

SPECIAL REPORT

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by DAVID P. EBAUGH
from the
DAVID EBAUGH BIBLE SCHOOL

GOD HAS PROVIDED,
IS PROVIDING,
AND WILL PROVIDE.

HARRISBURG T.M.I. ACCIDENT ON MARCH 28, 1979

A REPORT
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"He's never failed me yet." Those are the words to a gospel song that tells the story. "Jesus Christ, the same, yesterday, today and forever." The Bible says the same thing!

THE PAST - GOD PROVIDED

When I was a little boy I fell into the well and I should have died. But I believe that God sent my guardian angel (Heb. 1:14) to force my arms forward into a locked position so that they hooked over the rim as I fell. That kept me from falling all the way down the shaft to an almost certain death. I still remember the thought that raced through my mind as I climbed out - "God must have something for me to do!"

I'm sure that everyone has had the same type experience - perhaps not with a well, but with the same thoughts.

GOD'S PROVISION - NOW!

At the present time God is providing. The lights are on. The oil fired boiler keeps our house warm. And there is food in the cupboard. The telephone rings (often). All of this can happen because the bills are paid up-to-date. It is not always a perfect indicator to measure God's provision in the realm of physical, temporal things, but it is not always unwise either. Jesus said that He came to provide a more abundant life. And He added to "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these (temporal, physical) things will be added."

So, we are pleased to report that presently God's provision has been sufficient to meet all the needs of our home and office.

GOD'S PROVISION FOR THE FUTURE!

"But I know who holds tomorrow and I know who holds my hand." Experientially, I have discovered that my own ideas are not always in perfect harmony with God's eternal plans and purposes. When what I want for the future is in step and in harmony with those plans - I get it! When not, I don't!

Sometimes it is hard to pray after reaching that degree of maturity because we all agree that we want God's perfect will for the future - but there are times when we do not know specifically what His will is. So how can we pray?

"Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven."

THE VISION

I was to speak at Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont on Tuesday night. That afternoon I received a supernatural vision and heard a supernatural articulate voice. I am comfortable with visions because in the past God has used me as His channel for probably thousands of visions for others. But this vision was for me and I knew it - but my experiences with an articulate supernatural voice have been few and far between, probably not more than a total of ten times. The vision was that of a barber's straightedge razor. The voice said "CLOSE-SHAVE."

At the time I thought that it was an instruction from God concerning my own personal grooming in regard to shaving and dressing for my lecture that night at the college. A little while later I was advised that my informal clothes were perfect for the occasion and I realized that the close-shave did not refer to the upcoming lecture. The next morning I awoke unnaturally early. Louis Hall, my host, was preparing to go to work and Rev. Albert Freeman was fast asleep (I suppose) in the other bedroom. I felt driven to dress quickly and get my car ready for the all-day drive home. As I look back on it now it must have seemed strange because I nearly flew out of that house and into my car and started for Harrisburg. I did not know it then but at that moment atomic radiation was blowing over my home as a result of the Three Mile Island (T.M.I.) Nuclear Reactor accident which occurred earlier that morning (March 28, 1979).



MEDIA REPORTS ON T.M.I.

When I arrived home my wife, Betty, said that something went wrong at T.M.I. and the TV had been giving reports all afternoon. We switched on the TV and I watched and listened intently. For the last several years everyone in Harrisburg has looked at those towers and wondered what would happen if something went wrong.

The reports conflicted with each other. Some said it was a terrible accident with the possibility that there may be a mass evacuation. Others said it did not amount to much. (And people are still arguing.) I was terribly disappointed with the lack of technical information they gave. After piecing the fragmented facts together and supplying as many missing pieces as I could, I reasoned that there was indeed the possibility of a meltdown at T.M.I. I also knew that in the event of a meltdown that there was a great possibility

that it would annihilate my neighbors, my family and myself. There was also a good possibility that it would only make us deathly sick. I'll admit that I didn't relish either thought. I was also aware of the chance of great biological damage to our bodies - especially females. I was taught that the ovum and the fetus were especially sensitive to atomic radiation. Since I have three daughters, all of childbearing age, I decided that the only thing I could do was to get them out of Harrisburg - voluntarily evacuate!

The frustrating thing was that the media provided no quantitative information. They did not tell just how much radiation was released until after many days and they never did tell where the radiation fell. Many weeks after the accident they told us that the radiation level was so high that none of their meters could read it and that they would never know how much it was. And many times T.M.I. released atomic radiation and did not tell us about it until six or eight hours after they did it.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Furthermore, I believe that all levels of government either lied to us or else they were ignorant.

For example: The United States Federal Government passed a law called the Price Anderson Act. It limits the financial liability of Met Ed to 560 million dollars. Our Governor was rudely awakened to the fact that the Feds have provided about 3¢ compensation for every dollar that we local residents stand to lose. That's right, each of us would have 3¢ on the dollar to cover our emergency expenses and to replace our property. When I called my insurance agent I found that my Homeowner's Insurance Policy did not cover an atomic accident. The insurance company had changed the fine print since the Price Anderson Act. It sure did and does look to me like a government plus insurance industry conspiracy.



