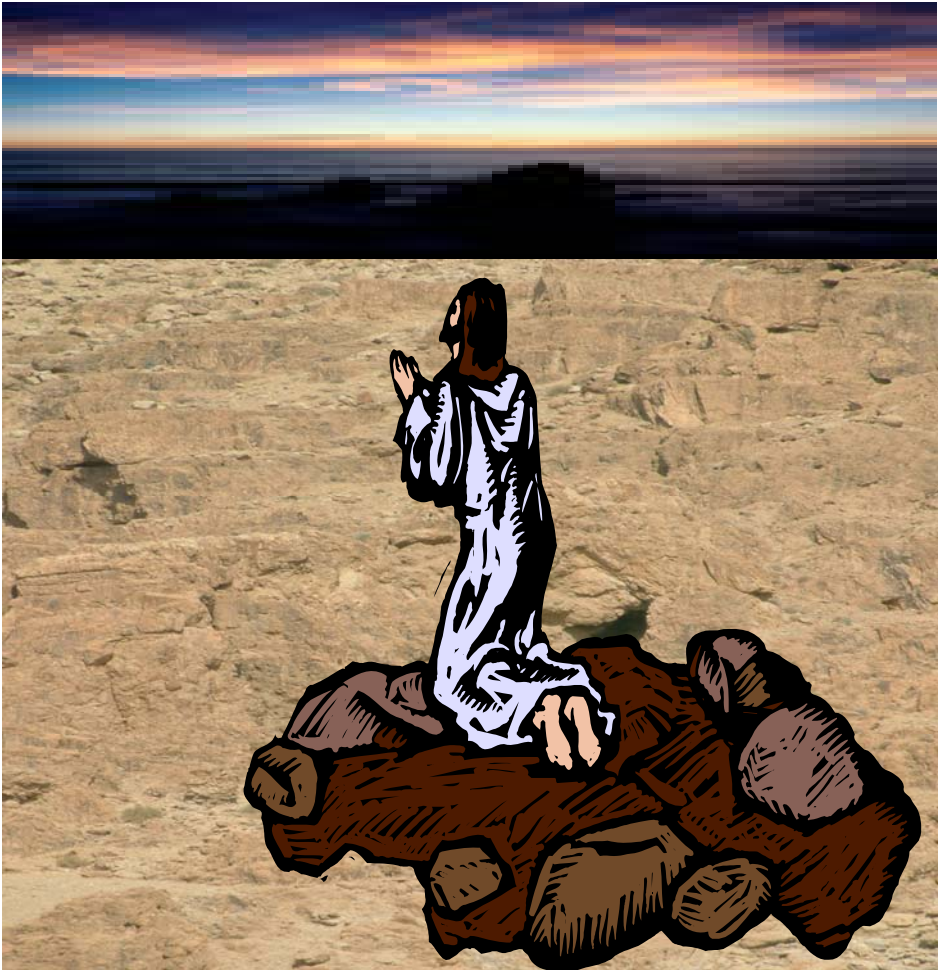




CHRIST CHURCH  
CROUCH END HILL  
LONDON N8 8AX  
**CROSSLINKS**  
WORSHIP

A MAGAZINE OF THE CHURCH ON THE HILL



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## Vicar's three minute reflection

### TRUE WORSHIP



Worship evolved from the Anglo Saxon "weorthscipe" which means "to give worth to something". Worship is giving to someone the honour or worth that is due to them. To worship God is to give Him the glory, honour and adoration that is due to Him. I have no hesitation in saying that the greatest ministry of the church is its worship of the great "I am". And true worship takes place when men and women agree that God should sit not only on the throne of the universe but also on the throne of their hearts. William Temple, a former Archbishop of Canterbury, wrote these words concerning worship. "Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness, the nourishment of mind with His beauty, the opening of the heart by His love, the surrender of the will to His purpose, and all this is gathered up in adoration to the most selfless emotion of which our nature is capable and therefore the chief remedy for that self-centredness which is the original sin and the source of actual sin."

Worship is adoring God for who He is and helps us to see God in the midst of our troubled lives.

