

CLIMBING SNOWDEN... THE HARD WAY

(continued from inside)

First, consider...and answer...this question that Jesus asks all of us: "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? (Mk. 8: 36, 37).

Second, Jesus said "Most truly I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the place where the sheep are kept, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber" (St. Jn. 10:1) In verse 9 of that chapter, Jesus says that HE is the Door! What door are YOU using?

Jesus confirmed this matter when He said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." (St. Jn. 14: 6). Christ's words eliminate all rivals and all options—religious or otherwise. God provided no other go-between or bridge to Himself but the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only God-promised Saviour from sin, and was born in Bethlehem, as foretold.

In this serious context, avoid mere "name-dropping" as you would the worst disease known to man. "Name dropping" means: "the practice of casually mentioning the names of famous people one knows or claims to know in order to impress others." Jesus warned us about this, saying,



WHERE DO I GO TO CHURCH? First of all, you can come to Jesus right where you are, and give Him your heart and life right now. But God HAS told us not to avoid the regular assembly of other true Christ followers. I (the editor) attend THE SALVATION ARMY in Hendon, though I'm not a member. It's off Brent Street, on Brampton Grove. You would be very welcome, and I believe you will like what you find.

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you evildoers!'" (Matt. 7: 21-23).

In a similar context, Jesus added: "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels'" (Matt. 25: 41). Do you know Jesus...the REAL Jesus? (2 Cor. 11:4)

Try to check in luggage and board a flight at any of our London airports without first booking your journey, paying the fare and meeting all the requirements. It won't happen. You cannot even board the train to climb **Snowden** without first paying the fare. We all face requirements for travel, education, employment...you name it! God invites and welcomes all people everywhere, but He has requirements, too. I saw that **the cheapest fare on the Snowden train** is for a disabled child: only £10. I make no unkind comparison when I say that Christ does even better. If you confess your complete and utter disability...*spiritually speaking*...and come to Him as a child, it's FREE!

All of us are on a train. The question is, which train are we on?

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Gabriel L. Mancino - Editor. Printing in London since 1983
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DON'T FORGET THE CORNERS!

Gabriel L. Mancino

Those were the loving, teasing words of my dear Uncle Pete; a U. S. Deputy Marshall for 32 years. As a young lad, I would go over to his house on Saturdays and clean in order to earn some pocket money. Nothing that is worth doing should be done poorly; that definitely includes living for the Lord! My Uncle's words have fresh application, though spoken to me more than 50 years ago.

Here are words of a song that spiritually and perfectly fit the theme of this front page. The song is titled:

The Shelf Behind The Door

When first I came to Jesus
With my load of guilt and sin
I asked Him to forgive me
And He freely took me in
He cleansed my soul from idols
And filled my heart with joy
And gives me peace and happiness
Old Satan can't destroy.



(Chorus, after each stanza)

The shelf behind the door,
The shelf behind the door,
Tear it down, throw it out,
Don't use it any more,
For Jesus wants His temple clean
From the ceiling to the floor!
He even wants the corners clean
Just in behind the door!

Many people of today
Profess to love the Lord.
They say their doing all His will
And trusting in His Word.
Yet they're doubting and they're sinning,
And there is a reason why.
It's greatly due to idols
That they're keeping on the sly!

Some love all types of wickedness,
For some, the social glass.
Some love all pleasures of this world;
Some idolize their dress.
And lest they get their hearts put right
They take their idols o'er,
And put them on that little shelf
That's in behind the door.

O, how "the Gospel chariot" would
Go sweeping through the land!
If just the Christian soldiers
Would obey their Lord's command!
O, how the work of Jesus
Would then spread from shore to shore
If it were not for that little shelf
That's in behind the door. (Edited)



"THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY, MISTER: LAVA!" That is what the man said on the 1965 commercial. He needed his grimy hands clean, and knew only one way. God gets us COMPLETELY clean... inside and out... and He has only one way! Will you be clean? (Matt. 8: 1-3; 2 Cor. 7:1).

Climbing Snowdon The HARD WAY

Gabriel Mancino



Our family climbed the UK's tallest mountains; including Ben Nevis! The first time at the top of Snowdon, we bought a special souvenir badge for our elder daughter that says: "I climbed Snowdon the hard way!" She was only 5 or 6, but we walked all the way, **instead of taking the train.** Some mountains have other means of getting to the top. Ben Nevis is *only* climbed physically... unless you use a helicopter!

