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For the Lutheran Visitor. Blunt Arrows.

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Godly Life.

BY DR. JOHN LUBYIG HABREWAY.

That you may now, O man, live in that one of the most popular | ical Lutheran faith and saving relianiversal vices known to man- gion, and beware of committing wilad should; be permitted to linger ful sius, weigh well these wholesome

shake from either the pulpit 1. Remember always, whether the press. Perhaps both minis- alone or in company, at home or and editors are waiting for some abroad, by day or by night, and no who is without sin to cast the matter how you are engaged, the all st stone. Being personally dis holy and all present majesty and assed by this rule, I have waited nearness of God. Be always mindfor some one else to hold forth, ful in your inmost soul, that you are, of the living God, that this remems near-sighted "Friend" walking brance and conviction may awaken firious dog-fight some steps in ad- able to restrain and keep you from see of him, but could not see the sinning wilfully. This is the direcso he threw several large brick | tion and counsel which God himself in the direction of the noise gave to Abraham when he said, Gen. th no specific aim. Presently, just | xvii : 1 : "Walk before me, and be he discharged a bat with more thou perfect." This is the way in an ordinary force, he heard one of which the patriarch Enoch walked emines yell and howl with pain. with God, Gen. v : 22-24. Therefore the said the Quaker, "I know I remember always that the Lord thy

tion of the social amenities of 3. Notice carefully and be on your while may preserve a fair exterior; ing," but graciously forgives all his well although be believe none of guard against your easily besetting his public devotions may appear aggravated sins; requires him as a them. Their creed is that a man a, sinister, envious and revengesin; and, above all things, take heed punctual and fervent, while in secret child, without upbraiding; draws may attain the one grand object of that you neither wound the divine he is cold and careless. The christian bim with loving could, even the life (practical goodness,) equally well instantly bagin to flow through the then the Israelites were captives majesty and honor, nor your own tian, while in this declining state, bands of a man, aut says: "I will with or without belief in the chris channel which faith has opened into and in Babylon, and were conscience. Place your shortcom- differs so little from the hypocrite, heal their backsliding, I will love tian system. That there may be no your soul. This is his own teaching, abitual witnesses of the impo- ings before you when you have any that it is not easy to discriminte them freely, for mine anger is turned mistake in the transmission of their ites and ceremonies of an idol- special occasion for renewing repent- between them. Indeed, to the man away from him." s worship, which addressed it- ance, that your heart may, at the himself, this is commonly impossible, This abounding of free grace and it by notable examples. John Bun- itself, except it abide in the vine; no wholly to their sensuous nature, painful contemplation of your tres- and happily so; for when love grows pardoning mercy to backsliding be you, who received all the doctrines more can ye, except ye abide in me. almost inadvertently fell into passes, be the more broken and con- cold, fear must be brought to operate lidvers, is one of the most wonderful of the gospel, and Spinoza, who -Goulburn. sin, and thousands of them trite. This David did when he on the natural feelings. If back things in the way in which God rejected them all, attain equally to scended the heathen in their thought on his ways, and turned his sliders possess assurance, it is the leads his blind people. When they the odor of sanctity in this modern devotion to "wood and feet unto God's testimonies.-Psalm assurance of delusion; while thus were looking for nothing but wrath, church of charity. Our latest re-The christian is ever in an exix: 59. When his sorrow was con- departing from God, they can not behold he shows his reconciled face, formers, I suppose, came easily by my's land, surrounded by influtinually before him, Ps. xxxviii: 18. possess satisfactory evidence. The and manifests his pardoning mercy their discoveries. I am not aware an aged christian lady to a Scottish shostile to his growth in grace. And when he confessed the sins of symptoms of backsliding are evident with all the tenderness of a kind that they passed through any pre-relative. "I'm weary, faint, and is necessarily the daily associate his youth, Ps. xxv: 17. Job also enough. The want of lively faith, father. It is by such dispensations paratory agonies like those which worn; life's a dreary burden; all my appearance, but according to the busy-bodies in other men's mat- bore this in mind, when he acknowl- and love, and penitence, is the root of love and mercy, that God proves Luther endured at Erfurt. Your early friends have left me; I'm stand- oracles of God. Too many build detraction, and idle, heartless one of a thousand, -Job ix : 3.

