

## **“A GIFT FOR MY CHOSEN ONE”**

By Rev. J.K. Golding



Mal.3:3 LB “Like a refiner of silver he will sit and closely watch as the dross is burned away. He will purify the Levites, the ministers of God, refining them like gold or silver, so they will do their work for God with pure hearts.”

Next to December, I guess this time of year is the big reason for gift giving! Mother’s day, Father’s day, Graduations and Weddings! The list goes on and on and on!

Immediately diamonds and gold comes to mind, given in one way or another, they deliver the message “*You are loved and precious to me!*”

Let us consider the diamond first! Diamonds are crystallized carbon, the hardest known substance, and when transparent and flawless, the *prize of the gemstones!* Its flash adorns the third finger of a girls’ left hand as the betrothal symbol. It was also that almost invisible sliver that produced soul stirring music on a phonograph. The diamond is that extremely hard point that enables a drill to cut through solid rock!

The diamond is the instrument God chose to speak to Israel concerning her sin in the Book of Jeremiah 17:1 A.V. “The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond. It is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars.”

The diamond was also in the priests’ breastplate, the third stone in the second row. (Ex.28:18) Two Greek words give us the name diamond and they mean, “*That which cannot be broken or unconquerable!*” No wonder a man gives the girl he has asked to be his wife, a diamond, the symbol of unbroken love and vows. Something for us to consider today as we give and accept a diamond!

Jeremiah speaks of the intense love Israel had for her idols, inwardly in their hearts and outwardly on their altar. They connected their idols to their place of worship, the altar! But the sin was lasting in God’s sight, written with a pen of iron (judgment, hard, destructive!) and the point of a diamond. What could remove such an intense inscription? Nothing but the Blood offering prescribed by God, the Passover lamb animal of the Old Testament, and the Passover Lamb of the New Testament, our LORD Jesus Christ!

1 Tim. 2:3-5 “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who will have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.”

Our other precious gift, the one of gold demands great attention! Gold is a bright yellow metallic element, the most precious of all metals, the most easily shaped and one of the heaviest. A Royal mineral and well qualified to speak of the Divinity of God, as it does in the



## SUDDEN STORMS!

John 6:16-21 v.20 “But He (Jesus) saith unto them, ‘It is I, be not afraid.’”

**Sudden storms!** In the summertime they often rise up without warnings, and if you don’t take shelter you can put your life at risk! The Bible gives warnings about many dangers in life! A wise person will take heed to the signs around them!

When the weather is beautiful and warm, people like to take a trip to enjoy God’s Creation! It is very relaxing to drive down a country road and see how tranquil everything seems to be! A boat ride can be exciting and refreshing! But things aren’t always as they seem to be!

Jesus’ disciples got a little impatient one night while waiting for Him to come back from a time alone on a mountain top. Although it was already dark, they got into their boat and headed out across the lake! After they rowed 3 or 4 miles out, a sudden storm caused rough water, and they felt the dangers it presented! If *that fear* wasn’t enough, they were *terrified* by a figure walking on the water toward them! They thought they were seeing a ghost! Can you imagine being in *that boat* on that dark and stormy night?

I have been on a boat in rough seas, and believe me, *it is very frightening!* The one who pilots the boat has to remain calm or the people on board as well as the craft can be suddenly lost! I had memorized all the compass points, and although it was storming so badly you could not see anything, with God’s help I was able to keep the boat on the proper course and we got back into the inlet without injury or loss! How important it is to have some Bible verses memorized so in times of dangers they can encourage our spirit and calm our minds! \*

The disciples were calmed down immediately when they heard the Voice of Jesus saying, “It is I, be not afraid!” When we go through the darkest nights or storms that suddenly threaten us, as soon as we *hear the Voice of our LORD*, we are able to keep panic away! Summer trips are common for many people. Making sure you have with you items needed for emergencies is a very wise thing! The Bible teaches us to be alert and to be prepared!