Often times, we think that when we worship God, we give Him something which He craves like a vain woman wanting compliments. No! God instructs us to worship Him because He knows that as we open the door of our hearts in worship, He can come through the same door and make His presence known. It is opening ourselves to the necessary luxury of enjoying God, as the old theologians put it, "to worship God and not enjoy Him is impossible."

In worship we meet the power of God and stand in its strengthening. If you've made a habit of communing with God when the sun is shining, you will find it much easier to sing in the rain. If we haven't learned to be worshippers, it doesn't really matter how well we do anything else. (continued next page)



The church of the twenty first century, if is to honour God, must first of all be a worshipping church. Where does praise, which is often misrepresented as “worship”, fit in? A.W. Tozer writing on the subject of worship said this about “praise”: “Praise is thanking God for what He does; worship is adoring Him for who He is.” The materialistic and self-centred nature of today’s society has a strong influence on our attitude to life and things and this has been extended to our worship of God when we come before Him. There’s always the tendency to think more of getting than giving. We feel less concerned with how we can give to Him the adoration He deserves.

God wants worshippers before workers; indeed the only acceptable workers are those who have learned the lost art of worship. This is so because it is only when we begin to worship that we begin to grow. Worship is pictured in Isaiah 6 when the young prophet became aware of the Father, aware of his own limitations, aware of the Father’s directives and aware of the task at hand.

In closing, I will quote Charles R Swindoll who says: “What comes from the Lord because it is impossible for humans to manufacture it? Wisdom. What comes from humans because it is impossible for the Lord to experience it? Worry. And what is it that brings wisdom and dispels worry? WORSHIP.” Worship helps us to see God in the midst of our troubled lives.

Dele Agbelusi.

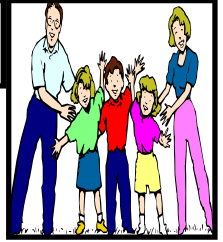
### Memory Verse

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to his name. Bring an offering and come before him; worship the Lord in the splendour of his holiness.

I Chronicles 16:29



## ARE ALL YOUR CHILDREN IN?



There is an old story about a devout mother, who had a large and busy family. This family, composed mostly of boys, lived in the country; and in most seasons of the year that meant the children were constantly out of doors, coming and going about their work or play--checking in at mealtimes, but off again at full speed afterwards.

But as twilight drew its curtains across the end of each day, the mother would begin to count her brood, concerned when not all could be found within the shelter of the home. "Are all the children in?" she would ask her oldest son. And as the darkness grew, so did her anxiety if any were missing. "Not all in? Go! Ring the bell again!" she would exclaim. She could not rest easy until she was assured that all were safe within.

"Are all the children in?" This is the abiding concern of every godly mother, and every godly father. Though sons and daughters may grow up, move away, and have families of their own; still across the years, and spreading to number also grandchildren and even great-grandchildren, the call continues: "Are all the children in?" Have they come into the shore and safe hands of our Saviour Jesus Christ? Are they all accounted for in God's family?

### WEAPON OF SELF-DESTRUCTION

When our son Gary was 4, cigarettes were still being advertised on television. Every time an ad came on, I warned, "Those things have poison in them." I never realized the impact that had on him until one Sunday morning on the way to church. We were waiting at a light and another driver pulled up beside us. Smoking a cigarette, he seemed preoccupied.



Immediately, Gary rolled down his window and yelled, "Hey, mister, that thing you're smoking has poison in it!"

Surprised, the man hesitated, then said, "You know, you may be right." With that, he threw it out the window.

## SIMPLY WORSHIP

Joni Eareckson Tada is that beautiful woman who became a quadriplegic through a diving accident at age seventeen. She hasn't walked or known feeling in her legs for two decades. While attending a convention, the speaker closed his message with an appeal for everyone to kneel in prayer. Mrs. Tada was the only one unable to perform the task. Although God knew her heart was kneeling, she began to cry because she wanted to physically kneel before her Lord. Through tears of passion she prayed, "Lord Jesus, I can't wait for the day when I will rise up on resurrected legs. The first thing I will then do is to drop on grateful, glorified knees and worship you." Kneeling is but one expression of worship and can, like any other act of worship, be nothing more than a perfunctory and meaningless act. Yet, when we kneel out of true reverence for God we can experience a unique aspect of worship. Mrs. Tada desires to kneel, but can't; may those of us who can, earnestly desire to.

