"THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS......"
ISAIAH 40:31

"WINGS OR WEIGHTS?"

READING AGAIN OF THAT INCIDENT TOLD BY HENRY HITT CRANE OF DETROIT. SOME TIME AGO HE RECEIVED LETTER FROM SON OF VERY DEAR FRIEND INFORMING HIM OF THE DEATH OF HIS FATHER AND ASKING DR. CRANE TO CONDUCT THE FUNERAL SERVICE. HAD BEEN A FINE MAN; CHAMPION OF GOOD CAUSES; IDEALIST; A GOOD MAN; BUT ALSO A MISUNDERSTOOD MAN. UNJUSTLY CRITICISED AND EVEN OUSTED UNFAIRLY FROM HIS PROFESSION. PERSECUTED. BUT HAD NEVER BECOME EMBITTERED NOR VINDICATIVE. PRESERVED HIS POISE AND SWEETNESS.

SON WRITES; "DOUBTLESS YOU ARE AWARE OF THE KEYNOTE OF MY FATHER'S LIFE; THE SECRET OF COURAGE, POWER AND FAITH. I FOUND A SMALL PIECE OF PAPER IN HIS POCKETBOOK THE OTHER DAY; AND ON IT WORDS THAT REVEAL THE SECRET OF HIS POWER AND POISE. I ENCLOSE THEM". THREE LINES BY VICTOR HUGO:

"ON A BRANCH THAT SWINGS
SITS A BIRD THAT SINGS;
KNOWING THAT HE HAS WINGS".

THAT WAS THE KIND OF PERSON HE WAS - A PERSON WHO COULD SING IN THE STORM. CAN YOU? WHAT KIND OF A PERSON ARE YOU? IN DAYS LIKE THESE WHEN TREE IS BEING SHAKEN AND IN DANGER OF BEING UPROOTED - WHAT KIND OF A PERSON ARE YOU? CAN YOU SING; OR ARE YOU SONGLESS?

IF WE HAVE WINGS THEN WE CAN SING EVEN IN A TIME LIKE THIS. IT HAS BEEN DONE. BUT IF WE ARE WINGLESS WE ARE LIKELY TO BE SONGLESS.

WEIGHTED DOWN! "BUT THEN THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS TO WEIGHT US DOWN THESE DAYS. WE ARE ANXIOUS, WORRIED AND AFRAID."

"WE SEEM TO BE WINGLESS. THERE IS SO MUCH SORROW IN THE WORLD AND PAIN. SO MUCH TO GET US DOWN". WENT TO CIRCUS ONCE AND REMEMBER BOY PERFORMING STUNTS ON BICYCLE. SMALL ROUND-TOPPED TABLE WITH HANDLE TO MAKE IT REVOLVE. BOY ON BICYCLE PLACED ON TABLE AND STARTED TO RIDE AROUND. THEN SOMEONE BEGAN TO TURN THE TABLE IN OPPOSITE DIRECTION. PEDALLING AT GREAT RATE BUT NOT GETTING ALONG VERY FAST. TABLE THEN SPEEDED UP UNTIL BOY SEEMED TO BE MAKING NO
One may have calm, even disposition, never ruffled.

"Young had a control over his temper as if he were

Taking the matter of personality. One person is
born with a gift and capacity for leadership and is
likely to do great things. While another has not,
nor ever will have the same ability. Psychology is
definite at that point - we have certain capacities
which are inherent at birth. Cannot help ourselves
at this point except to develop the gifts we have.

In the matter of physical health - some person
is born with a good, strong body, while another is
born with a body that can never be strong. Matter
of looks and "structural liabilities". Can't help
ourselves. Can only say that God intends us to be
that way. And make the best of it. Trouble is some
of us allow our weights to hold us down. Become
sour with life and disappointed.

Wings for weights and
weights for wings

All comes down to question:

What shall be our reaction
to all these things? What
shall we do with life? Are
we going to allow the so-called raw deals of life
to keep us down? What are we allowing life to do
to us? Life is full of people who have exchanged
their weights for wings. And we can do the same.