When we start on our spiritual walk with the LORD, there is excitement and encouragement from others, but at some point in our walk, we will suddenly seem to be all alone! The path we are on is not familiar! It seems dark and dangerous! At this point we need some of those verses! Isa. 42:16 “I will lead them in paths they have not known.” When we are in a “blind place”, pause and look for the Lord! He will come walking to you on your stormy waves to bring peace to your soul! We have His Promise that He will never leave nor forsake us!

Enjoy your summer, but keep alert and do not let sudden storms catch you unprepared!

Blessings unto you! Mary Mayko 2006

\* True story! 1974.

**“He Calmed the Storm!”**

**The lightening was flashing and the waves were so high!  
*This storm was so frightening I thought I would die!***

**My poor ship was so small in such a raging force,  
And I knew the winds had blown me ‘way off course!**

**Inside the boat there was no sound to be heard!  
Was I alone! No, Jesus *was* there but didn’t say a word!**

**I ran quickly to wake him, would He hear my cry?  
“Disaster is upon us, pouring out of the sky!”**

**“Don’t you care Lord that I am sinking fast?  
Just *how long* will this trial be! How long can I last?”**

**He spoke gently to me, “*Haven’t you learned yet not to worry?*”  
*Then with just one word, He calmed the storms’ fury!***

**Mary Mayko 1995**



**Testimony: Mary Mayko - Jan. 1984**

### **“AN INSTRUMENT OF GOD”**

**Rom.6:13 KJV**

**“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.”**

Coming home from a cottage prayer meeting one night in January of 1984, I heard the Voice of the LORD in my Spirit! It was rather frightening, yet exciting as we had just experienced the sweet Presence of God while gathered for prayer with other Believers! As we left their home that night, I still felt bathed with a peaceful awe!

The Voice of the LORD spoke to my spirit what I thought was a rather startling message! “I want you to be a willing instrument for Me.” When I heard the word, “Instrument”, my mind went immediately to my Wurlitzer Organ in my living room! The thought came, “O, like an organ!” But the Voice of the LORD quickly answered my thought with an emphatic “NO! A violin!”

Knowing nothing at all about a violin except it can make beautiful music, I objected to the LORD! “I know about an organ, but a violin? *Are You sure LORD?*” Funny how we can clearly “hear” what God has to say, but because what He tells us seems so strange to us, we begin to question or even challenge Him! If God wanted me to be an instrument, why not something I was familiar with?” I find that the LORD often leads us down a new road and since we do not know the way, we *have* to let Him lead us!

After a few more times of the LORD’S insistence that the instrument *HAD* to be a violin, I said, “OK, LORD, but I don’t understand why or what all this means!” *As soon* as I said “OK”, the dialog was over! All the way home I sat silent and in a daze, reflecting on what the LORD had said to me! “*A violin!*” What strange instruction from God! All through the night my mind was whirling about with the events of the prayer meeting and the message from the LORD I had received in the car! Just *what* was God trying to tell me and *what was I supposed to do about it!*

The next morning I found the Scripture verse from Rom.6:13. Well, I was already a Believer, and had no desire to displease the LORD with deliberate sin. How could I know just how to yield myself to what He wanted? Meditating on the verse, I knew most true Believers would want to be used as instruments of righteousness! I reflected on music instruments and suddenly realized that instruments alone are not useful, as they cannot bring forth music by themselves! When a great Musician gives a Concert, the audience does not applaud the instrument, but rather the skill, the talent, that touch of a master’s hand!