\* Moody, March 1993, p. 32

### QUOTES ON WORSHIP

If worship does not change us, it has not been worship. To stand before the Holy One of eternity is to change. Worship begins in holy expectancy; it ends in holy obedience.

Richard J. Foster (1942- )

If you can leave your church on Sunday morning with no feeling of discomfort, of conviction, of brokenness, of challenge, then for you the hour of worship has not been as dangerous as it should have been. The ease with which we go on being Christian sentimentalists is one of our worst faults.

Paul Stromberg Rees (1900-  
-Edythe Draper, Draper's Book of Quotations

## FROM THE MOUTH OF BABES

A Primary school teacher gave her students the first half of a proverb and asked them to come up with the rest. Here are just a few of the responses she received:

Better to be safe than...punch a teenage student.

Strike while the...bug is close.

It's always darkest before...daylight savings time.

Never underestimate the power of...termites.

You can lead a horse to water but...how?

Don't bite the hand that...looks dirty.

No news is...impossible.

A miss is as good as a...mister.

You can't teach an old dog...arithmetic.

If you lie down with dogs, you...stink in the morning.

The pen is mightier than...the pigs.

An idle mind is...a good way to go to sleep.

Where there's smoke, there's...lung cancer.

A penny saved is...not very much.

Two's company, three's...the Musketeers.

If at first you don't succeed...get new batteries.

You get out of something what you...see pictured on the box.

When the blind lead the blind...get out of the way.

There is no fool like...Uncle George.

Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and...you have to blow your nose.

Where do we take this from here?

Many people today are like those first graders when it comes to the truth of Scripture. For example, Jesus said, "No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). But how many people think that verse says, "No one comes to the Father except through attending the right church...or staying away from drugs and alcohol...or giving money to the poor"? Jesus said, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself, take up his cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). But how many people believe this version: "If anyone would come after me, let him

continued next page



## NOTICE BOARD

### YOUTH WORKER

The church is looking for a Christian youth worker who loves the Lord passionately and is able to work with the church's team to develop our Youth and Community ministry. The applicant is expected to put in 20 hours a week - two weekdays and Sundays. Please contact the vicar for more information.

### LENT COURSE

with Churches Together in Hornsey

**Every Wednesday in Lent** (excluding 1st and last Wednesdays)

Theme: Building Bridges

Venue: Christ Church Parish Hall

### FILM SHOW

The Passion of the Christ

by Mel Gibson

Wednesday in Holy Week (23rd March)

Time: 7.30 pm at Christ Church Crouch End Hill

Admission: Free

### From the Mouth of Babes

continued from page 6

deny himself nothing, because God wants us to grow rich!"

You can't rewrite the truth of the gospel to suit yourself. That's why it's so important to study God's Word and memorize it. Only then will you know the truth that can set you free.

From Youth Specialties

### THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

This month we pray for members of our church family whose surnames begin with N, O, P, Q, R, S:

Nobadula Thembekile, Ogilvie-Arendse Adrian, Ogilvie-Arendse Susan, Osibona Adebusola, Opara Jepta, Pancham-Becessar Cynthia, Perrin David, Pounds Michelle, Pounds Nicola, Pounds Sue, Quintyre Angela, Ramsay Malcolm, Randall Harold, Redman Byron, Room Terry, Sharif-de-Groot Aaltje, Shepherd Caroline, Springer Valerie, Stanswood Martin, Stockwell Muriel.

## NOBODY PUSHED HIM

A billionaire oil tycoon from Texas decided to find a husband for his only daughter, a rather homely eighteen-year-old. He initiated his search by inviting local bachelors to a party in his back yard. A large, elegantly designed swimming pool dominated the yard. As the men edged by it to get their refreshments, they saw it was filled with man-eating sharks, piranhas, alligators, and other animals that wouldn't think twice about eating you alive. Clustering beside the pool, the bachelors puzzled over the strange sight.