a the subject of which may 4. When you awake in the morn- of view; the world, therefore, rises and not man, is the reason why his mein the very cess-pools of soci- ing render thanks unto God out of a in magnitude, and seems clothed people are not consumed. "For my ward for my acceptance his savory away, my prayer would be, O! Fathsyst it is taken up, sanctioned, grateful heart, and pray for new mer- with new interest, and its objects thoughts, dish, like poor old blind Isanc, when er, bid me rest?" ed, retailed, repeated, again and cies, for thus is God honored, and appear more desirable. Seriousness neither are your ways, his slippery son presented the forged. The letter was duly received, and by persons who, in their boast- you shall throughout the day have of spirit is now succeeded by levity, saith the Lord. For as the heavens venison, I am disposed to ask, "How read to Dr. Guthrie, who was on a sement, would not exchange rest and peace in him. You know and that tenderness of conscience are higher than earth, so are my hast thou found it so quickly, my visit to the family at that time. The slutations of the day with those that new vescels retain for a long which shuddered at the mere "ap ways higher than your ways, and son !" Ah! it is easy for those who next morning he gave them the folare the authors of the daily time the taste of what is first put in pearance of evil" by stopidity. The them. When you lie down at night spirit of the world gains too ascen- Dr. A. Alexander. th such surroundings and such offer up your prayer, for you do not dancy; and conformity to the corrupt ences many weak persons, whose and can not know whether, when maxims and customs of the world ions are otherwise good, for you have fallen asleep, you may becomes manifest. Euen lawful obof watchfulness, fall into the again arise or not. It is therefore jects are sought with too much ardor, leon was returning from his cam- loved us, we ought also to love one soon afterwards answered, and her of good men, of the evangelical body of society, as Israel fell into the very good and beneficial that you and the too anxious desire to be paign in Egypt and Syria, he was another." The Apostle John got his weary body is resting, "life's duty of Babylon, and their tongues commend yourself into the gracious rich has often entangled the souls of seated one night upon the deck of charity from the bosom of the Mas-done," in the Presbyterian churchaway with their souls, like a hands of God while you are awake professors in many hurtful snares, the vessel under the open canopy of ter, whereon be lay. Where do the rard of Wicomico, Md.; and Dr. that may we judge of opinions, and without a bridle, or a ship and able to place yourself under his from some are never extricated, but the heavens, surrounded by his modern apostels obtain theirs? How Guthrie, with the tears of a nation

a from their tongues, withering that you may have a correct under- perdition. scorching and burning and standing of your spiritual poverty,

comfort of the Holy Spirit."

[Translated for the Lutheran Visitor.] God, not only in your regular chris- be remarked a connection between Brief Directions for a Christian and tian calling by a sober and grave our sin and God's chastisement. life, but also in your individual voca-

[To be continued.]

Selections.

Backsliding.

and the hourly witness of slan- edged that he could not answer God of the evil. The reality, beauty and to us how superior he is to all our philosophic regenerator of the world ing almost upon the threshold of their faith of doctrines and approval importance of eternal things are out highest conceptions; that he is God, dispenses with a long search and a