Here is Paul for example. Lodged in Roman
prison, been in prison before. Been through many
experiences; whipped, stoned, starved and shipwrecked.
Now awaits trial. In a dungeon with mouldy loaf
of bread by side. Probably weights on feet. And in
this cold and damp cell, Paul writes a letter to few
friends at place called Philippi. Listen, "Rejoice,
and again I say unto you rejoice". "I would have
you understand that the things that have happened to
me have fallen out to the progress of the gospel".

Paul was able to exchange his weights for wings. He
refuses to call himself "prisoner of Nero" but calls
himself "prisoner of Jesus Christ". A great spiritual
achievement to exchange weights for wings.

Then I think of others. Dr. Edward Livingston
Trudeau, driven from his profession and practice in
New York City by tuberculosis, he established that
great institution for healing at Saranac and later
he wrote, "The struggle with tuberculosis has brought
me experiences and left me recollections which I
never could have known otherwise, and which I would
not exchange for the wealth of the Indies". Weights
INTO WINGS.

AND THERE IS ALEC TEMPLETON ENTERTAINING MILLIONS OVER THE RADIO WITH HIS MUSIC AND AMUSING THEM WITH HIS WHIMSICALITIES. BEAUTIFUL PLAYER AND A BEAUTIFUL SPIRIT. YET HE IS STONE BLIND. HE HAS OVERCOME A CRIPPLING DISADVANTAGE; RESENTMENT, CYNICISM, SELF-PITY AND BITTERNESS. HE ILLUSTRATES WHAT DR. ALFRED ADLER CALLS, "THE HUMAN BEING'S POWER TO TURN A MINUS INTO A PLUS". HE HAS TURNED HIS WEIGHTS INTO WINGS.

THE OLD THEOLOGIANS AND PREACHERS USED TO TALK AND PREACH ABOUT "THE FINAL PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS". I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THAT. BUT I KNOW OF PEOPLE WHO DAY BY DAY ASTONISH ME WITH THEIR PERSEVERANCE AND PATIENCE. THE PERSEVERANCE OF THE ORDINARY INDIVIDUAL SOMETIMES AMAZES ME. PEOPLE WHO HAVE EXCHANGED WEIGHTS FOR WINGS.

LET'S BRING THIS TO A CONCLUSION. WHAT IS THE SECRET OF IT ALL? THE SECRET IS IN THE WORDS OF PROPHET OF OLD - ISAIAH. LISTEN; THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH. THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN AND NOT BE WEARY; THEY SHALL WALK AND NOT FAINT."
PROGRESS AT ALL. A PICTURE OF LIFE SOMETIMES IS IT NOT? WE STRIVE FURIOUSLY BUT SEEMED TO BE GETTING NOWHERE. WEIGHTED DOWN.

WEIGHTED DOWN BY THE DIFFICULTY OF HAVING TO LIVE, WORK OR DEAL WITH UNCONGENIAL PEOPLE. AND SOME ARE SO UNCONGENIAL. ERNEST LIGON SPEAKS OF SOME OF THESE PEOPLE IN ONE OF HIS BOOKS — AND I WONDER IF WE ARE AMONG THEM; "VAIN, JEALOUS, ENvious, ALWAYS HAVING HARD LUCK, ANXIOUS, BULlying, GOSSIPING, UNABLE TO TAKE CRITICISM, WANTING FLATTERY, GRANDSTAND PLAYERS, POOR LOSERS, PUGNACIOUS, PROFANE, SUSPICIOUS OF OTHERS". WHAT A CATEGORY. WE LIVE IN A WORLD OF PERSONS. SOMETIMES EXASPERATING PERSONS. MAKE IT HARD FOR US TO BE AT OUR BEST; THEY DO NOT HELP US; THEY ARE A WEIGHT TO US AND NOT WINGS. THANK GOD FOR THOSE WHO ARE OF INSPIRATION TO US AND WHO HELP US TO SOAR ON WINGS.

I THINK OF PEOPLE WEIGHTED DOWN IN UNCONGENIAL JOBS. KNEW A COLLECTOR OF ASHES WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN AN ARTIST. I KNOW A MINISTER WHO MIGHT HAVE MADE A BETTER GARDENER. I KNEW A GIRL WHOSE HEART WAS SET ON BEING A MISSIONARY BUT WHO WAS THWARTED IN THIS AMBITION BECAUSE SHE HAD TO STAY HOME AND TAKE CARE OF INVALID MOTHER. WORLD FULL OF THWARTED PEOPLE — MANY WHO FOR VARIOUS REASONS ARE WEIGHTED DOWN. LIKE GALLEY SLAVES WITH FETTERS ON WRISTS AND ANKLES — CONDEMNED TO WORK THAT IS DISTASTEFUL.