Just then the tycoon appeared on the patio and gave an emotional speech, telling how much he loved his daughter and expressing how much he wanted her to marry someone deserving of her. He then laid out The Deal.

"Anyone who will jump in the swimming pool and swim to the other side will have their choice of a check for one million dollars with no questions asked or the title deed to my most profitable oil field or the hand of my daughter in marriage and your place in my will, which will result in your inheriting my entire fortune."

The bachelors were speechless. Their questioning looks seemed to say that none of them would be crazy enough to risk his life—even for all that money.

The long silence was finally broken by a splash. Everyone turned to see one of the men swimming to the far side of the pool as would any Olympic swimmer. Leaping out of the water, he shook himself and stalked back to the tycoon. With a hug and a handshake the tycoon congratulated the young man on a fine swim. "Son, would you like a million dollar check?" he asked.

"No sir, I wouldn't," responded the young man politely, and slightly out of breath.

"Fine," said the tycoon. "Then would you like my most profitable oil field?"

Continued next page



## Nobody Pushed Him (continued from page 8)

"No sir," he replied, getting a hold on himself.

With a tear in his eye the tycoon asked, "Then, my boy, would you like my only daughter's hand in marriage?"

To the surprise of the gawking bachelors, the young man replied, "No sir."

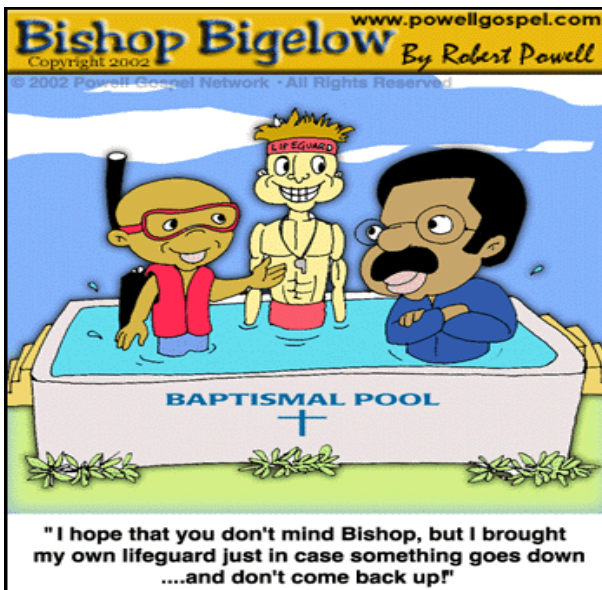
Puzzled and a little hurt, the tycoon asked, "Well then, son, what *do* you want?"

"I only want one thing," answered the young man with assurance. "I want the name of the guy that pushed me in the pool." HOW DO WE TAKE IT ON FROM HERE?

Nobody would willingly jump into a shark-infested pool—even for a million dollars. And nobody would willingly let himself be nailed to a Roman cross—even if he thought he might get some fame or recognition out of it.

Jesus let himself be nailed to that cross, not because there was something in it for him personally, but because there was something in it for you and me. Jesus did more than risk his life for us; Jesus gave his life for us. Nobody pushed him into it; he chose to die because he loves us.

from Youth Specialties



# LAUGHTER LINES

## BEST POSITION FOR EFFECTIVE PRAYER.

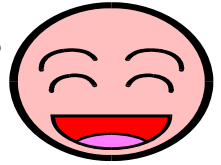
Three ministers sat discussing the best positions for prayer while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one minister.

"No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to heaven."

"You are both wrong," the third insisted. "The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate, face down on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Sorry," he blurted out, "but the best praying I ever did was hanging upside down from a telephone pole."



## SALVATION AT A PRICE

Jim: Some rich people seem to think they can buy their way into heaven by leaving a million pounds to a church when they die.

James: That's nothing— I know of people who are trying to get to heaven on the instalment plan of one pound a Sunday while they are living.

## LABELS

As part of the admission procedure in the hospital where I work, I ask the patients if they are allergic to anything. If they are, I print it on an allergy band placed on the patients wrists.

Once when I asked an elderly woman if she had any allergies, she said she couldn't eat bananas. Imagine my surprise when several hours later a very irate son came out to the nurses station demanding, "Who's responsible for labelling my mother 'bananas'?"