to it the hot breath of slander 5. Learn to know yourself aright, with many sorrows, and drowned in sation had taken a sceptical direction, nothing but the world to lean your en portals, and though strangers on with the majority even of God's ing every flower of tenderness and learn that you need the grace of there is no knowing how far the Napoleon sat silent and musing, of dogma as the most advanced very plant of love. And when God more than all things, because declining christian may depart from apparently taking no interest in the secularist could desire, and who was, are at rest." come to examine themselves as you discover within yourself indwel- God. It can not be a matter of discussion, when suddenly raising his notwithstanding, wofully lacking in Apostle demands, and see "what ling corruption, unbelief, pride and much surprise, therefore, that in an hand, and pointing to the crystaline charity. "What is truth?" said Pi- Pm kneeling at the threshold, weary they are of," it is to discover self-love. You must therefore feel evil hour, and under the power of firmament, crowded with its mildly late; and he did not wait for an their tongues have been "set on within yourself that one thing is temptation, some insidious lust shining planets and its keen glittering answer, for he had made up his the is not another one of the ical and relative duties of life is so often and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made clear health and so explicitly like that you may be made all provided the best like the failty of the best like the failty of the best like the failty of the best like that you may be made all provided that you may be made all provided the failty of the best like the failty of the best needful, and that is the believing should prevail against him, and stars, he broke out in those startling mind that no answer could be given. dical and relative duties of life passion, death and blood by you, deed, such is the frailty of the best lions: "Gentlemen, who made all with even an ounce of dogma; yet at is so often and so explicitly that you may be made clean, healed men that there is no security for that? The "eternal power and god he crucified Christ, a weary path I've traveled, 'mid dark ness, storm and strife, of throughout the entire and cured of all your infirmities and their not falling into gross sins, but head" of the Creator are revealed by believing and confessing him innodures of the Old and New Tes- diseases. And you must assuredly in the conservative grace of God. "the things that are made;" and cent. Those who in this age lead as the duty of the government experience all this within and in And when christians begin to back these words of Napoleon to his athe- the crusade against dogma are the tongue. And yet, whilst the such a way and manner that if slide, they never recover themselves, istic captains silenced them. And forward to profess utmost reverence dures abound in precepts, the asked at any time who is in your and return by their own efforts; but the same impression is made the for the life and teaching of Jesus has never abounded in prac- opinion the poorest and most miser- by the kind interposition of their world over. Go to-day into the heart Christ. But he did not despise dog-And whilst the Bible furnishes able creature on earth, both your faithful Shepherd, whose love to his of Africa, on into the centre of New ma. "Thou art the Christ, the Son bearing upon every phase of heart and conscience will freely con- sheep leads him to leave the ninety Holland; select the most imbruted of the living God." subject, you may take the jour-stof all the ministers in christen-most miserable creature on earth." to reclaim one strying lamb. He out to a clear starlit heaven, and stractly dogmatical can be found in all the published sermons But, on the other hand, if asked makes his voice to be heard and ask him who made all that, and the all the creeds of the church than the have ever issued from the press, what is then the very best and the recognized. If the common warn- idea of a Supreme Being, superior to short and fervid exclamation doubt if more than one dismost beneficial thing that can be ings of the world, the gentle sughe in a thousand is devoted ex- done for you, then must your heart gestions of the spirit have been eternal power and godhead, imme- articulate demand for a confession ely to this subject. Hence, we and conscience be able to answer: neglected, or resisted, it is usual distely emerges in his consciousness. of his faith upon the point. that the ministers of the gospel "The quickening word of my Father with him to apply the rod. Provi- The instant the missionary takes this bow did the Master receive it ! He much to reproach themselves in heaven, the blood of Jesus Christ dence is made to co-operate power- lustful idolater away from the circle not only acquiesced in the doctrine that while the deadly cancer is my Saviour which cleanseth me from fully with grace; or rather is made a of his idols, and brings him face to and the expression of it by his ser the vitals of christian all my iniquities and sins, and the part of that system of gracious face with the heavens and the earth, vant, but, departing in some measure means which God makes use of to as Napoleon brought his captains, from his usual habit of calm, unim- O! Lord. I wait thy pleasure—Thy time 6. Show and prove that you are a preserve and reclaim his erring peo-member of the body of Jesus Christ, ple. And in the corrective dispen-and the pagan trembles before the elevated and exultant commendation: and a true and faithful servant of sations of Providence, there can often unseen power .- Prof. Shedd.