We cannot climb to heaven "**the hard way.**" Yes, we must put forth the personal effort God requires of us, by obedience and faith. The very first step is **to get on board** God's only provided means of transport and let Him carry us all the way to "**the mountain peak**" of heaven.

Hebrews 6:1 urges us to "go on" or "press on" to perfection. It could also be translated: "let us be carried to!" That is what we did with our *younger* daughter—carried her to the top of Snowdon! Let's let Christ carry us to **the highest peaks of God's salvation, and then onward to heaven!**

Here is a Bible promise of peace and purity: "*Now the very God of peace Himself make you completely holy, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you,*

who also will do it" (1 Thess. 5: 23, 24).

To "**get on board,**" you do not need to be a rocket scientist or super religious, but you *DO* need to be a child! Jesus said "*Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven*" (Matt. 18:3). Without this humility, we have no acceptance from God in this present life, and no hope of heaven later. God wants us to be child-like in trust and obedience, yet not "childish."

"**Converted**" does not mean "converted" from one religion to another, nor even from one branch of Christianity to another. Such "conversion" is only to convert from one nothing to another nothing.

Some day I may ride that train to the top of Snowden. At the top of Snowden, there is a lovely café with toilets, plus a nice gift shop. At the top of Ben Nevis, forget it! All that is there is a small thing like an old-fashioned ice-box for a shelter.

Various poems and songs were written in the 1800s about a **train** that would take us to heaven **if we climbed on board.** Less than a century later, **trains** would take Jewish people; some to safety, but many more to a horrible end. That is a terrible comparison, but a reality that we do well to consider and act upon, for there is a heaven to gain and a hell to shun. There are two directions and two destinations; only two.

One Sunday School song we sing is titled **The Happy Day Express.** Here are the words:

We're going to a Mansion
On the Happy Day Express
The letters on the engine
are J-E-S-U-S

(continued on right)



We meet at Christ Church on the corner of Brent Street and Heriot Road in Hendon (NW4) at 5:45 pm Sundays. Nearest Tube: Hendon Central.



(continued from left)

The guard calls: "All for Heaven?!"

We gladly answer: "Yes!"

We're going to a Mansion
On the Happy Day Express!

You're welcome all you people
on the Happy Day Express.
The way to come is just to trust
in J-E-S-U-S

So hear the call for Heaven and
gladly answer: "Yes!"
Come with us all you people
on the Happy Day Express!

Though that song is child-like, it is not childish. Another song from the 1800s was "**The Gospel Train.**" "Gospel" refers to the record of the life of Jesus as found in the Bible, and to the rescue from sin that Jesus brings. Here are some of the words:

The Gospel train is coming,
I hear it just at hand,
I hear the car wheels moving,
And rumbling thro' the land.

(Chorus)

Get on board, children (3X)
For there's room for many a more.

No signal for another train
To follow on the line,
O sinner, you're forever lost,
If once you're left behind.

People may ask in **confusion** or **anger** why there are so many different churches. First of all, 1) There is only one Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and to Whom we must come in true repentance and faith for the rescue from sin which He came to provide. 2) **Confusion?** Expect it. Satan is the author of confusion. **Anger?** No wonder! Satan was

angry with God. Jesus said that **the Devil was a murderer** from the beginning, and further said that if we refuse to walk with God through Christ, then we are just like him. Read it (Jn. 8:44). Jesus also said there that Satan is a liar and did not remain in the truth. That should serve as a warning to us!

The first murderer on this earth (Cain, the firstborn of Adam and Eve) was, first, **angry** at God and then with his brother, Abel, then killed him. He might have tried to kill God if he could have gotten his hands on Him. That shows you what is in the human heart. (also Rom. 8:7).

As I was writing this, tears began to come when I found *yet another* very old "**Gospel Railroad**" song. Its wonderful words seemed to loudly shout the fact that Almighty God has provided train after train after train to bring people to Himself from all over the world. He has provided rescue from sin through Jesus Christ alone, then provided a Holy Guest—the *Holy Spirit*—to be in us as glorious proof and a down payment of the riches He has for us on the other side! "**Get on board, children!**"

God has had trains come by here in the UK, as portrayed in one old Gospel Railroad song I found from the 1800s. The song-sheet had an old engraving of **the Railway at the Glastonbury Tor** in Somerset. People prefer pleasures of this world rather than walking with God and going to heaven. Moses made a choice at this point, and even turned his back on the life, wealth and power of the Palace (Heb. 11: 24-26).

Let's consider two things in relation to boarding this train that God has provided.

(continued on back page)