## WE ARE ONE SHORT.

When it was evident that the ship would not survive this storm, the captain called out to his crew, "Does anyone here know how to pray?" One man volunteered with, "Yes, sir, I know how to pray." "Good," the captain replied. "You pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets. We're one short."

\* Reader's Digest, July 1992, p. 62

# LAUGHTER LINES

## FASTING

One day, my husband announced to the family that he was going to fast and pray. Ginny, our 5-year-old, had recently learned that fasting meant not eating. "No!" she shouted. "You can't fast! You'll die!" Her dad carefully explained that many men and women fasted in Bible times. Ginny paused a moment. Then, with a flash of insight and a note of warning, she proved her point. "And they all died," she said.

Kathy Cash, Dallas, TX. *Today's Christian Woman*, "Heart to Heart."

## PRAYER WORKS

A very timid woman wanted to participate in the visitation program of her church, but was petrified by the thought of actually visiting somebody. The pastor, sensing her anxiety, recommended that she pray before each visit. He noted God's promise to give peace which surpasses all understanding. A week later the woman was walking on Cloud Nine. She jubilantly told her pastor, "You were right--prayer works! Before each one of my visits I prayed that the people wouldn't be home, and they weren't!"

## DUMB MOVE

Christian comedian John Paite noted, "Satan has to be the dumbest creature. Just think about it. He's sitting in heaven thinking, 'God's the creator, he's omnipotent, he's invincible, nothing can hurt him. . . I think I can take him!'"

*Innovative Church Growth Conference, 1994*

A truck driver was eating at a diner when three sneering motorcycle hoodlums came in. The first took the truck driver's hamburger, the second drank his coffee, and the third one wolfed down his pie. Quietly, the truck driver got up from the table and left the diner. One of the bikers said, "He's not much of a man, is he?" The cashier replied, "He's not much of a driver, either. He just ran his truck over three motorcycles."

*Reader's Digest, Jan. 1989, p. 49*

## THE PRAYING HANDS



For years people have admired the art masterpiece known as The Praying Hands. Behind this work of art is a fascinating story of love and sacrifice.

In the late fifteenth century two struggling young art students, Albrecht Durer and Franz Knigstein, worked as labourers to earn money for their art studies. But the work was long and hard and it left them little time to study art.

Finally they agreed to draw lots and let the loser support them both while the winner continued to study. Albrecht won, but he agreed to support Franz after achieving success so his friend could finish his studies.

After becoming successful, Albrecht sought out Franz to keep his bargain. But he soon discovered the enormous sacrifice his friend had made. As Franz had worked at hard labour, his fingers had become twisted and stiff. His long, slender fingers and sensitive hands had been ruined for life. He could no longer manage the delicate brush strokes so necessary for executing fine paintings. But in spite of the price he had paid, Franz was not bitter. He was happy that his friend Albrecht had attained success.

One day Albrecht saw his loyal friend kneeling, his rough hands entwined in silent prayer. Albrecht quickly sketched the hands, later using the rough sketch to create his masterpiece known as The Praying Hands.

Those who see God's hand in everything  
can leave everything in God's hands.

# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

In 1Corinthians 12 God spoke through the apostle Paul that He did not want any of us to be ignorant on the issue of **spiritual gifts**. As a believer, God has given you at least one **spiritual gift** which He expects you to use for His glory and for the benefit of the Body (The Church). Your **spiritual gift**, unlike your natural talent, is not a personal asset that you can store away or chose to use whenever you feel like. God expects you to be a faithful steward of your **spiritual gift(s)** and will certainly call you to give an account some day. There are those that are too proud because of the **spiritual gifts** God gave them and as a result, dishonour God or cause confusion or division in the body. There are those that do not know their **spiritual gifts** and as a result cause deformity in the body. They equally do not honour God because they chose the path of ignorance. **Spiritual gifts** are for honouring God and building up the body and not to tear it down or cause deformity. What is your **spiritual gift** and how are you using it to honour God and build up the body of Christ today.