LIFE SEEMS UNFAIR! THERE SEEMS NO JUSTICE TO LIFE. THE GIFTS OF LIFE ARE NOT GIVEN WITH EQUALITY. WE DO NOT ALL START OUT FROM SCRATCH. WE HAVE TO ACCEPT OUR PARENTS — CANNOT CHOOSE THEM. HAVE TO ACCEPT THE KIND OF HOME WE ARE BORN INTO. FORTUNATE IF WE ARE BORN INTO A HOME WHERE THERE IS LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING AND EAGER ANTICIPATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, A CHILD MAY BE BORN INTO A HOME WHERE THERE IS SORDIDNESS AND SQUALOR AND UNHAPPINESS. NOT SO MUCH BORN INTO LIFE AS DAMNED INTO LIFE.

NO CREDIT TO US THAT WE BORN INTO A CERTAIN NATIONAL GROUP — THE WHITE RACE. IT WAS ALL MATTER OF CIRCUMSTANCE OVER WHICH WE HAD NO CONTROL WHATSOEVER. AFTER ALL, IT IS RATHER A TERRIBLE THING TO BE BORN A NEGRO IN THIS LAND OF THE FREE AND HOME OF THE BRAVE. LIFE DOES NOT SEEM FAIR.
WINGS FOR WEIGHTS  
ALL COMES DOWN TO THE QUESTION:  
WHAT SHALL BE OUR REACTION TO  
THese THINGS?  WHAT SHALL WE DO  
WITH LIFE?  WHAT SHALL WE ALLOW  
LIFE TO DO TO US?  SHALL WE FLY OR SHALL WE FLOUNDER?  REMINDS ONE OF IBSEN'S FABLE OF THE WILD DUCK.  
ONCE USED THIS FABLE AND FAILED TO GET THE MEANING OVER.  LET ME TRY AGAIN.  ONCE A WILD DUCK.  USED  
TO FLYING WITH STRONG WINGS OVER TRACKLESS WILDERNESS.  ONE DAY IT WAS MIGRATING NORTHWARD.  TIRED.  
Saw farmyard and tame ducks feeding.  Alighted and  
ate.  Liked the ease and comfort.  Decided to stay.  
Weeks flew by.  Fall came.  Old companions started  
to fly over sending cries to him.  Filled with a  
strange ecstasy and desire to fly southward.  But  
discovers he can fly no higher than barn roof.  So  
winter passes and spring comes - then fall again.  
As each season passes the duck feels the call growing  
fainter and fainter.  He has grown fat.  Wings  
have grown weak.  Content to remain.  After all it  
wasn't so bad.  Weighted down with soft living and  
at last the wild duck becomes a tame duck.  That is
1. H. T. Cross, "Hero Within Soul"
"When life breaks in what then?
All that's left is faith.

2. "On a branch that came
Let's a bird that sings
Knowing, her has wings.

3. John Hallstone Clarke,
"How to Overcome Fear"
No one could take that
Year away from her.

4. "A Christmas Tree"
Why don't you act like
one
Our faith - the key
defining theme."
Prospect and Assignment Card

Name ____________________________________________
Address __________________________________________

REASONS FOR BEING ON OUR RESPONSIBILITY LIST

Member of Sunday School  Attends Church Service
Child in Sunday School    Wife or Children Members
Baby on Cradle Roll       Attends Some Women’s Meetings
Survey—Prefer Our Church  Attends Young People’s Society
Member Elsewhere          Contributor

Other Reasons or Information ____________________________________________

Called on by_________________________ Date________________
Report and Follow-up Recommendations ___________________________________
**PRAYER:** O Thou who art the door, we thank thee that we can go in and out, and find pasture. We rejoice that we may have the more abundant life through thy coming.

Amen.

**GOD OWNS—MAN POSSESSES**

MAN is merely a steward and not an owner of his possessions. All man has belongs to God. All man is, all he experiences, all he possesses belongs to God. He is a trustee of God's property in respect to all things. Life, with all that it embraces, is but an instrument.