Sometimes God does a mighty work through us, and we as the human creatures we are, tend to get a little *puffed up!* The Word of God warns us not to worship the Creation but the

**Creator! We are to humble ourselves before Almighty God! If He wants our position exalted in any way, He alone will bring that to pass! James 5:6 “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time.”**

**If man exalts himself, God will soon find a way to humble him! Prov.16:18 “Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.”**

**“Think on these things” Phil 4:8b As I dwelt on these facts, the LORD impressed that He is the Master Musician and until He takes me out of that violin case and puts me into His arms, I am like a lifeless instrument!**

**An instrument can also be a tool of various kinds that accomplish much when used by the right Operator! Once we understand without Him, we can do nothing, with Him, we become useful!**

**A violin is a lovely instrument made of delicately carved wood. It can make awesome sounds in the hands of a Master, but very discordant screeching if an amateur strikes the strings with a bow!**

**I began to research all I could find on violins and was amazed at what I discovered! I had studied Typology in my Bible School Lessons. Suddenly those lessons took on new and significant meanings! The violin consists of a body or bax, a bridge, four pegs, four catgut strings (the largest string wrapped with a silver coated copper wire. The bow is made of fine flexible wood with horsehairs. It is rubbed with rosin and grips the strings as it moves across them creating a vibration. The correct tension has to be secured by twisting the pegs. It only makes four notes, but by using the fingers to press down on the neck the string can be shortened and its tone raised. The number and nature of the tones are only limited by the capability of the player. Harmonics can be produced by touching, not pressing the strings. The violin is without a doubt the most “human” of all musical instruments! It can be made to laugh, to cry, to scream or sing and to express any emotion that does not require articulate speech!**

**Why is all this important and what could it mean to me? As I meditated on all these things, I thought of the Typology lessons again!**

**WOOD:** represents humanity! Christ was born a human baby and was our living example, enduring all the same pains and temptations we face, so He fully understands all our problems!

**CATGUT:** reminds me of my unrighteousness!

**SILVER coated copper wire:** Silver is symbolic of salvation, and copper represents judgment!

**FOUR STRINGS:** Four Gospels, Good News!

**PEGS:** As the pegs are tightened, reminds me God applies pressures to conform us into the Image of Christ!

**NECK:** We need to bow before the LORD!

**BRIDGE:** Christ is our Bridge from Earth to Heaven!

**BODY/BAX:** All parts are attached to it, as we must be attached to His Body.

**BOW:** As the bow moves in the Master's hands to make music, we must be flexible, bowing and moving in His hands and Will.

**ROSIN:** Made from evergreen trees, daily strength of Holy Spirit and Eternal Life, a beautiful instrument in the hands of the Master Musician, Christ our LORD!

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John 15:5 c "Without Me, ye can do nothing."

**Bible. Pure gold does not tarnish and goes through the fire without color change caused by oxidation.**

**Palestine had no known source of gold, but Israel was familiar with it from her days in Egypt. Gold was plentiful in the reigns of David and Solomon, and was used lavishly. In the tabernacle, gold was used in the ark, cherubim, tables, candlesticks, altar and many vessels. Think of it! The Temple, as well as the King's palace was overlaid with this precious metal!**

**Exodus 28:6 bears out the fact of using small threads of gold, cut from extremely thin gold sheets, and then woven into exquisite cloth! Artifacts of hammered gold from as early as 3500 B.C. are to be found in museums around the world!**

**The candlestick, the only source of light in the Tabernacle was also the most fashioned (hammered and worked on) piece of furniture to be found there.**

**Christian friend, as we hear (or see?) His Light in this dark world. We too, find ourselves "*worked on and hammered*" by friends, family and circumstances, "*Heated*" by a furnace experience to show us the impurities in our heart!**

**In Malachi, the last Book of the Old Testament, the Word speaks to us in chapter 3 of the approach of the Day of Judgment. We are told of God's messenger preparing the way of the LORD! In verse 3, we have a picture of Him sitting as a refiner and purifier for the sons of Levi, servants of the Most High God, the priesthood!**

**We, the Believers, are the spiritual priesthood in our world today, and we still have the dross that must be removed if the beautiful bright shiny gold is to appear! The hotter the fire, the purer the gold! There He is watching us closely, removing the impurities of heart that tarnish us. When all the dross is taken from the gold of the Christian, we will be taken from the furnace of trial!**

**Remember! Gold and diamonds are a part of the Bride's apparel!**

**1 Peter 1:7 KJV "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ."**

**Excerpt from "Echoes for Today's Listening" by Rev. J K Golding**