

Summer 2022

THE DEAF MESSENGER



“For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.”

Romans 6:6-7 (NIV)

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The purpose of this magazine is to inform the deaf reader about such topics as practical Christian living; basic Bible truths; and what the past, present, and future historical events mean to each of us. This magazine attempts to cover spiritual, mental, and physical aspects in its articles and columns.

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Independence Day

By Alan Meis



July 4, 1776, is an important day in American history. That is the day America declared their independence from Great Britain. We wanted to be a free country. We did not want to be under a king. We wanted to be free from a king. July 4, 1776, is like the birthday of America. Every year we celebrate our independence on July 4. That is why we call July 4, Independence Day. It is an official holiday.

I remember celebrating July 4 when I was a boy. I loved the July 4 holiday. My family would all gather together in a nice park. We would eat a nice picnic lunch. My cousins, aunts, uncles, and grandmother were all there too. Then we would play a game. I remember playing football with my cousins and uncles. But the best part was at night. I would see so many fireflies. I liked to catch them and see them glow. And I

watched the fireworks. I loved to see the fireworks, so pretty, and so loud. I could feel the boom on the ground. We celebrate July 4, Independence Day, because we love freedom.

God also loves freedom. When Israel were slaves in Egypt, God sent Moses to lead His people out of Egypt. God made Israel free from slavery. God gave Israel the Promised Land so they can live free. But sadly, Israel did not always follow God. So they fall back into slavery to the other countries around them. But God always bring someone to deliver His people. God used Gideon, Samson, and many others to free His people again and again. God loves His people very much. God is very patient with His people. But slavery to other countries is not the worst slavery. The worst slavery is slavery to sin.

Sadly, Adam and Eve decided to follow the snake in the Garden of Eden. They disobeyed God. They ate the forbidden fruit. Adam and Eve lost their freedom. They became slaves to Satan and to sin. And all their children after them were born into slavery to sin. That is why we see so many problems in the world today. But God sent Jesus to deliver us from sin!

God loves us very much!

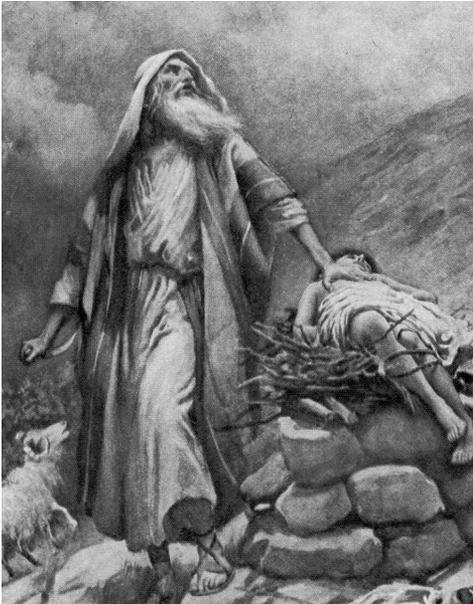
God wants us to be free from sin! The Bible says, “In the past you were slaves to sin” (Romans 6:20, ERV). Then two verses after the Bible says, “But now you are free from sin” (Romans 6:22, ERV). We are free from sin because Jesus died on the cross to make us free! Jesus also said the same thing. “So Jesus said to the Jews who believed in him, ‘If you continue to accept and obey my teaching, you are really my followers. You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free’” (John 8:31-32, ERV). So we see how to receive the freedom God wants to give to us. We need to believe in Jesus. We need to continue to accept and obey His teaching. Then we will know the truth. And the truth will make us free! I invite you to believe in Jesus. I invite you to continue to accept and obey Jesus. Then you are a true follower of Jesus!

As you celebrate July 4, Independence Day, this year, we can be thankful for our free country. And let us remember the freedom God has given us from sin too. Let us thank God for our Deliverer, Jesus! And let us thank God for our freedom from sin too! God bless you!

Alan Meis is a CODA and a teacher living in Holland, Michigan.

God's Promise to Abraham at Mt. Moriah

By Chuck McGehee



Maybe you are not aware of it if you do not understand the prophecy from the beginning to the end of time. Remember, the Lord found Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden, scared and hiding after the big event at the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:9, 17). After eating the forbidden fruit, they were naked but covered themselves by wearing fig leaves. The Lord's face was sad but filled with total mercy and kindness. God had to kill the animals to clothe them (Genesis 3:21). We do not know where the clothes of skin came from, but we believe that the clothes of skin were from

sheep. We have a possible clue from Genesis 4:4 where we read that Adam and Eve's son brought a lamb for a burnt offering.