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." [Psalm 24:1].

"Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the Lord's thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is." [Deut. 10:14].

"The land shall not be sold forever: for the land is mine." [Lev. 25:23].

"The silver is mine, and the gold is mine." [Haggai 2:3].

Surely no steward can think of anything that he may have in his possession which is not included in these passages of Scripture. A Christian is merely a steward administering for God Who owns all.

**HE SHALL DIRECT OUR PATHS**

God's Word and His faithfulness to His Word are as armor to His people, preserving them from the onslaughts of their enemies.

We need God's directing care in our life on account of our fallibility. Our lives are filled with our mistakes. They are warped by our choices. Then we need Him because of the hazards in the way. There are so many pitfalls, so many ways that look equally compatible, so many choices that appear to be satisfactory. There are so many false guides beckoning and even compelling us that we need a strong guiding arm to help us in the WAY. For us to acknowledge Him—our paths shall be directed.

**INFORMATION FOR THE PASTOR**

Please mark a cross [X] in the square giving the information you wish to reach the pastor, sign in full, and place it on the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

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<th>Moved to address below</th>
<th>Visitor Today</th>
<th>Offering envelopes</th>
<th>Sickness</th>
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NAME__________________________________________

ADDRESS________________________________________

**OUR CHURCH DOOR**

God, make the portal of our church we have raised to Thee wide enough to receive all who need human love and fellowship and a Father's care; and narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and hate. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, weakness or straying feet; but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. God make the portal of our church the gateway to Thy eternal kingdom.

**FREMONT STREET METHODIST CHURCH**

10:30 MORNING WORSHIP  11:30 CHURCH SCHOOL

FRED CLARKE, Minister

**WELCOME**

We welcome you to our church today and if you do not have a church home elsewhere we invite you to worship with us regularly.
ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP
July 11, 1943
10:30 A.M.

ORGAN PRELUDE
"Introspection"  Hartmann

CALL TO WORSHIP - By the minister

HYMN 12 "Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee"

* SCRIPTURE LESSON  Matthew 6:19-34

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

* SOLO
"The Lord's Prayer"  Malotte
Mr. Brace Shepard

ORGAN OFFERTORY
"Cantilene Nuptials"  DuBois

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE - By the congregation

OFFERTORY PRAYER - By the minister

HYMN 380 "Jesus, with Thy Church abide"

SERMON
"WINGS OR WEIGHTS"

HYMN 354 "Peace, perfect peace in this dark world of sin?"

BENEDICTION

DOXOLOGY

ORGAN POSTLUDE  "Grand Chorus"  DuBois
* Interval for Ushering

The Altar Flowers to-day are given in Loving Memory of Mrs. Walton E. Werner by her class.

We extend a hearty welcome and a friendly greeting to all visitors who worship with us this morning. Please come again.

Would you like to give Memorial Flowers some Sunday? If so, please speak to Mr. Theron Suits about the matter.

CALENDAR FOR TO-DAY

10:30 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP AND SERMON.
11:30 A.M. CHURCH SCHOOL WITH CLASSES FOR ALL AGES.
7:30 P.M. UNION EVENING SERVICE. This service will be held at the Congregational Church with Rev. G. A. Reinl as the preacher.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
Through the month of July, Morning Worship will last an hour. Church School will also be on a shortened schedule - 11:30 to 12:15. You are invited to stay.

The Mid-week Service will be held on Wednesday evening at 7:30. The minister will be the leader. Everyone is cordially invited to these helpful services.

The July Meeting of the Official Board will be held on Wednesday evening at 8:30 - immediately following the Mid-week Service.

The Harmony Class will hold its Annual Picnic on Saturday afternoon at the Bishop Farm, Ext. West State St.. Supper will be served at 5:30.

The Muddle Class will hold a Covered Dish Supper at the Church on Saturday afternoon at 5:30.

The Werner Workers will picnic on the lawn at the home of Miss Margaret J. Perry, 24 East 8th Avenue. Members are asked to bring table service. This picnic is also scheduled for Saturday afternoon. Roll call letter is "O".

The Upper Room devotional booklets are to be found in the upper hall of the church. Have you ever thought of sending a copy to a relative or friend in service?

Young people, how about the Riverside Institute?