

## Malcolm's Monday Musings : 17 May 2021

Greetings.

This is my 'Monday Musings' email.

First, the solution to last week's riddle: Moab and Benammi ... Genesis 19. 30-38.

I suspect that some of you might have missed the pun in the final clue, which read: 'You will find that a cave has a **LOT** to do with the solution to the riddle!' Too subtle for some, perhaps?

Well, today I have a second riddle for you. The opening clues are as follows:

(i) Repeated from last week, '*Two Bible characters were born at (or about) the same time. Both were male. They were not twins.*'

(ii) '*The life-stories of the two men are recorded in two separate books of the Old Testament. The two books do not appear next to each other in the Bible. Neither man is mentioned in both books.*'

Well, who are the two men?

(If you are struggling with solving this week's riddle, you will find 'further clues' below.)

I am aware that this week's attached document is rather long and have decided, therefore, to spare you a further document next Monday. Happy reading.

Yours in our Lord Jesus,

Malcolm

---

### (i) Scripture.

Hannah prayed, and said,

My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in the Lord: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God.

Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by Him actions are weighed ...

The Lord maketh poor, and maketh rich: He bringeth low, and lifteth up. He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's, and He hath set the world upon them.

He will keep the feet of His saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail. The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces; out of heaven shall He thunder upon them: the Lord shall judge the ends of the earth.

1 Samuel 2. 1-10 (*King James Version*)

### (ii) Food for thought.

#### ***New names for the parents.***

Normally, when a baby boy is to be born into a family, attention is focused on the name or names to be given to the child. But when the Lord announced the birth of Isaac, He gave new names to the parents! (Gen. 17. 5, 15).

#### ***The Lord Jesus (John 1. 1, 14).***

(i) His *Eternity*: 'In the beginning was the Word'.

(ii) His *Personality*: 'the Word was with God'.

(iii) His *Deity*: 'the Word was God'.

(iv) His *Humanity*: 'the Word was made flesh'.

#### ***A sevenfold testimony to the divine Sonship of the Lord Jesus.***

- (i) *The Father* affirmed it (Matt. 3. 17).
- (ii) *The demons* admitted it (Mark 3. 11).
- (iii) *Peter* confessed it (Matt. 16. 16).
- (iv) *Jesus* proclaimed it (Matt. 26. 63-64).
- (v) *The centurion* acknowledged it (Mark 15. 39).
- (vi) *The resurrection* declared it (Rom. 1. 4).
- (vii) *The converted Saul* preached it (Acts 9. 20).

***The Lord's double 'I am' claims in John's Gospel.***

- (i) 'I am the *bread*' (John 6. 48, 51).
- (ii) 'I am the *light*' (John 8. 12; 9. 5).
- (iii) 'I am the *door*' (John 10. 7, 9).
- (iv) 'I am the *good shepherd*' (John 10. 11, 14).
- (v) 'I am the *vine*' (John 15. 1, 5).
- (vi) I am ... the *life*' (John 11. 25; 14. 6).

***Jesus' feet; the place of:***

- (i) Gratitude (Luke 7. 38, 47-50; 17. 16).
- (ii) Healing (Matt. 15. 30; Mark 7. 25; Luke 8. 41).
- (iii) Instruction (Luke 10. 39).
- (iv) Comfort (John 11. 32-33).
- (v) Devotion (John 12. 3).
- (vi) Worship (Matt. 28. 9).
- (vii) Awe (Rev. 1. 17).

***'They pierced ... my feet' (Psa. 22. 16).***

'Yet *these are the feet* that had sped to save,  
That stood by the couch, the bier, and the grave,  
That walked in might on the midnight sea,  
That were weary on highways of Galilee,  
That sought no rest between Mary's womb  
And the cool, still night of the garden tomb;  
And—sight that the sun refused to see—  
They nailed those feet to the tree!'

(Anne Ross Cousin, 'What are these wounds?' from her book of poems entitled, 'Immanuel's Land', page 26.)

***Daniel delivered (Dan. 6. 16, 20).***

'God didn't deliver Daniel from the lions' den, but He did deliver him from the lions' mouths'.  
(A. Naismith, 'A Treasury of Notes, Quotes and Anecdotes for Sermon Building', page 178.)

***Temptation.***

'There is manifestly a vast difference between (i) "falling into temptation" or "enduring temptation" (James 1. 2, 12), on the one hand, and (ii) "entering into temptation" (Matt. 26. 41), on the other ... There is nothing more strengthening than to "endure temptation"; nothing more perilous than to "enter into" it'.

(William Kelly, 'Enduring Temptation and Entering into Temptation', The Christian's Friend (1877), page 48.)

