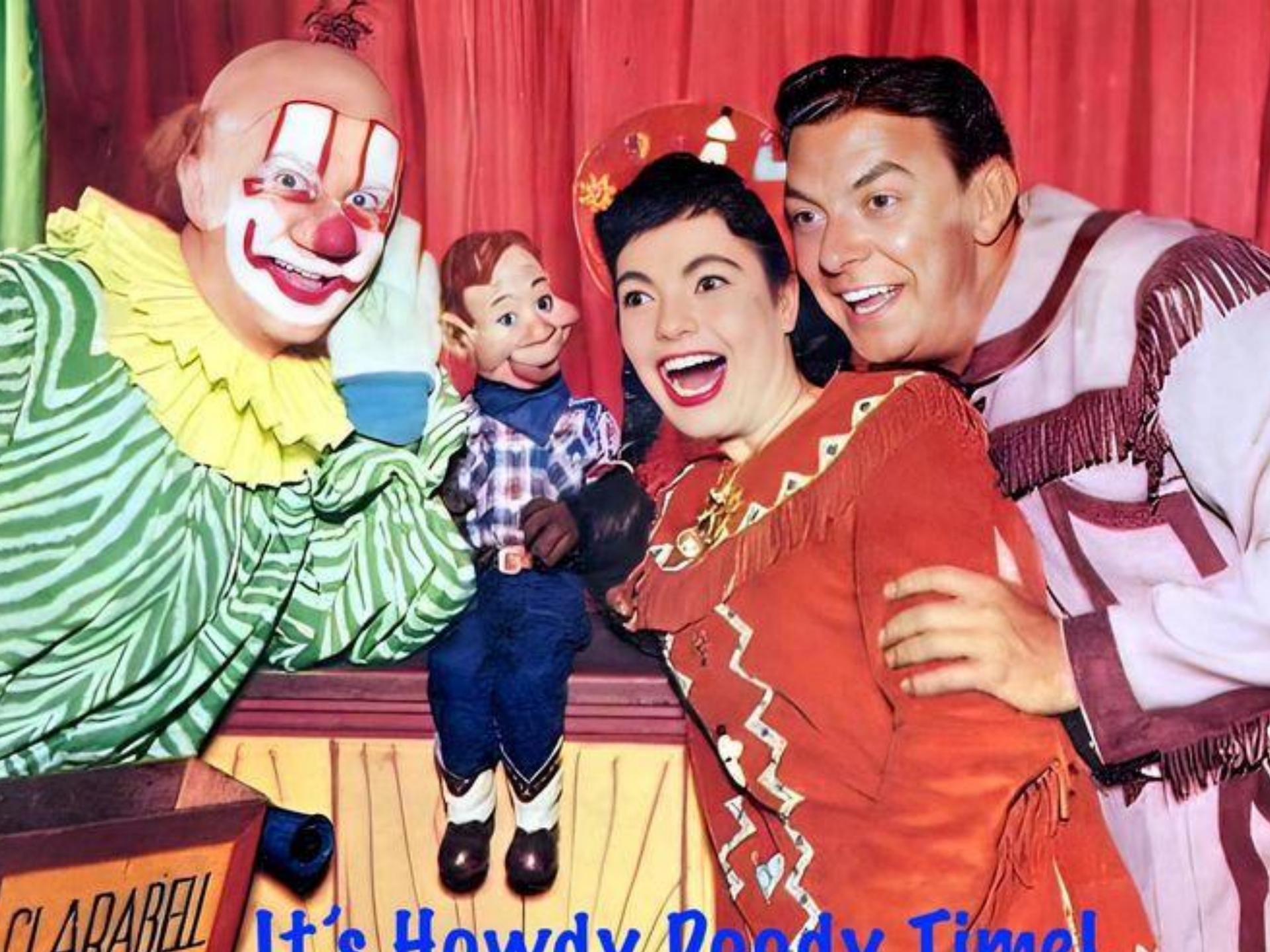


Hey Kids!

