
4. What is the middle chapter of the New Testament? Romans 13, Galatians 2, Ephesians 5, Titus 1
5. The book of Hebrews tells us to entertain strangers as they may be ...? Demons, Angels, Prophets, Reincarnations
6. From Ruth 1, who was Naomi’s husband? Elimelech, Mahlon, Chilion, Malachi

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) 100, 3) Iron, 4) Romans 13, 5) Angels, 6) Elimelech

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