About 800 years later, let us journey to the great test of Abraham in Genesis 22:1-19. The Lord told Abraham to take his only son to Mt. Moriah for the sacrifice. In verse 7, Isaac was puzzled that he did not see the lamb with them. "And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together" (Genesis 22:8, KJV). Abraham built an altar.

Then he bound Isaac's hands and feet and prepared to offer his son as a sacrifice. But God stopped him and provided a ram for the offering. Abraham passed God's test of faith.

Why is this story so important? Abraham and Isaac represent the Heavenly Father and Son. What does verse 8 mean? You notice that it says, "himself the lamb," meaning Jesus is the Lamb.

Centuries later, King Solomon built a beautiful Temple. Where did he build it? Check out what the Bible tells us. "Now Solomon began to build the house of the Lord (the Temple) at Jerusalem on *Mount Moriah* where the Lord

had appeared to his father David, at the place that David had prepared on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.” (2 Chronicles 3:1, emphasis added). Why build the temple on Mt. Moriah? For the burnt offering.

John the Baptist recognized Jesus and announced Him as the Lamb of God (John 1:29). Three and half years later, He as the Lamb died on the cross where the Place of a Skull was (Matthew 27:33). Jesus shed his blood to save all of us (Hebrews 9:28). He died as a sweet and innocent Lamb outside of the Jerusalem wall (John 19:17- 20). John mentioned that the crucified Savior was near the city but not in the city (verse 20). The worst part was a place outside the city, like a “dump or landfill.” The animals’ skeletons were burned outside of the camp (Leviticus 4:12). The lepers also lived alone outside the camp (Leviticus 13:46). The “camp” means the area where the Jews lived within and where the temple was. God did not want the dirty things inside the camp (Numbers 5:3; Deuteronomy 23:14). Would we want to walk around the “dump”? Jesus, our Savior, died on the cross outside the city as if He were dirty or garbage. Why? The Sanhedrin charged Jesus with

blasphemy and sentenced him to death (Mark 14:63, 64; Leviticus 24:11-16). Where did they put Him to death? At the Place of a Skull. Where was it? It was located near Mount Moriah but outside the city wall. If Jesus’ crucifixion were on Mount Moriah where Isaac was bound, then his cross would be where the Temple was.

Remember Abraham and Isaac traveled to Mount Moriah. Check out The Dome of the Rock, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Wall?wprov=sfti1 ; inside of the Dome of the Rock is just soil, possible rocks where Abraham built the altar for his only son for the burnt offering.

Remember, King Solomon built the temple on Mount Moriah for God’s purpose for the burnt offerings. The famous Wailing Wall is the ruins of the Temple very near the Dome of the Rock. Jesus died on the cross where the Place of Skull was in the area outside of the Jerusalem wall. Check out the link; <https://www.revealedtruth.com/cross/golgotha-skull-hill/>

We need to consider how much Jesus loves us by being willing to die outside the Jerusalem wall. Praise the Lord, the Lamb is alive! Did you know that the word “Lamb” is mentioned 28 times

in the Book of Revelation?
May we enjoy our study of His
beautiful salvation for us!

The important thing
between Jesus and Isaac was

not the location of the
crucifixion but the similarities
between Jesus and Isaac as
shown:

Isaac

- Born to a woman too old to get pregnant (Gen. 18:11)
- Only son (Gen. 22:2)
- Carried the wood for his sacrifice (Gen. 22:6)
- Isaac willfully submitted (Gen. 22:9)
- Sacrificed on a mountain in Moriah (Gen. 22:2)

Jesus

- Born to a virgin (Luke 2:1-7)
- Only Son (John 3:16)
- Carried the wooden cross for His Sacrifice (John 19:17)
- Jesus willfully sacrificed (John 10:18)
- Sacrificed near Mt. Moriah (John 19:20, Hebrews 13:12)



Chuck McGehee is a writer from
Vancouver, Washington

Wonderful Name of Jesus

By Amanda Colgan

“Looking unto Jesus ...” Hebrews 12:2. It is as we behold Jesus that we long to be more like Him. As we look to Him, our hearts are drawn in response. We’ll begin by reading Philippians 2:5-11 and we’ll study some of the verses.



“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (KJV).

Now, notice in the Scripture which we have read, Jesus was “... equal with God” (Philippians 2:6). He didn’t think that was something to hold onto. He had something that was more important to Him than to be on the throne of the universe. Somebody was lost. Jesus could not rest in heaven with someone lost in this world. So, He left all that to come and save you and me, like the shepherd leaving the ninety and nine sheep and search for the one lost sheep.