and by it must his walk and conver- heavenly Father knows how to di- our means and all our might. the streets of the city of and keep alive in your heart true respond. A tree is known by its and can pierce the paint of sensibility doctrine and wink at slippery prace Christ are against him.—From Dr. den under foot the Son of God? ty, and thus rouse us from our tice in themselves and others, fall Arnof's Address at the Alliance. apathy, or from our dreams of world- into a pit on the right hand; those ly pleasure and ambition. The backand consider his ways. He now on the left, Let not one man say, I sees how far he has departed from have roots; and another, I have The young convert can not believe the right path. He is convinced of fruits. If you have roots, let us see self-denial, when they occupy the ye refused, . . . then shall they call, that he shall ever grow cold and his folly and sin in forsaking "the what fruits they bear; if you have right place in the spiritual system, but I will not answer; they shall avarrows, like the bricks of the 2. Regard each and every day as sin, to the sore wounding of his hold no water. The convictions of A class of men is springing and as to cover the whole field of view; er, are aimed at no head indi- your last day, as your dying day, conscience, and perhaps the dishonor of ain in the case of the backslider, pressing to the front in our day who if we for a moment allow our minds arms. He entreats you to be saved! ally, but are discharged at soci- that you may continually live as if of his profession. But, notwithstand- are often attended with keeping com- land charity at the expense of truth. to regard them as sources of grace, indiscriminately, and the only the time of your departure were at ing his strong confidence, which punction and anguish than were ex- The truth exterior to the human ence I can have that any one is hand, and you must commend your leads him to boast, "my mountain perienced under his first awakening, mind, which God has presented in spirit into the hands of God. There- standest strong, I shall never be Sometimes be almost despaires of his Word, they ignore as unneces-We believe it is apparent to the fore watch and pray, and do every moved," it will not be a new thing mercy; or if he dares to cherish a sary, rather than denounce as false, at superficial observer of men and day all the good which you would on the earth, or in the church, if he trembling hope of acceptance, yet Doctrine, as truth fixed and independent mis that one of the greatest social desire to have accomplished before should add one more beacon to the he expects no more kind and garious dent, they seem to think a hindrance whom she had suffered many things, sof the times is an unsanctified, you die. This is true christian watch- many with which this court is al- dealings from his heavenly Father, rather than a help toward their ex- but never brought away a cure. ious and mischievous use of fulness, which the word of God un- ready strewed, to be a warning to He calculates, like the returning pected millennium of charity. In Mark me, reader—our sanctification tongue-a base and reckless pros- ceasingly admonishes you to observe. those who come after him. Back- prodigal, to be placed on the footing their view, a man may indeed become ion of our God-given powers of Forget it not, for you know neither sliding begins in the heart, shows of "a hired servant," gather than that a model of goodness although he and therefore not to be had indepen eth to the disturbance of society the day nor the hour when the Lord itself in the closet first, and soon of a son. But here agin he is led by believes sincerally all the doctrines dently. Touch his sacred person in be wounding of human hearts and will come and reckon with you. - diffuses its paralyzing influence a path which he knew not; for his of the gospel; but he may reach simple faith that in him doth all through life. The backslider for a God not only "heals his backslid- that blessed state as quickly and as fulness dwell-fulness of light and

who preach up all the charities and iguore or denounce the truth and the faith that grasps it, fall into a pit

opinion, they take care to illustrate hard battle. When be brings for fear I might at last prove a castmy thoughts than your thoughts."- have never been deeply exercised lowing lines, which he said the letter about sin to denounce dogma, and had suggested to his mind during right? Not, will it promte some ery up charity in its stead; but the night. They were sent to America GOD IN NATURE.-When Napo adjure truth! "Beloved, if God so her during her life. The prayer was their souls are finally pierced through captains and generals. The conver- can you move the world if you have following him, bath entered the gold: shall not find ourselves in agreement and most of the party had combated lever on ! The Scriptures present earth, they have now met in there children, but we shall be best pre-

"Blessed art thon, Simon Bariona;

