

American Decency Association

PO Box 202, Fremont, MI 49412 231-924-4050 www.americandecency.org

Encouraging Christians to guard their hearts

January 2013

The White Sheets Are Still Out

By Donald E. Wildmon



Several years ago I ran across what is, to me, one of the most beautiful stories I have ever heard. Maybe you are familiar with it, maybe not. I still want to pass it along. A fellow by the name of G. W. Rosenberg told it. He's dead now, but the story lives.

Dr. Rosenberg was riding a train across the state to attend a conference. There were few people on the train, and he couldn't keep from noticing a young man who seemed very nervous. Everyone seemed to notice how restless and tense he was. He would take a seat, sit for a moment, get up and move. Finally Dr. Rosenberg went over to where the young man was, sat down beside him and spoke. "What's your trouble, son? Is

something bothering you? I would certainly like to be of help if I can."

The young man looked at Dr. Rosenberg for a moment and then spoke. "I don't mind telling you. Do you know where Springvale is?" Dr. Rosenberg answered, "Isn't it the next stop?" The young man spoke again. "Yes, sir. We will be there in just a few minutes. That's my home. I lived there until three years ago I had a quarrel with my father. I told him he would never see me again. I packed my bags and left. It has been hard during the past three years. Many times I have wanted to go back. I wrote mother often. I wrote her last week and told her I would be passing through. I told her I would like to stop for a moment if it was all right with Daddy. I told her that if Daddy said it was all right, for them to hang something white outside the house and I could see it when the train passed. I told her not to do it unless Daddy agreed. She would do it anyway, you know."

There was a period of quietness. The boy looked

out the window. Then the terrain became familiar. The train was nearing the house where his parents lived. He spoke to Dr. Rosenberg excitedly. "Mister, would you look for me. It is the next house, just around the bend. I just can't look. If there isn't something white... I just can't look."

The train slowed for the curve and jerked a bit stopping for the water tank. Nearly forgetting everything, Dr. Rosenberg just about shouted. "Look, son, look!" The little farmhouse was there amid the trees. But you could hardly see it for the white. The parents had taken everything white they could get their hands on and hung it out on the hill side. Every sheet, bed spread, towel, sock, handkerchief - everything white they could find - was hung on that hill side. The boy became very nervous and pale. His fingers gripped the cheap suitcase. He was out of the car before it had completely stopped. The last passengers saw of him he was running up the hill

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to his home as fast as his feet would carry him.

It is an ageless story. Remember how He told it: “But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him...” The white sheets are still out. And so many need to come home.

[Taken from: Nuggets of Gold by Donald E. Wildmon, 1970]. Rev. Wildmon is the founder of the American Family Association. Nuggets of Gold is a devotional book and one of other books he has written.

*“He went out, not knowing whither he went.”
Hebrew 11:8*

**Will You Go Out
Without Knowing?**

By Oswald Chambers

Have you ever “gone out” in this way? If so, there is no logical answer possible when anyone asks you what you are doing. One of the most difficult questions to answer in Christian work is, “What do you expect to do?” You don’t know what you are going to do. The only thing you know is that God knows what He is doing. Continually examine your attitude toward God to see if you are willing to “go out” in every area of your life, trusting in God entirely. It is this attitude that keeps you in constant wonder, because you don’t know what God is going to do next. Each morning as you wake, there is a new opportunity to “go out,” building your confidence in God. “. . . do not worry about your life . . . nor about the body . . .” (Luke 12:22). In other words, don’t worry about the things that concerned you before you did “go out.”

Have you been asking God what He is going to do? He will never tell you. God does not tell you what He is going to do— He reveals to you who He is. Do you believe in a miracle-working God, and will you “go out” in complete surrender to Him until you are not surprised one iota by anything He does?

Believe God is always the God you know Him to be when you are nearest to Him. Then think how unnecessary and disrespectful worry is! Let the attitude of your life be a continual willingness to “go out” in dependence upon God, and your life will have a sacred and inexpressible charm about it that is very satisfying to Jesus. You must learn to “go out” through your convictions, creeds, or experiences until you come to the point in your faith where there is nothing between yourself and God.

[Taken from: My Utmost For His Highest by Oswald Chambers]

My Utmost For His Highest is one of the most popular devotionals of all time being read by people such as former President George W. Bush.

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