Jesus had the form of God (Philippians 2:5), but He took the form of a servant (Philippians 2:7), which is an old term for a slave. He had been the King of the universe and the commander of the angels, but He laid that all aside. “Who, being in the

form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God” (Philippians 2:6). Was Jesus equal with God the Father? Yes and it wasn’t robbery. It belonged to Him. Let’s see another translation for the same verse. “Although from the beginning He had the nature of God He did not reckon [calculate] his equality with God a treasure to be tightly grasped” Philippians 2:6 (Weymouth Translation).

The word that is translated as “robbery” is viewed as “grasp”. So you can see where the different translation comes from. Jesus thought it not robbery, but He also thought it not a thing to be kept hold of. He was willing to do what? Give it up.

In a mysterious way that we can never understand, Jesus becomes a member of the human family. A Christian writer wrote about this: “Let us fix our minds on the most marvelous thing that ever took place in earth or heaven—the incarnation of the Son of God” That I May Know Him, p. 25.

Jesus emptied Himself, putting aside His divine powers. He took upon Him the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men. Was Jesus really a man? Yes. Was He God? Yes. How could He be both at the same time? This is the mystery of

godliness as Paul says in 1 Timothy 3:16 (NIRV): “There is no doubt that true godliness comes from this great mystery. Jesus came as a human being.”

Back to our main verse, let’s take a look at Philippians 2:8 “And being found in fashion [appearance] as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” Jesus humbled Himself by becoming a member of the human family. He did not seek honor or fame or a high position. Where was Jesus born? In a stable. Also, He spent most of his life in a simple home in a small town, Nazareth. Paul tells us in Hebrews 5:8 “He [Jesus] learned obedience by the things which he suffered.”

After Jesus died on the cross, He who gave up all, His glory and honor were given back to Him. The Father made Jesus more exalted than before. Worship of love is what exalts Jesus. All of His creatures, both in heaven, in this world and throughout the universe will love Jesus more than ever. What wonderful love we have in Jesus! The wonderful name He bears, Jesus, our Savior and Lord (Philippians 2:9-11).

Amanda Colgan is a Deaf writer who lives in Springfield, MO.

Leave Me Alone!

By Marvin Budd



Jonah was a man that followed God. That is what he thought. God interrupted his life and sent him to a wicked city famous for its cruelty. It was like God telling him to go to a city that had just bombed his family. God wanted the city to believe in God and change or they would be destroyed. Jonah did not believe that the city was worth saving—they might kill him. So he ran far away. He never felt comfortable preaching to

people who destroyed other nations. They could put him in prison and make his life uncomfortable. Jonah did not answer God with words. He just ran as far away as possible. In his day that was on a ship at sea.

God sent a great storm and made the sea impossible for travel. The other men on the ship were dying and everyone prayed to their gods. But Jonah started to be afraid and confessed to the men that

he was running away from His God. God showed all the men on the ship that He is in control of everything and they have a choice. So Jonah told the men to throw him overboard. If the men threw Jonah overboard into the sea he would die. They would be responsible for his death. So the men prayed to God to forgive them. But the sea got worse. So they finally threw Jonah over the side of the ship. They knew he would die. But immediately the storm became calm and they were amazed that God was really in control.

God sent a big fish to swallow Jonah. This kept him alive but it was not a nice place because of darkness and seaweed inside the fish. Jonah prayed to God from inside the fish and promised to obey God if his life was saved. The fish threw him up on land. He was alive, but now he did not run from God. He obeyed God as he had promised in his prayer from the belly of the fish.

So, Jonah went to the wicked city and preached to the people every day for forty days. He said in forty days God would destroy the city. It took three days just to walk through the city. It was a strong, large city with many people. The people believed what Jonah said. And they all

fasted (ate nothing), and told their king. Their king also showed great sorrow and gave an order for all the people and animals to stop eating and drinking and pray to God. And God heard their prayer. God changed his plan and did not destroy the city. But Jonah was not happy about their salvation. You can read the short story in detail in the book of Jonah in the Bible.

Did Jonah have courage? I think he was afraid and ran away. But he got some courage when he was honest with the men and told them to throw him over the side of the ship. He had enough courage to obey God and preach to the wicked city. But he still did not have courage to believe in God and was disappointed that the city was saved. Do you feel God should let you alone? Do you already have enough problems and need God's help? What if God asked you to go preach? Would you help someone you know if they have trouble? Do you know someone in trouble?