Due to a prior speaking commitment I had made to be at the C.L.C. in Deming, New Mexico, my whole family agreed that the only logical thing to do was for us all to pack up and go to New Mexico. It solved two problems. The trip provided for the evacuation of my family from Harrisburg and it allowed me to keep my speaking schedule. Our house and office are on the 9-mile line. Diane works on the 4-mile line. Rosie Raye goes to school on the 7.5-mile line. All these places received radiation while we were gone.

There were a few days early in the problem before our decision to leave when we were the grateful guests of the Sutton family in their mountain cabin 30 miles away from the epicenter.

An interesting sidelight is that my daughter Diane's boyfriend, Jeff Sutton, had invited Betty and me to a fine dinner scheduled for Friday night. But our evacuation activities prevented keeping the event at the scheduled restaurant. So we kept the date at an alternate restaurant in Carlisle, Pa., 30 miles away. That night Jeff very politely and correctly asked me for permission to marry my daughter, Diane. Betty and I had suspected

the purpose and already agreed to say yes but it was fun to participate in the whole performance. I said yes and I suppose that we all will remember the exciting events of those several days. (By the way, the date of the wedding is August 12.)

GET READY

On several occasions in the past I have heard a voice over our submarine's annunciator saying "This is the Captain speaking. Prepare for foul weather. Batten down the hatches. Secure all loose gear." No one thought that he was afraid. Neither did we think that we were sissies for getting ready to ride out the storm. There were times when we even turned our ship to try to run away from a storm we picked up on our radar. Airplane pilots try to avoid trouble by turning away from a storm, too. They even make pilots study clouds and storms before they can get their license. I'm trying to say that it is a universally accepted idea to try to avoid trouble when you see a storm approaching. When a cloud darkens the sky and the wind starts blowing I run to the alley to bring in the garbage cans. When I shut the windows it doesn't mean I'm scared silly. It means I want to avoid a mess.

We learned some things from going through the first three days of the T.M.I. nuclear storm and then we avoided another mess by getting away from an uncertain amount of nuclear radiation. We have never given the slightest thought to an evacuation for any reason before so we made some mistakes. But you might benefit from thinking about some of the things we did without you having to go through the pressure situations that we did.

There is no time to hunt for things - so put all your valuable papers such as birth certificates, passports, insurance policies, securities, bank books in one small box, now. They would not let us withdraw all our money from the bank (to control a run on the banks) so you better have some cash, too.

You are going in your car so everything you can take is going to have to fit in it. Everything should be small enough and light enough to move quickly from the house to the car. And you don't have time to pack breakables. You can't handle heavy or large things even if they are valuable because they simply won't fit. Betty looked at her new sofa. Rosie Raye looked at her shell collection and I looked at my religious books - but we all sighed and left them.

Determine ahead of time what is valuable - but light and small. Forget sentimental things. Leave things that can be replaced. Take things that will easily convert to money or with which you can barter - such as expensive jewelry, coin collections and sterling silver. Take a blanket, pillow, eyeglasses and any special medicine for each person. Leave things that are heavy. If you have time to pack them - take comfortable clothes and shoes - forget fashions. You need water more than you need food so try to take a thermos or canteen of good water for everyone. Always keep at least $\frac{1}{2}$ tank of gas in the car. (They only let us have \$5.00 worth on the Pennsylvania turnpike.)

Do not depend on anything or anyone. The telephone did not work for two days. I could not even phone my married daughter who lives in the same city we do only three miles from here, let alone out of state.

The state workers went home to care for their own families so there was no government agency help. But one local employer we know of was more interested in his production schedule than the health of his people. You will have to decide ahead of time if you think that a threat to your health or life is more important than your job or not.

NO HELP

On the trip away from Harrisburg I called the Pennsylvania State Police and asked them if they could check us to see if we were radioactive. They said NO! The Sheriff said NO! The Civil Defense said NO! The State Police in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois all said NO! Even a hospital we stopped at said NO! The normal sources of help are not prepared to deal with nuclear radiation detection and measurement. If we knew that we were radioactive, then the best thing to do would have been to stop and wash down all our equipment and ourselves. But it is too big a job when you are on the run if you do not have to.

Having discovered that no one could check us to see if we were radioactive and having

lost all confidence in any form of government and actually believing by then that whatever we were told on TV was probably just the opposite (history has shown that we were right); I decided that if I really wanted to know what was going on I would have to have my own Geiger Counter (an electronic device to detect and measure atomic radiation). I ordered one sent to my destination in New Mexico.

DO IT YOURSELF!

The Geiger Counter arrived in Deming a few days after we did. I checked my family and my equipment thoroughly and we were clean. No radioactivity on us!

When we drove back to Harrisburg I checked the radiation background levels in New Mexico, Texas, Arizona, Arkansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Every place we stopped the reading was 18 counts per minute. (A relatively small amount.) We were greatly relieved to discover that our house had the same reading. In fact the houses of our friends were all the same. But those friends who had furnace filters had a higher reading at the filters that ranged from two to three times the normal reading. So a lot of furnace filters were changed after we got back.