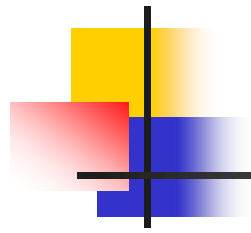


**What Day Is
It?**



CLARABEL

It's Howdy Doody Time!



Mind Blown, Mic Drop

“The Church is not a religious community of worshippers *of* Christ, but ***is Christ himself*** who has taken form among men.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer,

Ethics (ed. Simon and Schuster, 2012) -

ISBN: 9781451688504



Really? How Does that Work?

- **1 Corinthians 12:7** But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *[insert long list of gifts here.]*
- **12** For even as the body is one and *yet* has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, **so also is Christ.** **13** For ^[a]by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.



Let Me Your Shocked Face

- So, when you “get saved,” you don’t become a saved but still individual free moral agent, still independent but now better equipped to live your life with more blessings throughout eternity
- NO, no, no, no ... when we are born again and the Holy Spirit takes residence within us, it is for the express purpose of becoming a part of HIS BODY, filled his life and gifted with supernatural abilities from Him so He can impact the world through us



This May Come As News ...

- **1 Corinthians 6:19** Or do you not know that your body is a [a]temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from [b]God, **and that you are not your own?** ²⁰ For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.
- When you gave your life to Jesus, did anyone say to you, “Welcome to the Body of Christ. You are now a Part of HIM and you longer have the right to control your own life?”



The Church is Jesus!!

- **Colossians 1:18** **He is also head of the body, the church**; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything.
- Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I [ag]do my share on behalf of His body, **which is the church**, in filling up what is lacking [ah]in Christ's afflictions.



Living Stones in His Temple

1 Peter 2:4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is [i]choice and precious in the sight of God, **⁵ you also, as living stones,** [i]are being built up as a **spiritual house** for a **holy priesthood,** **to offer up spiritual sacrifices** acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.



And Then it Hit Me

- The church is HIS body and HIS temple
- His Plan –our destiny– is for His life and His glory **to dwell in us** and be revealed, released and expressed through **US** to the whole world.
- But if the Body is not united, His temple is in ruins, and His Kingdom cannot come on the earth
- What I saw: The ground littered with body parts, like from some slasher movie, and the landscape covered in bricks and blocks and shattered columns and broken friezes because there is no unity or shared vision for the Body of Christ on earth



Original Blue Print=Protection

- 42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and [ao]to prayer.
- 43 [ap]Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and [aq]signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.