Courage and confidence are a little bit different. Courage is like doing something crazy and hard. Confidence is when we do something we have experienced. We can trust something or someone we know.

Many stories in the Bible ask us to do something. Luke 19:11-26 is a story of an important man with lots of money who would go away and become king and then come back. So he gave about \$5,000 in today's money to each of ten servants before he left. He told them to use the money to get more money for when he returned.

His servants were upset and did not like the man and even sent messengers to tell him. But he came back anyway and asked each servant to bring him what they had earned. One servant gave him back \$50,000—ten times what the rich man invested! So the man made the servant ruler over ten cities. Another servant gave him back \$25,000—five times what the rich man invested! So the man made that servant ruler over 5 cities. Another servant just kept the \$5,000 hidden in a safe place inside a rag that you would blow your nose with. And he grumbled that the rich man was too greedy, so he just gave back the original amount. The rich man took back the money and gave it to the first servant that ruled ten cities. The unhappy servants were killed. None were left alone!

What does this story mean? God is rich! He gives each of us something - our

life. This story is not about special talents (skills) that are in another story. God gives all of us life and family and friends. What are we doing with these things? Everyone has them.

Just before this story is the story of Zacchaeus where Jesus told us to love even the wicked and unlovable people. Do we feel sorry for our miserable life and want God to leave us alone? What can we invest in our family and friends? Do we have courage to do what God asks us to do for people we know and love?

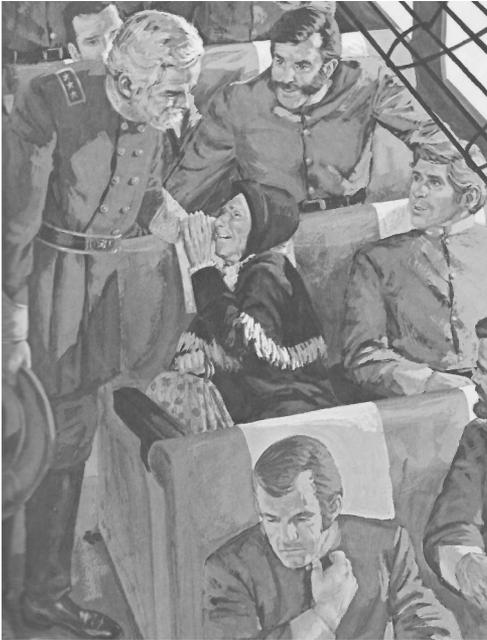
We can do two things:

1. Pray for people. Pray for the unlovable people too. Pray that God will send people to you who love Him (Psalm 119:79). Love them as Jesus did.
2. Volunteer to help people. Do you have confidence God can do what He promises for you and your friends? It may look like courage (crazy) but if you experienced it you know God can do it. Why not love unlovable people like Jesus said—"Love your enemies" (Luke 6:35).

Marvin Budd is a retired software developer and lives in Berrien Spring, Michigan.

A Language the Whole World Understands

By C. L. Paddock



entered the car. She did not find an empty seat so she walked down the aisle toward the place where General Lee was sitting.

Immediately, he arose and bowed respectfully. He offered the little old lady his seat. Many men in the car saw his kindness toward the lady and they arose quickly and urged General Lee to be seated. "No, gentlemen," he said, "if you could not rise for a weak old lady, you need not rise for me." It was a rebuke to those men, and most of them arose and went into another car, where they would feel more comfortable.

Jesus tells us we should love the Lord with all our hearts, and also that we should love our neighbor as we love ourselves. That neighbor may live next door, or he might be of another nationality, he might speak another language, he might even live across the seas or in another land.

Some years ago a Black man was walking down a busy New York street. He was carrying two heavy suitcases. He could not afford a taxicab, so he was carrying his heavy load from the railway station to a hotel some blocks away. As he struggled along with the heavy burden, a hand was laid upon his shoulder, and immediately had reached down and taken hold of one of

"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous, it does not brag, and it is not proud"
(1 Corinthians 13:4).

This verse means that if there is love in our hearts, we will be kind to other people. We will not be unkind to those we love. It will not be difficult for us to show kindness to people we love. It will be a pleasure and a natural thing for us to do.

