

SUNRISES, ANTS & MORE

Every day I read the daily entry in the book *Jesus Calling*, and for July 23 it said, "I [Jesus] am the light of the world. Men crawl through their lives cursing the darkness, but all the while I am shining brightly. I desire each of My followers to be a Light-bearer. The Holy Spirit who lives in you can shine from your face, making Me visible to people around you. Ask My Spirit to live through you, as you wend your way through this day. . . . The Light of My Presence is shining upon you. Brighten up the world by reflecting who I am."

When I read that, I thought, "We are God's moon!" I suppose I should have said that we are God's moons, hoping that each one of us can be a moon.

"What have you been smoking!?" you ask. I know it sounds crazy, but here's what I was thinking.

The moon that orbits our own world has no light of its own. We

possible. (And think how much light there would be if all of God's followers were in full moon phase all the time!)

* * * *

I went to town the other day, and encountered a rainstorm. Yes, a veritable downpour. As I drove west on Highway 18, a speck of rain appeared on my windshield. It was such a small speck that I thought at first it was the much less attractive bug guts coming at me, but then a few seconds later, it dried and disappeared. Now God has reminded me that I must be thankful in ALL circumstances, so I decided to be thankful for the rainstorm I encountered, even if it was only one lonely little speck! He, he, he. . . .

* * * *

Update on the anthills on Clark Rd.: now you will KNOW that I've gone looney, as you may have suspected for a very long time. A couple of weeks ago, I talked about the anthills on Clark Rd. between Crystal Creek and Highland Rd., 11 or 12 spaced along the north berm, mostly at its base. I have been marveling at those ants, how they work and move dirt and create an underground queen-dom. And then it happened – disaster! The road grader came by and graded Clark, creating a whole new berm along the north side, burying most of the anthills. I mourned for those little creatures of energy and industry.

But as someone suggested, within a week, all of the anthills are back, plus a few more. Now there are several on the top, several at the base of the berm, several in the road itself, and even a couple on the south side. Wow. From Proverbs 6:  *Go to the ant, O sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her bread in summer and gathers her food in harvest. How long will you lie there, O sluggard? When will you arise from your sleep?*

A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon you like a robber, and want like an armed man.

Maybe I'm not so crazy.

* * * *

Have you noticed the sunrises these cloudy mornings? If not, read the paragraph above, arise from your sleep, and take a look. The humid weather is nasty and uncomfortable, but there is a reward.



* * * *

In the Bible, the story of Esther is one of my favorites. Esther's people, the Jews, were in trouble when a close adviser to Xerxes, King of Babylon in Persia, convinced him to murder all of the Jews, presenting false charges against them. (Why does that sound so familiar and contemporary?) Esther had become Xerxes' queen, which did not exempt her from the rigid rules about approaching the king. If someone needed to speak with him without having been summoned, it became a life or death matter whether the king would receive him or her.

As queen and as a Jew, Esther's duty was to go before the king to plead for the lives of her countrymen, and naturally she was terrified that the king would not receive her, but her guardian Mordecai challenged her with the words of Esther 4:14:

"For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

What came of it? You'll have

to dust off that old Bible kicking around your shelves and read it



yourself. It's worth it. And then ask how that might apply to you in these dark days when the forces of

Evil (godlessness, arrogance, murder and mayhem, disintegrating values, etc.) seem to be gaining the upper hand.

Were you placed here, now, "for such a time as this"? Was I? And what would God have you or me do, then? *Linda Gammel*

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Contributed. From the Web.

BACK TO SCHOOL JOKES --

Nathan comes home from his first day at school. Mother asks, "What did you learn today?"

He replies, "Not enough. I have to go back tomorrow."

Mia: I think we need a new teacher.

Mum: Why is that?

Mia: Our teacher doesn't know anything, she keeps asking us for the answers.

When Dad came home he was astonished to see Vic sitting on a horse, writing something. "What on earth are you doing there?" he asked.

"Well, the teacher told us to write an essay on our favourite animal." Answered Vic, "That's why I'm here and that's why Sara's sitting on the goldfish bowl."

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Salad Bar Dinner & Bake Sale

Saturday, August 5, 5PM to 7PM, \$7 at the LV Senior Center. Fundraiser for LV Roadrunners & LV Senior Center.

L.V. School Board Meeting

Thursday, August 10, starts at 5:30PM. At the Alternative Education Center, 8560 Aliento Rd up Highway 18.

SERVICES AT CROSSROADS CENTER

LUCERNE VALLEY MARKET & HARDWARE 248-7311

WASH N SHOP COIN LAUNDRY 248-7311

FIRST MOUNTAIN BANK 248-2717

DR. ASHOK MELVANI M.D. 248-1070

ECHO RECYCLING 760-617-5407

On the north side of the store.

AT THE SERVICE COUNTER In the store

• COPIES • FAX SERVICE
• PACKAGE EXPRESS -- UPS only
• PAYMENT STATION SCE, Frontier & Verizon

PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY 242-4900

Rancho Drugs - Tues. 11AM, Wed. & Fri. 3PM

- Lucerne Valley Market
- "Do it Best" Hardware
- Wash n Shop
- Crossroads Center

e-mail address: Market.Hardware@lucernevalleymarket.com
website: lucernevalleymarket.com

LIMITS & MULTIPLE PRICING

Please, unless otherwise indicated, ON AD ITEMS NO MORE THAN 6 TOTAL (including all flavors or varieties) OF ANY ITEM, PER FAMILY, DURING THE AD PERIOD, AT THE SALE PRICE, except in produce and meat, which are limited to normal retail quantities, or which carry limits specifically stated. Sorry, we must reserve the right to further limit or refuse sales.

ON MULTIPLE PRICING, when purchasing items in quantities more or less than the multiple stated, the register is built automatically to charge the "each" price times the quantity. (Example: Price of item is 3/\$1. The price of: one = 34¢, two = 68¢, three = \$1, four = \$1.34, five = \$1.68, six = \$2.00).

ECHO RECYCLING

760-617-5404

On the Northeast side of the parking lot.

Open Mon. - Sat. 9AM - 4PM

Closed for Lunch Noon to 1PM.

Closed Sunday

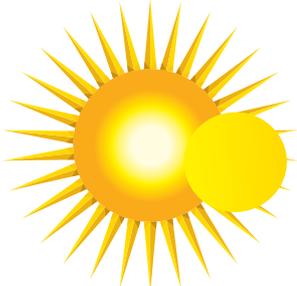
New! Special Prices

Aluminum CRV **\$1.80/lb**

#1 Plastic CRV **\$1.20/lb**

Offer and pricing good thru Aug. 9, 2017

TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THOSE WHO SPONSOR THIS STORE; SEE <http://thenewlight.net>



only see it because it reflects the sun's light, and we only see it at night, when the superior light from the sun isn't present to outshine it. The moon is only a dim reflection of the sun, but when it is a full moon, it lights up the night enough to see shapes and objects, even if only in black and white. It also has enough light to create shadows.

As the moon is only a dim reflection of the sun's wonderful life-giving light, so we also are only a dim reflection of God's glorious Light of Truth, of His Holy Spirit, of Himself. If we believe and obey Him, our reflected light can be enough for those around us to see the important things, things that matter in eternity.

Our Father wants us to be His full moon, shining brightly in this dark world, and He knows that sometimes we struggle to be even a half moon or a quarter moon, but we must let our lives reflect His wonderful light as fully as