

# *The Gospel Herald*

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“As the truth is in Jesus” (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD’S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS

by  
Donald E. Martin, Sr.

## *“and the God in whose hand thy breath is”*

*Daniel 5:23*

*Dear Brethren, I was challenged of late with the question after arising from a night’s rest, while staying at a dear Brother’s home, “what part did you play in being able to arise after a night of sleep to this new day?”*

*I thought about the depth of the question and had no other answer than to say, “I had NOTHING to do with my ability to remain a living mortal through the night of an unconscious sleep.”*

*Our God has so designed the human creature to live with an “involuntary” action that our bodies possess which keeps our physical heart beating and our lungs inhaling and exhaling unbeknown to our unconscious minds during physical slumber. Oh! how I was brought to the reality of this divine characteristic of the creatures of Gods decreed design.*

*We play NO PART in our ability to maintain being a living mortal in the realm of physical sleep! What a miraculous characteristic of the human race.*

*“The spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life” (Job 33:4). “In whose hand is the soul of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind” (Job 12:10).*

*What a sovereign God we have been made to worship and adore. Who alone holds our breath in his own hand and sustains us in our sleep keeping our lungs taking in that vital oxygen required for mortal life.*

*Knowing, “our days are determined, the number of his months are with thee, thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass” (Job 14:5).*

*Beloved of God, we have been taught that God, the Almighty has determined our days, our paths and steps. And when those days have fulfilled his divine and determined purpose, he shall cause our breath to CEASE and our hearts to REST from its beating rhythm and mortal life shall STOP in a moment of time.*

*Oh! how wondrous the sustaining grace that our sovereign God grants to we mere mortals, that even through a night of slumber HE keeps our hearts and lungs functioning until that final moment when our mortal life shall cease to be NO MORE.*

*Think about this glorious work of our unlimited God as you lay your head upon your pillow this night and consider that you have NO control over the functions of your “involuntary” actions which shall maintain you through the night of unconsciousness. Then ask yourself the question, “what part did I play in being quickened and made alive in Christ born again of His Spirit?” Is not this a work of free and sovereign grace totally “involuntary” by God and not by the creature?*

*To be released from the curse of depravity brought about by Adam’s fall, it takes a supernatural operation of the Spirit to waken, quicken, and conceive the New Born heir of grace into the Kingdom of Gods dear Son.....For ONLY “shall my people be willing in the day of my power” ...The will of the natural born is bound and limited and has no desire to seek a God whom they do not know. Knowing Christ is determined and brought about by Gods “voluntary choice” apart from any action, means or methods of man’s abilities or vain methods.*

*To our God be the glory, praise and honor for his mercies which endureth forever to them chosen in Christ Jesus as his elect children.*

*By Christ’s merits and sovereign love, I remain; in hope.*

*Respectfully,  
April 28, 2013*