General Robert E. Lee was a very gentle and kind man. One day he was riding on a train going to the city of Richmond. He was in a car that was filled with officers and soldiers. At a small station along the route an old woman, poorly dressed,

the heavy suitcases. A white man's smiling face looked into his, and a friendly voice asked, "Pretty heavy, brother, isn't it? Let me carry it. I am going your way." The Black man wanted to say, "No." He tried to protest, but it was useless because his strong arm already was carrying one piece of the heavy luggage. And this newfound friend was walking by his side. The Black man was Booker T. Washington, and the white man was Theodore Roosevelt. Big people are kind.

The color of a man's skin didn't bother Roosevelt. He lightened the Black man's burdens with his helping hand. No wonder he became President. The door of the White House was open to everyone during his administration. No wonder many people loved Roosevelt. True love really comes from the heart and cannot be valued in gold or silver. We may have a form of kindness without love in our hearts, but we just cannot love without being kind. There will never be love without kindness and respectfulness and helpfulness.

A young storekeeper had closed his store after a long difficult day and he was hurrying home to his evening meal. But he met a little girl. Her mother had sent her to the store to buy a spool of thread. She told him of her duty. He turned around and went back to the store. He picked up the spool of thread for her. And the cash register showed five cents. But he didn't

charge her. His kindness and thoughtfulness cheered her tiny heart and won many friends for the businessman.

One day Abraham Lincoln met a young girl on the street crying bitterly. He stopped to see if he could help her. He asked what the trouble might be and if he could help. She was sobbing and crying, but she was able to tell him that a man had promised to come and pick up her trunk and take it to the railroad station because she was going away on the train. It was near train time, and the man had not come for the trunk. Mr. Lincoln asked her to show him where the trunk was. She led him into her house. He took the trunk on his back and carried it off to the station for her. She and her mother caught the train. That was a very kind thing for a really great man to do.

Showing kindness and respect has always been a real blessing to people. It has helped many young men and women to positions of trust and responsibility. Without kindness and respect have shut the door of opportunity against many young people, too. What a simple thing it is to say, "Thank you." Kindness pays big rewards. A kind act will always leave at least two people happier. It blessed the doer of the good act as well as the one for whom it is done.

Adapted from *God's Minutes*

Why I Smile

By Roy Borgess



Twenty-five years in a Florida prison has not given me much to smile about, but recently someone said to me, “Why are you smiling?”

I have thought a lot about that. Life does not always give me a reason to smile, but when I do smile, I bless others. Without saying a word, a smile can tell them that I like them and that I am pleased with them. A smile is like a warm fuzzy: it can hug someone with love without my giving them a slight touch. A smile can bring a message of cheer from God to a person who needs it.

Arguments often happen

when we live with difficult people, but a smile can prevent an argument. You cannot argue and smile at the same time. When you smile, you keep your negative emotions in control, and you behave positively.

Smiling is one of the most powerful influences. It will give you a forgiving heart; it will help you listen more successfully; and it will help you more easily understand the other person’s point of view.

Adapted from Signs of the Times, November 2014.

Healthy Cooking Methods

By Sue Radd

The way we cook food can help or harm our health. Many scientific reports suggest that toxic (poison) chemicals are made when we use high-temperature cooking methods.

HCAs (heterocyclic amines) and **PAHs** (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons). These chemicals are found in meat, chicken, and fish that have been cooked with dry and high heat (grilled, barbecued, fried, or smoked). Eating HCAs may increase the risk of cancers of the stomach, colon, prostate, and pancreas.

AGEs (advanced glycation end products). The highest amounts of AGEs are found in foods that contain a combination of some natural or added sugars and proteins and that have been cooked at high temperatures with dry heat (meat, chicken, and fish that have been grilled, barbecued, or fried). AGEs are also found in naturally high levels in full-fat cheese and dry cheese such as parmesan. They are implicated in many diseases and conditions, including inflammation, cataracts, Alzheimer's, and heart disease. Animal studies show that AGEs quicken diabetes complications.

Acrylamide Found in many carbohydrate-rich foods that have been prepared using high temperatures (not normally found in meat, fish, or dairy). The International Agency for Research on Cancer says that acrylamide is "probably cancer-causing in humans."

Cooking Tips

Organic foods are better for the planet and are believed to also be better for your health. But, they will not reduce your exposure to these chemicals. The way the food is cooked is important whether it be organic, Kosher or Halal!

- Use moist cooking methods. Cook more soups, stews, and casseroles, or steam or poach foods.

- HCA chemicals are not made when cooking vegetables. If you love to barbecue food, load your grill with these foods rather than meat or chicken!

- Avoid smoked and processed meats.