Sunday Bwanhot



## The Day God settled the “Bible Question” for Billy Graham (II)

continued from January issue

### Foothills of faith

Despite his assertion to the contrary, doubt continued to haunt Graham. In August, Christian educator Henrietta Mears invited him to address an audience at her Forest Home retreat center, located east of Los Angeles. Graham's shaken faith gave him pause, but he nonetheless obliged.

Mears was a phenomenon in Southern California's celebrity culture. Impeccably dressed, jewel-adorned, and wealthy, she grew up in William Bell Riley's Minneapolis church. After moving west, Mears transformed First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood's Sunday school program, increasing enrolment from 450 to 4,500.

While he prepared to speak at Forest Home, Graham and Mears spoke about his doubts. She understood liberal theology. But unlike Templeton, she found the arguments unconvincing. The ease and authority with which she wielded Scripture comforted Graham.

Still, many of Graham's questions remained unanswered. Did Noah actually build an ark to survive a great flood? Could a whale really have swallowed Jonah? Pondering these miracles, Graham roamed into the foothills of the nearby San Bernardino Mountains. With the moon shining, he wandered off the trail, opened his Bible on a tree stump, and took his concerns to God. Inexplicably, the burden lifted.

"Father, I am going to accept this as thy Word—by *faith!*" Graham proclaimed. "I'm going to allow faith to go beyond my intellectual questions and doubts, and I will believe this to be your inspired Word."

Tears streaming down his face, Graham returned to Forest Home. Though he didn't have an explanation for every biblical oddity, for the first time in months he felt powerful intimacy with God and renewed confidence in the Scripture he proclaimed.

continued on next page

## Billy Graham continued

### The road not taken

As for Templeton, he finished his graduate work at Princeton, then became an evangelist for the National Council of Churches. Princeton's dean even considered him "the most gifted and talented young man in American today for preaching mission work." But it wasn't long before Templeton admitted that he no longer believed in any sort of meaningful Christianity. He left the NCC and ultimately moved to Toronto where he became a prominent media personality, writing newspaper columns and providing television commentary.

For much of his life he remained friends with Graham, but Templeton never returned to the faith of his youth. Just two years before his death in 2001, he published a critique of Christianity titled *Farewell to God: My Reasons for Rejecting the Christian Faith*.

Graham's life needs no such explanation. Mere months after his breakthrough in the mountains, Graham's Los Angeles crusade made him a household name in America and launched an extraordinary evangelistic career. Today a simple bronze plaque marks the spot where Graham submitted once and for all to the authority of Scripture.

By Collin Hansen

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**Political  
correctness gone mad!**



"And this petition requests changing the term 'sinner' to 'person who is morally challenged.'"

Motto /Text for the year  
"I CAN DO EVERYTHING THROUGH HIM WHO GIVES  
ME STRENGTH" *PHIL. 4:13*

## FINDING OUT ABOUT ...CHRIST CHURCH?

Tel/Fax: 020 8340 1566

We are a family of men and women, boys and girls who are trying to live for God in a world that has largely chosen to ignore Him.

We believe that it is God's world and that He has given the answer to all human problems in Jesus Christ.

As a body of believers, we offer to all who come regular opportunities for worship and service that point the way to God as our strongest resources in all aspects of life.

We will be pleased to welcome you to any of our activities. You will find a warm welcome at Christ Church.

### Times of worship and fellowship are shown below:

**Sunday** - **8.00am.** Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

- **10.30am.** Main service with Crèche facilities

There is family/parade service once every month– usually the third Sunday of the month unless otherwise indicated.

- **5.00pm.** Evening worship

### ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Monday - Baby n' Toddler Group (**10.00 am to 12 noon**) -Term time only

- Brownies meeting in Church (**5.30 pm**)

- Prayer meeting 21st February; 14th March (**8pm**)

Wednesday - Lent Course Churches Together in Hornsey(**7:45pm**-tea; 8pm start)

Thursday - Home Group 17 Coleridge Road N8 8EH (**9:30 am**)

Friday - Home Group at Flat 10, 3 Waverley Road, N8 (**2.30 pm**)

- Scouts meeting in church and hall (**6.00 pm**)

Enquiry/Counselling - please phone 020 8340 1566

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**YOUR COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME**

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