

# *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.

## *Mother Nature, Lady Luck, and the Man Upstairs*

*Dear Brethren, over the years I have written on the above-referenced subjects, expressing the mindset of our society in regard to the negligence and non belief in the deity of the Holy Scriptures.*

*Who is this “Mother Nature?” This power over the elements of the earth as emphasized by the majority of our society. We hear this terminology in most News broadcast on a daily basis, “Mother Nature has brought about another blizzard condition in the Midwest or brought floods on the West Coast.” This is all the more the mindset and rejection of the God of the Bible. The “Humanistic” attempt to label the occurrences of the weather and other events in the natural realm, have been ascribed to the “works and power” of this Mother Nature character. This is nothing less than a man-made expression which comes from the natural mind of mankind. Knowing that the “natural mind receiveth not the things of the Spirit, neither can he know them.”*

*Can you imagine the response of the society if a local “weather man” was to broadcast the forecasted weather by saying, “We have a cold front moving through the center of the country as God’s sovereign hand directs its path, bringing cold and wintry conditions. God has directed four feet of snow to fall upon the northern region of New York State,” etc., etc.*

*Society will ACCEPT Mother Nature as the means of the cause and effect of weather without a second thought, but you mention GOD bringing about the conditions of the weather and I can assure you of a national out cry of criticism and scrutiny. The concept of “Mother Nature” is the blatant denial of the divine deity of the Holy Scriptures. I refuse to stand by and let someone talk about “Mother Nature’s” sovereign actions in regard to elements of the weather and other climatic occurrences. I have been moved to speak up and say, “Who is this Mother Nature?” Where is she? Shall man not give the Holy God of the scriptures due honor? Why stand by and let the worldlings*

bring honor to their “Mother Nature?” When we have been exhorted “to say among the heathen that the Lord REIGNETH,” “The Lord REIGNETH; let the people tremble” (Psa. 96:10, 99:1).

Brethren, I do not know how many times I have had Church folks say to me, “God bless you and GOOD LUCK!” What in this world are they thinking? The term LUCK ought not even be in a believer’s vocabulary. What is this happenchance aspect of LUCK, CROSSING YOUR FINGERS, HORSESHOE over the door and a RABBIT’S FOOT?

When someone among the church community says to me “Good Luck,” it is a “red flag” of a mindset that God IS NOT in absolute sovereign control? I say which is it? God or luck?? There is NO LUCK nor CHANCE in anything which occurs in this time world. For the scripture informs us that even in the casting of the lot, the Lord is in the disposing of the matter, indicating that man cannot cast the lot without GOD determining the end result of the outcome (Prov. 16:33). Listen to me; if God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, is in fact ALMIGHTY, and in absolute sovereign control of ALL things, and has given his angels charge over us, luck has NO PLACE in our lives. Professing Christian folks have said on occasion, “Boy, were you LUCKY!” The root of this mindset is a lack of acknowledging that the Lord Jesus Christ is the sovereign head and divine orchestrator of ALL things which come to pass in our lives. One of the EASIEST places to get trapped is to say, “GOOD LUCK” is when a friend or neighbor is going fishing (smiling), am I right? As a predestinarian fisherman at times, I am persuaded that God can ONLY direct a fish to be attracted and bite my hook (often NOT at all).

If our Lord Jesus Christ had directed Peter to fish on the opposite side of the ship of which he was fishing, knowing that HE (Christ) had determined the fish to be there, is he not the sovereign one that CAUSES the fish to be caught by such one’s as we (John 21:6)? Oh! May we give HIM due Glory and bless his Holy name, for Jesus does ALL THINGS WELL in accordance to his sovereign will and determined purpose in ALL things in time and eternity.

Finally; a comment in regard to the “Man Upstairs.” This is another phrase that the world loves to use in their attempts to describe the a deity in their mind. When I hear the verbiage “The Man Upstairs” in reference to Jesus Christ, I question the experience and understanding one may have of the God of the Bible. How often have you heard someone express “if it were not for the Man Upstairs I would have been this or that?”

Brethren, please DO NOT get the opinion I am trying to CHANGE anyone’s heart or mind concerning these subjects. I am merely stating what I have heard and experienced and the irreverence which accompanies their use of these terms which IMHO brings dishonor to the name and deity of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ the Lord. Least the Lord show us our faults and give revelation of understanding to change our minds and heart, we are in a helpless state. We have heard the old saying, “you can lead a horse to water , but you can’t make him drink.” I have learned over the years

*being among the Old Baptist, you DON'T attempt to straighten anybody out, for that is the quickest way to get "tuned out" and "set on the bench" and made to listen a spell.*

*May those things which have been set forth be received with Christian love and not to the offense of any, least the Spirit be the CAUSE of reproof and correction.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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