- If you eat dairy, choose low-fat white cheeses such as cottage and ricotta.

- Avoid toasting bread to a dark color, or warm it to the lightest color acceptable.

- Soften rolled grains overnight, or cook them with water instead of only using processed breakfast cereals, which are usually made using high, dry heat.

- Steam or boil potatoes, and avoid French fries and hash browns.

- Snack on natural nuts rather than roasted nuts or potato chips.

- Avoid coffee, which is made by roasting beans, forming large amounts of acrylamide.

Dr. Sue Radd, PhD, is the award-winning author of *The Breakfast Book* and coauthor of *Eat to Live*.

Vegan American Cheese

This “cheese” is not real cheese, but it is almost similar to real American cheese and can be thinly sliced.

- 1 cup water
- 1/3 cup plus one rounded Tablespoon unflavored *Gefen-Jell Dessert** (not gelatin, see below the photo)
- 1 1/4 cup boiling water
- 2 cups raw cashews **
- 1/4 cup yeast flakes
- 1 Tablespoon salt
- 2 teaspoons onion powder
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/4 cup lemon juice (fresh if possible) or one pimento, or 1/2 large sweet pepper, or about two teaspoons paprika

Method: Soak *Gefen* powder in one cup of water in a blender while assembling the remaining ingredients. Pour boiling water over soaked *Gefen* powder and liquefy briefly to dissolve. Cool slightly. Add cashews and blend thoroughly. Add remaining ingredients. Blend until the mixture is the consistency of a creamy sauce, with no bits of pimento visible. Pour into a 1-qt mold, and cool slightly. Cover before refrigerating. Refrigerate overnight before serving. After firming in the refrigerator, this cheese may be frozen unto needed.

Makes 1 quart.

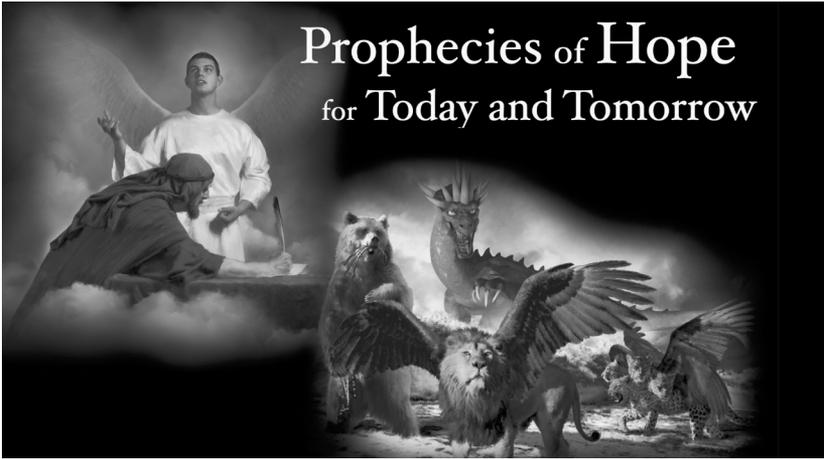
Note: if you have a somewhat small blender, you may have to make half of this recipe at a time.

You can use it for a dip, macaroni, taco, enchiladas, pizza, and many others. This is a cheese substitute. It tastes good.

*Do not substitute agar for the unflavored powder.

**Be sure you wash cashew nuts well (because the South American people picked and cleaned them by their feet!)





Prophecies of Hope for Today and Tomorrow

Are you worried about what is happening around the world? Pandemics, earthquakes, riots, wars, government corruptions, crazy weathers, wild fires, droughts, dying animals and fishes, rising crimes, poverty, racial problems, roller coaster economy, broken-down family values, rising suicides, depression and many other human problems. Is there any hope for you and all of us? Yes, there is! An ASL Bible series—Prophecies of Hope for Today and Tomorrow is available. May God give you hope and peace in your heart when you watch the series. Watch the 22 presentations in: https://deafbibleschool.com/evangelism_video.php

Visit our booth at Deaf events!



We offer free DVDs and Bible pamphlets to learn more about our wonderful God and the Bible prophecies. We are in the last days of the earth's history so come and get those free materials and visit with our staff for any questions you have about the Bible.

DeafNation World Expo—Las Vegas, NV—August 1-4, 2022
It's a Deaf Thing—Lakeland, FL—October 1, 2022
DeafNation Expo—Rochester, NY—October 1, 2022
DeafNation Expo—Minneapolis, MN—October 8, 2022
DeafNation Expo—Seattle, WA—November 5, 2022