

BOGGED DOWN IN MUD OR FREE LIKE A BIRD?

Each time I walk down an aisle in the store, I cringe. Holes everywhere. Products we can get



only sporadically. Disorganization. Wrong shelf tags because the items we can get change faster than we can keep up with them.



We never imagined our store would look like this!

And then there are the rolling blackouts and the warnings from SCE in my email every day. "Please use your generator if you have one, to help alleviate the power shortage in this ultra hot weather!" And why is there a shortage of power? Because the leftists, based on their self-created myths about climate change, sidelined so many natural gas power plants that the renewables cannot keep up. And they refuse to consider other "clean" alternatives, like natural gas itself or the big bugaboo, nuclear power, which with newer technology, is safe and clean.

And then there are the fires everywhere, threatening homes, upending people's lives, lives that were already shaken up by the stinking virus threat that has been overblown by those enjoying the power over us that it has given them. Lately we cannot even see our mountains for the smoke, and we have to smell and breathe it.

Closer to home, right here in Lucerne Valley, there is the explosion of lawlessness, in the almost instant appearance of hundreds, yes HUNDREDS, of marijuana "farms", and the inability of law enforcement to effectively control and eliminate them. Many of us see them appear almost overnight right next door, and we see their water trucks (those big square plastic tanks on trailers or in pickups) everywhere, sucking so much water out of our underground water tables, even running wells dry, and then they bribe people to

sell them their own water! (If they approach you, don't do it!)

Criminals have invaded our valley, and law enforcement is helpless in this state that is sanctuary to illegals and more favorable toward lawbreakers than toward the ordinary citizen. The result is that our county struggles to deal with these situations without the

support of the state. Wow. If all this stuff is bugging you, and if the more basic aspects of everyday life are getting more frustrating, if you feel bogged down in the mud, don't feel like you're the only one. Most of us feel that frustration, for various reasons. Some may have lost income and struggle to pay the bills. Some may need medical care but can only get a telephone appointment with the doctor. Really?? Now the DMV is going to require a kind of health checkup to be able to do your business with them. Aaargh!

So I'm going to share with you some of the hope that I have of a way out of the mud, which may seem crazy to you. Relief and help is on the way!

Debbie Schultz (a coworker and sister in the Spirit) described to me that pleasant anticipation one feels when something special is coming up, like a vacation trip, or concert you've looked forward to. All of a sudden, the drudgery and negativity of everyday life evaporates and life seems brighter. You become excited, and when the special day comes, your relief is huge.

Exactly! We should feel that way now, if we have given our lives to God, as we know Him through Jesus of Nazareth. He promised that this present darkness is temporary, and that He will bring us into His kingdom at the end. All of our frustration, all of our physical pain, all of the helplessness we feel when we see evil and lawlessness at work, will disappear.

I hesitate to talk about this, because I don't know how to com-

municate in this space what I know is true. I feel like a crazy woman, because all of the cynicism bred into us moderns sits there in my head and questions my sanity. It says to me, "Really? You're suckering for this stuff?" Well, yes, I am. You can call it "suckering" if you like, but what then is your alternative? You live this painful life, and then what? Extinction? Everyone goes to heaven so don't worry about it? Uh-unh.

What I know, what I believe God has shown me over recent years of reading and listening to things at His direction, is that the world He has put us in hints at what could be and what is to come. We recognize the miracle that is a baby and how the human body works. We are awed by the beauty of nature and sunrises and sunsets. We see how the seasons change, how the moon and sun do their jobs, and how we would be toast if the sun were closer and ice cubes if it were any farther away. We KNOW in our deepest being what is right and what is wrong, and our conscience creates guilt to remind us when we are in violation of right.

But all of this is a mere shadow of what it should be. God made



things beautiful and perfect, and Adam and Eve were given a paradise in which everything God created was in harmony. Even the critters were in harmony with humans. Then we broke things and decided we know better than God and that we should direct our own lives. And we were kicked out of paradise. Our harmony with critters and the whole creation was broken. Death, pain, and disease entered the picture. Nature became subjected to the awful events of hurricanes, tornadoes, floods

– all those destructive forces.

What is to come? Restoration. Restoration of all of the beauty and perfection and harmony that God created before we broke it. After our tour of duty of this earth, if we have been faithful to God, we will be restored to our glorified bodies and enjoy living in happiness and freedom from all the negative "shtuff" we have to live with now. At the end of this world, and there is an end coming (maybe soon), creation itself will be restored to its former state. We will live in harmony with nature, communicate with the animals, and live in freedom from all that oppresses us now. We will live in God's presence! What could be better than that?

Call me crazy if you like, or dismiss this as a fairy tale for idiots, but as for me, the hope of this restoration to God's world the way it should be, keeps me going. It's what Debbie said, it's like looking forward to a vacation or something really exciting. Your whole outlook changes, and the daily grind takes a back seat to the anticipation of the neat stuff that's coming.

No longer do you have to fear death. In this context, physical death here is a relief from this

travail and offers entrance into God's kingdom! Wow! I can live with that! Will you be on board with God, too, so that you have His wonderful transformation to look forward to?

Linda Gammel

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 THE LIGHTER SIDE

Contributed. From the Web.

All I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark!

- ONE:** Don't miss the boat.
TWO: Remember that we are all in the same boat.
THREE: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
FOUR: Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
FIVE: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
SIX: Build your future on high ground.
SEVEN: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
EIGHT: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
NINE: When you're stressed, float a while.
TEN: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
ELEVEN: No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

SERVICES AT CROSSROADS CENTER

LUCERNE VALLEY MARKET & HARDWARE 248-7311

WASH N SHOP COIN LAUNDRY 248-7311

FIRST FOUNDATION BANK 248-2717

DR. ASHOK MELVANI M.D. 248-1070

ECHO RECYCLING 760-220-4232

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. 2PM

ECHO RECYCLING **760-220-4232**

On the Northeast side of the parking lot.
Open Mon. - Sat. 9AM - 4PM
 Closed for Lunch Noon to 1PM.
 Closed Sunday

Aluminum CRV **\$1.65/lb**
#1 Plastic CRV **\$1.28/lb**
 Pricing good thru September 2, 2020

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