I would have thought that the government would have advised the people to change their furnace filters and wash their clothes and bodies after exposure, but now it is obvious to see that if they did that either the Government or Met Ed. would become financially liable for the costs involved and the conspiracy doesn't want the people to realize that there is no money to pay the bills (relatively speaking) so they are just going to let the people be exposed to damaging radiation because of economic interests.



RADIATION SAFETY

There are two scientific principles that favorably contribute to our relative safety in regard to radiation. First, the wind spreads it around a lot so that no particular area gets a great amount. It is akin to pouring a box of talcum powder out the window of an airplane. By the time it floated to the ground you would be hardput to locate it. But if you just opened the top and poured it out on the floor, then anyone could see what you did.

Second, the amount of radiation drops off as the square of the distance. That means that only a little difference in distance makes a whole lot of difference in amount. Practically that means to run as fast as you can in order to get as far away as you can up to a practical limit of 30 miles.

In summary about radiation: At the present time our Geiger Counter shows us that there is no great concern to us about radiation. Technically, it should be stated that no radiation is good and all radiation (no matter how small) is bad as far as the human body is concerned. But there is a practical limit as to how little you can get because of the background radiation. There is no way to get away from it. Also, it is sad to report that before the atomic age the background radiation was only $\frac{1}{4}$ of what it is now.

MECHANICAL SAFETY

There is still a logical question about the mechanical safety of T.M.I. at this very moment. The N.R.C. has told us that they have brought the reactor to a "cool" shutdown. "Cool" is relative. The truth is that right now it is HOT! That is - if you believe that

steam at 270 degrees F is HOT. I think it is HOT. Even though they said that they brought it to a "cool" shutdown it is really 270 degrees high pressure steam. It is so hot that they are pumping large quantities of river water through a heat exchange to keep it from exploding. And they call it cool! Furthermore, the high pressure steam boiler is leaking highly radioactive high temperature water and steam out the cracks at a rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon per minute. I wouldn't call that safe! The TV networks presently report that everything is safe now. I feel that the networks have joined the government to pour salt in our wounds.

Everything is broken. The boiler is cracked and leaking. Nothing works. If that live steam eats out the cracks making them bigger and bigger, or if the weakened pipes break - then there will not be any water to keep on cooling the partly melted core of uranium. I believe that the Harrisburg area is still very unsafe because of the real and distinct possibility of further mechanical failure at T.M.I.

UNCOMFORTABLE

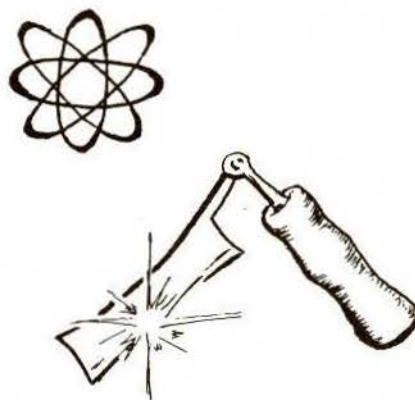
It is true that we are back home in Harrisburg but I feel very uncomfortable living here.

But remember that God told me by a supernatural vision and an audible voice that it would be a close-shave.

For that reason alone, I believe that the efforts of the world's greatest scientists and engineers combined with the prayers of Christians will result in an eventual victory over that beast.



AN UNEASY FEELING



A CLOSE SHAVE

NUCLEAR POWER

We believe that nuclear power is here to stay. We do not believe in returning to old fashioned systems. We do believe in advancing to improvements. We also believe that technology will develop new alternate energy systems but not in time to prevent the addition of many more nuclear reactors. I believe that there is a pressing need for a second generation engineering redesign incorporating the lessons learned into a whole new system of control and safety. I hope that this will be done before another reactor is built-anywhere!

CHANGE IN LAWS

From my actual experiences I want to see three changes in United States Federal law.

1. All new nuclear reactors should be built far away from population densities. (Thirty miles is a practical limit.)
2. All nuclear reactor operator Electric Companies should be completely financially responsible for liability for their errors. (If they do not have the money to be responsibly financially liable, then they should not have the right to disrupt our lives the way Met Ed did.) Repeal the Price Anderson Act!
3. No new plants should be built and no existing plants should be refueled until a proper safe and acceptable waste disposal system can be found. (It is very unfair for the people of Chicago to benefit from nuclear electricity and then send their lethal waste to the people of New Mexico.)

QUALIFICATIONS

David Ebaugh was a Senior member of the American Society of Tool and Manufacturing Engineers and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Society of American Value Engineers and the Institute of Industrial Engineers.

In the realm of atomic radioactivity he was an honor graduate of the U.S. Navy Radio Activity Monitor School, Great Lakes, Ill. 1949

PERSONAL RELOCATION??

At least three times a day (some days more) friends have called on the long distance telephone, all with the same question "Are you going to move away from Harrisburg?" Even our neighbors and close friends are asking. No, we are not going to move in the foreseeable future, because God has not provided for us in that realm.

DAVID EBAUGH BIBLE SCHOOL,

Written in May and June 1979

