

You!

A very few of you still residing here on this earth might, just might, remember this:



During World War II, as we were fighting to save Europe from domination by Hitler's Nazis and Pacific countries from a totalitarian Japanese regime, the government turned up the heat on efforts to recruit men to serve and fight in these wars. (Is anyone under 30 even being taught this history anymore?) The Allies (U.S., England, France, Canada, Australia, Russia [!] and more) were fighting to save not just these regions but the whole world from being overrun by godless tyranny.

Yes, Russia was another godless tyranny, but sometimes one must make decisions and compromises based on pragmatism, not on principle. I hate when that has to happen, but happen it must at times.

A few weeks ago, Victor, one of our grocery stockers, would come to me to ask or tell me something, and he would point at me like Uncle Sam above, and say, "YOU!" After a few times of that, I began to say the same thing back at him when I saw him. Now it has become something of a game between us, competing to see the other first, point the finger, with the loud "YOU!" And then we laugh.

Along with the fact that it's one of the many good-spirited interactions among our staffers, it made me think about the Uncle Sam thing, and then about the way God chooses us to serve him. I imagine in my head that Uncle Sam poster with Jesus looking right at me (or YOU!), and saying, "I WANT YOU for my Spirit Army! Enlist NOW!" (Without the nauseating images of Jesus as a blonde, blue-eyed fairy, please!)

In the wonderful internet TV series "The Chosen", Matthew, author of the gospel of Matthew, is sitting in his tax collector's booth, doing his unpopular job of collecting taxes from the people and enriching himself in the process. Jesus has just started his public ministry, and He walks by Matthew's booth with a group of His disciples. As He walks away, He turns

around and looks directly at Matthew. "Matthew!", He says. "Yes?", Matthew answers anxiously. "Follow Me!" Jesus commands. "Me???" Matthew asks unbelievingly, as he is a detested tax collector. "Yes, you," Jesus answers. Matthew, who had already been intrigued by Jesus as he had witnessed two miracles Jesus performed, immediately locked up the booth, turned in his key to his Roman guard, and joined the group of disciples.

In another scene from "The Chosen," Jesus calls Mary Magdalene, a prostitute possessed by seven demons. She has been going by the name Lilith, but as she is hurrying away to escape Jesus, He calls, "Mary!" She stops in shock, not knowing how this stranger knows her real name. She is on her way to jump off a cliff from despair at her situation, but Jesus intervenes, with words drawn from this scripture:

*But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
"Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name,
you are mine.
When you pass through the waters,
I will be with you;
and through the rivers,
they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire
you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not
consume you." (Isaiah 43:1-2)*

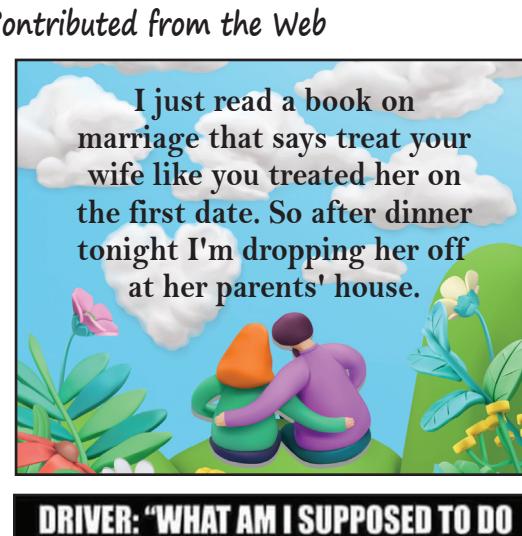
Do you realize that Jesus says the same thing to you and to me? Does that not send chills down your spine? The God of this universe, Creator of ALL of it – the stars, the planets, the sun and moon, the critters and mankind – this God knows YOU! by name and wants you to be His. He wants YOU for his Spirit Army, to fight the forces of evil arrayed against us, that is dedicated to keeping us away from God. To me that is unbelievable, awesome, comforting, and wonderful.



This painting was done by a Chosen fan, with prints made available to us.

Linda Gammel

On The Lighter Side . . . Contributed from the Web

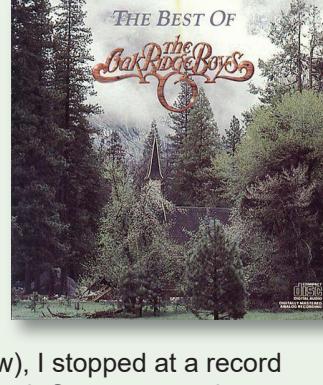


A guide to protecting yourself against the deadly Omicron virus variant



Why Me?

This song below is one of my favorites, especially as sung by the Oak Ridge Boys. Many years ago, when CDs were still the thing (the Dark Ages, you know), I stopped at a record store on upper 7th Street, near where Smart and Final had their old store. I was looking around for country gospel music, which I had recently discovered, and found an album by the Oak Ridge Boys. I had never heard of them, but after listening to this album, I was hooked on their music.



"Why Me"

by Kris Kristofferson

Why me Lord what have I ever done

To deserve even one

of the pleasures I've known

Tell me, Lord, what did I ever do

That was worth lovin' you

or the kindness you've shown

Lord help me, Jesus, I've wasted it so

Help me Jesus I know what I am

But now that I know

that I've needed you so

Help me, Jesus, my soul's in your hand

Try me, Lord, if you think there's a way

I can try to repay all I've taken from you

Maybe Lord I can show someone else

What I've been through myself,

on my way back to you

Lord help me, Jesus, I've wasted it so

Lord help me, Jesus, I've wasted it so

Help me Jesus I know what I am

But now that I know

that I've needed you so

Help me, Jesus, my soul's in your hand.

Lucerne Valley's MEGA SWAP MEET!

May 14, Saturday, 8am to 3pm

Sponsored by
L.V. Chamber
of Commerce



Call today to
reserve your
space to sell!

Jack O Landia -- 760-220-6040

Cadillac Antiques -- 760-278-1885

Cafe 247 -- 951-751-1039

LV Chamber -- 562-522-8775

Henry's Bargains -- 760-524-8519

His Closet -- 760-412-0431

Funny Farm Creations -- 760-220-9830

Lucerne Valley Mkt & Hdw -- SOLD OUT

The LV Garden Club is planning to have their annual sale on May 14 in the LV Market parking lot!

LVEDA Meeting

(Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association)

Monday, May 2, 5 PM.

at the Moose Lodge

on Foothill Road, just west of Tradepost Road.

- County Fire Chief Dan Munsey will discuss Fire's budget.
- Reports from our County, State and Federal representatives.
- Reports from the Sheriff Department and CHP. Status of Marijuana Enforcement Team's busts in Lucerne Valley.
- Status of devastating traffic accident at Camp Rock/247. What can the town do about this horrific problem?
- How is Abatement ordinance working? Code Enforcement activity: What's happening at the County, State and Federal levels? Status of bills submitted to the legislature regarding illegal marijuana grows. Work performed by Mojave Water Agency's involvement in cannabis water use, and over-pumping without water rights.
- Real Estate Report.
- Regular reports: 8 Minute Solar project. Town economics and food cart violations. Jason's town survey priorities.