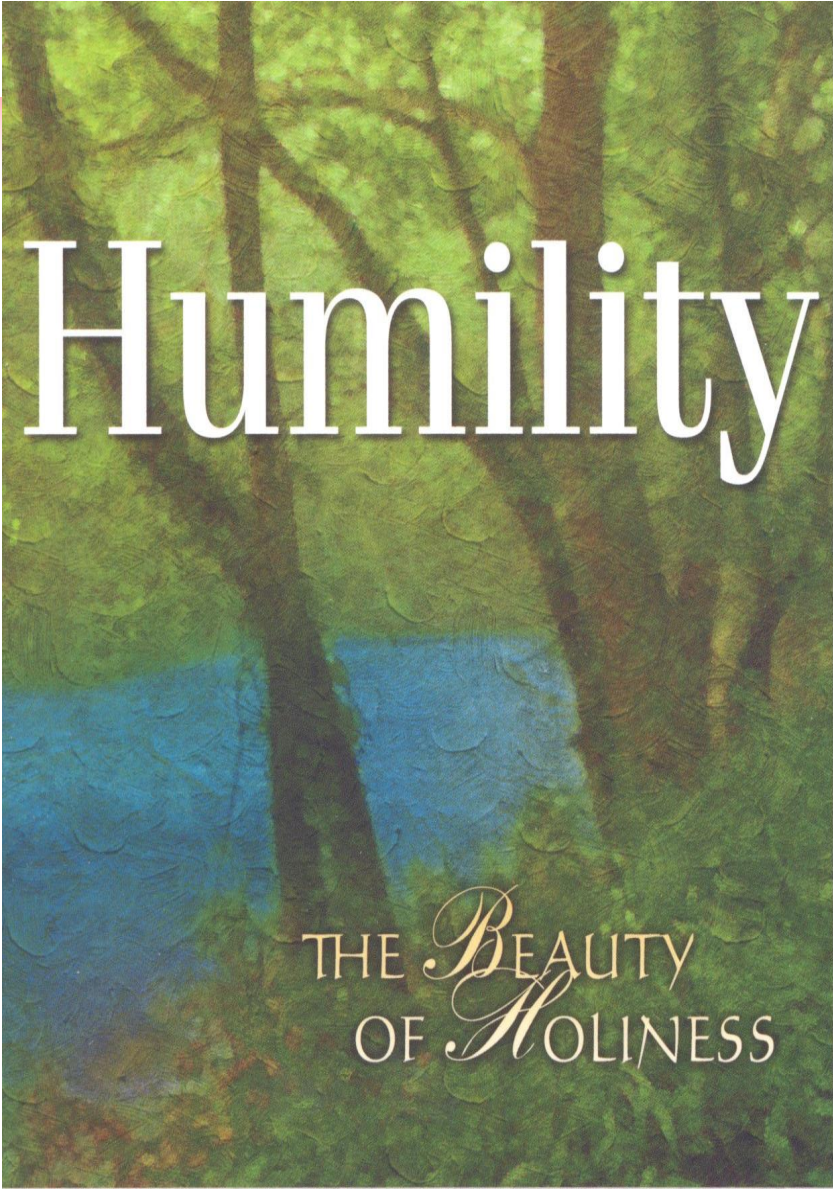
Life Together

- **46 Day by day** continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from **house to house, they were taking their [at]meals together with gladness and [au]sincerity of heart,** **47** praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding [av]to their number day by day those who were being saved.
- How much does this resemble any experience of the church you have ever encountered?



Safety in Community

- **Hebrews 3:12** Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.
- **13** But encourage one another **day after day, as long as it is *still* called “Today,”** so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.



Humility

THE *BEAUTY*
OF *HOLINESS*

ANDREW MURRAY

The life God bestows is imparted not once for all, **but each moment continuously, by the unceasing operation of his mighty power.**

Humility, the place of entire dependence on God, is from the very nature of things, the **first duty** and the highest virtue of the creature.



Humility

THE *BEAUTY*
OF *HOLINESS*

ANDREW MURRAY

And so pride,
or the loss
of this
humility, is
the root of
every sin and
evil!



Safety in Community

- **Hebrews 3:12** Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.
- **13** But encourage one another **day after day, as long as it is *still* called “Today,”** so that none of you will be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.
- If daily encouragement was so urgent in 60 AD, in that much simpler culture, **HOW MUCH MORE URGENT MUST IT BE TODAY** with all the temptations and distractions we face?



Hold On To Each Other

- **Hebrews 10:23** Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;
- **24** and let us consider how to **stimulate one another to love** and good deeds,
- **25** not **forsaking our own assembling together**, as is the habit of some, **but encouraging *one another*, and all the more** as you see the day drawing near.



The Road Goes On Forever

- Col 3:12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved,
- put on a heart of compassion, kindness humility, gentleness and [k]patience;
- ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. ¹⁴ Beyond all these things **put on love, which is [l]the perfect bond of unity.**



The Party Never Ends

■ ¹⁵ Let the peace of Christ [m] rule in your hearts, to which [n] indeed you were called in one body; and [o] be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of [p] Christ richly dwell within you, [q] with all wisdom teaching and **admonishing** [r] **one another** with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing [s] with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.



What Day Is It???

- TODAY!!! IT WILL ALWAYS BE TODAY!
- AND EVERY DAY I will need to be encouraged by you and you will need to be encouraged by me and we will all need to be encouraged by each other,
- OR WE WILL BE HARDENED AND DECEIVED INTO THINKING THAT WE CAN DO THINGS WITHOUT DEPENDING COMPLETELY ON JESUS FOR EVERYTHING





Good News!, YOU Are

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY