

3. SCORPIONS

New creatures, black eyes, dozens of legs, mouth dripping blood and poison.....

These were killed in the barns with pitch forks and hammers.....

One sting brough death to a cow.

4. WAR

Come to believe that wars are necessary for economic security..

5. ARMY COMES

2 bulldozers drive up and the men check on our supplies We must send a truck and take  $\frac{1}{2}$  of your remaining supplies.

We are Xtian people and we are supp ose to share. My father said no, where did you get that idea...

The truck came and took off  $\frac{1}{2}$  of our food.

III. THE SPIRIT OF THE PUBLICAN

1. The Publican:

Position-----> V. 12.

Prayer----->

Results-----> V. 14.

Intro: Story in the N.T.

Story in McCalls April issue titled "Your Sins & Mine"....By Taylor Caldwell. Outside of the language being a little rough in two or three places it is a very searching in its general application.

Here is a great drought, every thing is dying, No crops- animals die---no need to appeal to washington--- The world had forgotten God--- But God has remembered....

I. THE SPIRIT OF THE PHARISEE

1. The Bible here describes for you his spirit--- V. 11-12

Not like others---

What I have Done---

2. The father in the story---

He said men were saying God I thank thee I am not like other men--- but how many know the Bible?

How many know that we are being punished?///

We have had a sentence of death handed to us! ! !

This is because every man is a sinner against every the man and against God....

We've forgotten God...

We have become materialist... Every one has come to believe that the things of the body are only valuable things- and more important than the things of the spirit.

Materialist are atheist.....

We shakeout atomic bomb in the face of Russia--- we spend billions of money for universal murder...

What has all of our progress brought us? Peace and safety? NO....

The value of a man has come to be his material prosperity and not in his work for God.....

We take food and hoard it in warehouses-----

We work hard thinking we are a little less sinful than some other folks.....

### 3. Pete

Weeds cover the land--- we will say more about those later on...

He got on his tractor and drove out into the field but did not make a dent in the weeds.....

He was in deep thought--- I have not been to church since I was 16---

Finally cried out ("God be Merciful to me a sinner")

Listenend for the birds, but they had been dead for a long time...

Looked out and for a bout ten yards all around the weeds had retreated..... What a miracle?

What an answer to my prayer?

Got down to look-----

John Carr my fathers worst enemy drove up and could not believe his own eyes.

How did it happen? I think I prayed...

John, I never prayed in all my life, Being an orphan kid I never went to church.

You think mabe there is a God Pete?

You think he cares for me?///

Yes. He cares for all of us.....  
I am coming right over and talk to tyeur dad....

What did you pray???? I dont know, dont reme ber-----

### 4. Preacher Herricks

He is visiting this home and the father is talking to him

Lots of people go to church but I wouldn't trust them...

They have prayed for release from these weeds but nothing has happened...

Have you read Matt 24--- you young preachers consider the Bible as fine poetry, or you talk about politics, give lectures on civil liberties, good citizenship, all of these things are good.....

Seldom do we hear about God....

Think it is premitive to talk about the ever present God in the affairs of men.....

It has never occured to you that the human heart and soul is sick and thristing for the living God?

I think we have come to the end....

I think God is sick of Us.....

## II. THE SPIRIT OF DEATH

### 1. WEEDS

growing over the ground with thorns upon the stems.

one had to put on high leather boots to walk---field covered around the barns.

careful as you walk through, poison... reach up after you...

Cut and it seems to grow faster.....

### 2. RASH

Children taken with this skin disease... covered their bodies....8 out of 10 died... hemorages

Why are being punished...

2. PETE

Tells his father about seeing a huge Cross appear in the sky at christmas...

Tells his father that he remembers the prayer he prayed ("Lord, have mercy upon me a sinner")

Father called the preacher---

The Gospel of repentance is our way out...

We must pray for forgiveness....

We went out the patch of grass where I had prayed that prayer before and knelt-----

Pete said then the preacher prayed:

"We are her condemned before thee as evil men. Though many generations have passed since Christ climbed the Mt. Calvary. we have spread desolation. We have crushed the homes of the helpless. Taught our children hatred & lust. we have taught wars, ~~and~~ wicked philosophies.

We have never sought peace.....

There is no man without guilt...

We have abandoned the way of the cross.... we are the most guilty of all mankind...

He was weeping---(God be merciful to me a sinner"...)

MY FATHER then prayed..... God be merciful to me a sinner"

I then thought of all my sins and cried out "God be merciful to me a sinner."

For along time we knelt----- we saw the weeds retreating and grass growing-----

Preacher stood--"Thou hast not abandoned thy children. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

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This is the answer to you sin— God be merciful to me a sinner.....

Like Aesop's f

In Aesop's fable of the camel and his master, the kind master allowed the shivering beast to put into the tent first his head, next his shoulders, then his forelegs. Then the camel said, "Master, I think I ought to come wholly inside," and crowded in. Immediately inside the tent the camel said, "Master, there is hardly room for us both. I think it would be better for you to stand outside so I can turn around and lie down should I become tired." So without further ado the camel pushed his kind master out and took the entire tent.

This story has been repeated for hundreds of years to illustrate the subtle way nations try to overcome nations, how man tries to overcome his fellow man, and boys and girls scheme to get advantage over one another.

Satan, also in this sly way, tries to worm himself into the heart and life of not only boys and girls, but adults as well. Surely, we have all heard the whisperings of Satan when he tempts us by making sin appear harmless, and if he is successful the first time, the second time he finds it just a little bit easier.

The second sin is usually greater than the first, and the third greater than the second, and so on, until Satan really moves in, and if we are not very careful he will take over completely just as the camel in Aesop's fable took over the entire tent to the discomfort and shame of his master. We should always be on the alert to keep the smallest sin out of our heart and life, for this is Satan's method, and if we are not careful he will take over when we least suspect.

The Lord Jesus knows of Satan's miserable scheming, for he was tempted as we are, but Jesus rebuked him by saying, "Get thee hence, Satan."

One sure-fire method of keeping Satan and sin out of our hearts is by inviting the Lord Jesus to come in, for "The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations" (II Peter 2:9), and He is able to save them that come unto Him.

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found (Isaiah 5:6), for now is the day of salvation (II Cor. 6:2).

VERTIGO - VUR-'ti-

Vertigo, the dread malady of fliers, struck us at 10,000 feet over Europe. We were flying through dense cloud formations when I noticed our plane going into a violent maneuver. My partner in the cockpit of our B-17 was at the controls. I didn't want to commit the "unpardonable sin" of aviation and interfere

with his flying and yet something had to be done and done quickly! We were entering a spiral dive! Once a huge plane like ours gets fully into such a maneuver it is impossible to get it out. For a moment the reason for this strange behavior of my partner didn't occur to me, but then as I looked at him and saw the cold sweat oozing out around his helmet and oxygen mask in our O<sup>o</sup> cabin it suddenly came to me that he was a victim of vertigo!

Vertigo sometimes strikes when a flyer is fatigued and is flying "blind." It affects his mind in such a way that he ceases to trust the instruments of his plane and begins, instead, to rely on his own sensations. Since these sensations are completely inaccurate in a world where nothing can be seen but the foggy substance which makes a cloud, the results are disastrous. I grabbed the wheel and then, with all the strength I had, I wrenched it out of his frantic grasp and pulled the great steel bird back

to a straight and level flight. Just about that time my partner realized what was going on. He then relaxed in sheer relief, for a near disaster had been avoided and the controls were now in the hands of one who was not affected by vertigo.

The vertigo of sin has fastened its deadly grip on the minds and hearts of the inhabitants of this world. It is a disease which causes men to rely on their own inaccurate senses ("There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the ends thereof are the ways of death.")<sup>1</sup> and incapable ability ("Who can say, I have made my heart clean, I am pure from my sin?")<sup>2</sup> instead of trusting the infallible instrument, God's Word, ("Every Word of God is pure.")<sup>3</sup>

Now what does this infallible instrument tell us? It tells us that we are in the spiral dive of sin ("All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way"),<sup>4</sup> which ends in eternal destruction. ("And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.")<sup>5</sup> This is the condition and destination of our life, while the controls are still in our own hands.

But, thank God!, there is One, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is able to take over the controls of our life, pulling it out of its spiral dive of sin ("This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."),<sup>6</sup> and put it into a straight and level flight which will insure its final arrival at the airport of the Holy City, the New Jerusalem. ("He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life.")<sup>7</sup>

This is for YOU, when you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour: "But as many as received Him,