for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is Often the subjects which have A common street cry of the day in heaven." Let men keep congenial tion, station and occupation in such been the occasion of our sin, are is: Give us plenty of your charity, company, and let things be called by "Neglect so great salvation." It is a manner that you are always to be somehow made the instrument of but none of your dogmas. In other their right names. Either doctrine not necessary to do anything. We found acting the part and leading our punishment; or, in some way words: Give us plenty of your sweet -truth revealed by God and accept- are lost already. Jesus offers to the life of a true christian. It is not and by some association observed by fruit, but don't bother us with your ed be man-either doctrine is deci- save us, but if we reject his offer accordance with the holy Evangel- enough, for example, that a trades us, God points as with a finger, by hidden mysteries about roots and sive and fundamental for the salva- we remain as we were. "How shall man is in name a christian; he must his dispensations of affliction, to sins engrafting. For our part, we join tion of sinners and the regeneration we escape if we neglect so great also deal as a christian with all men. long since committed and perhaps beartily in the cry for more fruit; of the world, or Jesus Christ was a salvation ?" Escape is impossible if It it not enough that the head of a almost forgotten. The riches which but we are not content to tie oranges weakling. You must make your we neglect the only means of safety. family is a christian in his own house are too eagerly sought, "make to with the tape on dead branches, choice. The divinity of Christ, as If a deadly serpent bites you, and or church; he must also be a christ themselves wings and fly away," as lighted with small tapers, and dance confessed by Peter, is a dogma. For you refuse the only remedy, you die. tian before his domestics and in all the eagle to heaven, or those for around them on a winter evening. that dogma Jesus witnessed, for If you are drowning and will not whom these riches were so painfully This may serve to amuse children; that degma Jesus died. For it was seize the life buoy thrown to you, A man is not a true christian accumulated, are taken away. If we but we are grown men, and life is because he made himself the Son of you sink. Neglect is ruin. Jesus merely because he hears regularly make an idol of any creature, God earnest. We, too, desire plenty of God that the Jewish priesthood alone can save the soul! Neither is the word of God and reverences the will often judge it best to remove good fruit; and, therefore, we busy bunted him down. Did he give his there salvation in another. O sinboly sacraments; his life must also the stumbling-block and make room ourselves in making the tree good, life for a dogma that is divine and ner, your damnation is sure if you as universal silence prevails I whether standing still or walking, be conformed to the word of God, for himself in our affections. Our and then cherish its roots with all necessary for the salvation of sinners, or did he fling his life away by Moses' law died without mercy, of sation be regulated. Let, therefore, rect the rod so as to produce the There are two errors, equal and a mistake? Men must make their how much sorer punishment shall be both your doctrine and your life cor- desired effect. He knows our frame opposite. Those who are not for be thought worthy who hath trod-

sacraments, and watchfulness, and Jesus, and simple neglect is certain rules of life, and self-discipline, and perdition ! "Because I called, but but if they be unduly magnified, so sinner, escape this awful threatenand trust in them to work in us pinted in them, as the poor love, of boly tempers, boly impulses.

eternity; and if it were not for the of practices, not on what Scripture

whence shall I obtain charity if I to the old lady, and highly prized by

Bearing many a burden, struggling I'm kneeling at the threshold, my hand on the door.

as they stand ngering in the sinless land! O! would that I were with them, amide the shining throng, Mineling in their worship, joining in their Christ and his salvation, error will

How lovingly they'll hail me when all my toil is done!

-The Presbyterian.

What Must I Do To Be-Lost?

Dost thou think God will not execute his threatenings, that thou canst es cape his piercing eye, or that the rocks will cover thee? Vain hopes, Blessed things are prayer, and There is no escape but to come to out. Come to Jesus .- Newman Hall.

The Danger of the Day We Live In

The true safeguard against the

danger of the present solemn time is God's word. It shows us the danger we have to expect. If there were nothing in the aspect of times to indicate its approach, it would still from the position it occupies in the book, be close at the doors. And with such predictions, and such a warning given, there is reason for earnest prayer that we may he kept love of the truth. Great signs and wonders, to deceive, if it were possible, even the elect, are the seducpersuasive as an angel of light, lead astray the unwary. Hence the incalculable mischief of false views of prophecy, which hold out the hone that the church of God is to sail into port in calm weather, and wear the crown before bearing the cross. We must not judge according to outward says, but what is in their eves useful and expedient. But we are to expect the apparent expediency to be all against us. We must not take expediency for our guide, or allow ourselves the habit of asking whether an opinion or a manner of acting is what is called practical, but it is desirable end, but is it according to itself, if they add to, or diminish differ, and to resist the temptations of these last times.

The greatest of all safeguards is the firm grasp of positive truth. Scripture truth must be our study, and our life. The temptation to listen to the decrees of councils lies in a want of confidence in the infalibility of the Bible, and of a steady hold of its vital truths. God's truth is always the same, and we always need the same blessed truths. Christ in all his various works, his atoning is blood and justifying righteousness: pardon in him, and peace in him, blessed and strength in him, and the hope of glory in him, we can never part with. They are our life, our joy. If we love the truth and held fast have no charm for us, though Satan array himself as an angel of light, and his ministers as ministers of righteousness .- Weekly Review.

A stickler for the outside husks of worship writes to the Christian at Work, asking what the proper pos-ture in prayer is. To which it sensibly replies: The only posture to be avoided is imposture. Let the heart be in the service as well as the lips, and a prayer on the back, or the head, or the feet or the side is all the