***Seven types of ears***

- (i) Attentive ears (Psa. 130. 2).
- (ii) Deaf ears (Micah 7. 16).
- (iii) Stopped ears (Zech. 7. 11; Acts 7. 57).
- (iv) Dull ears (Matt 13. 15; Acts 28. 27; cf. Heb. 5. 11).
- (v) Open ears (Mark 7. 35).
- (vi) Uncircumcised ears (Acts 7. 51).
- (vii) Itching ears (2 Tim. 4. 3).

***Man's will and God's will.***

'God does not coerce, much less compel, man to bend his will to God's. God may bring influences to bear, calculated to turn man's mind and will in a certain direction but never to the extent of over-riding man's power and right of choice. On the other hand, when man has deliberately set himself in opposition to God's will, He may quite righteously fulfil His purposes by hardening the heart or darkening the mind which refused to respond to God's overtures ... Christ's complaint was not that men *could* not come to Him, but that they *would* not (John 5. 40)'.

(J. H. Large, 'Man', in 'The Faith', edited by F. A. Tatford, page 142.)

***Seven aspects of God's love.***

- (i) Poured out (Rom. 5. 5).
- (ii) Commended (Rom. 5. 8).
- (iii) Bestowed (1 John 3. 1).
- (iv) Perceived (1 John 3. 16).
- (v) Indwelling (1 John 3. 17).
- (vi) Manifested (I John 4. 9).
- (vii) Believed (1 John 4. 16).

**The riddle (further clues):**

- (iii) *'Both men (by birth, not title) were firstborn sons'.*
- (iv) *'The one man finished the work which the other man began'.*

Well? What are the names of the two men?

(If you are still stuck, you will find 'further clues' below.)

**Four titles of believers in John 15.**

- (i) *'Disciples'*: fruitful for Christ (John 15. 8).
- (ii) *'Friends'*: communing with Christ (John 15. 15).
- (iii) *'Servants'*: working for Christ (John 15. 20).
- (iv) *'Witnesses'*: testifying to Christ (John 15. 27).

**'As many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ' (Gal. 3. 27).**

"Put on" ... As a badge or uniform of service like that of the soldier. ... baptism was the public profession and pledge, the soldier's *sacramentum* [the oath of allegiance, sworn by a Roman recruit] ... taking one's stand with Christ, the symbolic picture of the change wrought by faith already (Rom. 6. 4-6)'.  
 (A. T. Robertson, *'Word Pictures in the New Testament'*, on Gal. 3. 27.)

**In the Name.**

- (i) Salvation (Acts 4. 12).
- (ii) Remission (Acts 10. 43).
- (iii) Baptism (Acts 19. 5).
- (iv) Gathering (Matt. 18. 20).
- (v) Venturing (3 John 7).

**Tons of timely potatoes.**

'Major Stone, of the Salvation Army, delights to tell how when stationed in Jersey he knew a French Christian who earnestly sought in all things to do the will of God. One day this good brother felt that God would have him send a shipment of twenty-five tons of potatoes, which were being consigned to him from France, to the Bristol Orphan Houses. Going to the wharf, he "re-addressed" the potatoes. When George Müller's "Report" for that year came to be published, it mentioned that "twenty-five tons of potatoes arrived at a moment when every vegetable in the place had been used".  
 "God is faithful" (1 Cor. 1. 9; 10. 13)'.  
 (Henry Pickering, *'One Thousand Tales Worth Telling'*, page 45.)

**The riddle (still further clues):**

- (v) *'The one man lived about twice as long as the other'.*
- (vi) *'Both men are mentioned by name in a single verse of the New Testament – although their names do not appear alongside each other'.*

(And, if you are still not there, you will find one final {'giveaway'} clue at the end of this email.)

[See the attached 'Samson: a lesson in consecration' document.](#)

**(iii) Go on, smile.**

1. Following a heated argument, William and Jean were giving each other 'the silent treatment'. That evening, William suddenly realized that he was going to need Jean to wake him at 5 am the next morning so that he could catch the early morning business train to Edinburgh. Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and so lose!), when going to bed, William wrote out on a large piece of paper, 'Please wake me at 5:00 am'.

William awoke the next morning to discover that it was 9 o'clock and that he had long missed his train. Furious, he was just about to jump out of bed and find Jean to give her a piece of his mind when he noticed something by his pillow. It was a sheet of paper on which was written, *'It is 5:00 am. Time to wake up!'*

2. Little Billy watched, fascinated, as his mother gently rubbed cream on her face. 'Mummy, why', he asked, 'are you rubbing that stuff on your face?' 'Oh, it helps to make me beautiful', she replied. A few minutes later, she began removing the cream with a tissue. 'What's the matter?' Billy asked. *'Have you given up?'*

See the attached two pictures about 'The Weather'.

***The riddle (the final clue):***

(vii) "On no occasion did either man visit a barber".

(If, in spite of that 'giveaway' clue, you are still unable to solve the riddle, you will find the solution spelt out for you in the attached document.)

