

December 6th

Memory Verse

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night;
in the which the heavens shall pass away
with a great noise,
and the elements shall melt
with fervent heat,
the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 2 Peter 3:10

“The day of the Lord” is that great day when this earth will come to an end as the verse explains. “As a thief in the night” means “when we do not expect it.” For memorizing you can think of the verse as a statement followed by a list of three things that will happen. The first two of those happenings also have a few words of description attached to them by the word “with”. Young children can learn the words in bold and understand that Christians look forward to that great day when Jesus will come again, although we do not know when it will be. Then there will be a new heaven and a new earth.¹ When Christians look around at the world and see terrible things happening it is a comfort to be able to say, “But the day of the Lord will come.”

An old Record Book



Lady Grizel (or Grizell) Baillie, *née* Hume, (1665 – 1746) died on 6th December after a long and eventful life. Lady Baillie was a Scot and Scots have a reputation for being good with money. Lady Baillie certainly lived up to the reputation: she kept detailed accounts of all her household expenditure from shortly after her marriage in 1692 until shortly before her death. Historians are grateful to her as these accounts give them all sorts of information which would not otherwise be available covering everything from what foods people ate and wore to how much and when they paid their servants.

Here is an extract in her own spelling. Can you “translate” it?

Derections for the House Keeper

...To get up airly is most necessary to see that all the maids and other servants be about their proper business, a constant care and attention is required to every thing that there be no waste nor any thing neglected that should be don. The dayry carefully lookt after, you to keep the kie of the inner milk house where the butter and milk is, see the butter weighted when churn'd, and salt what is not wanted fresh, to help to make the cheese and every now and then as often as you have time to be at the milking of the cows. Keep the maids closs at their spinning till 9 at night when they are not washing or at other necessary work, weight out to them exactly the soap, and often go to the wash house to see it is not wasted but made the proper use of, and that there be no linnen washt there but those of the family that are alowed to do it. often see that they waste not fire either in the wash house or Landry and that the Landry be kept clean. Take care that the Cooks waste not butter, spices, nor any thing amongst their hands, nor embasel it, and that the kitchin fire be carefully lookt after and no waste, let it be getherd after diner and the cinders throwen up that non be throwen

¹ Revelation 21:1.

out, neither from that nor by the Chamber maid. Make the kitchin maid keep all the places you have lookt up very clean, also the kitchin, Hal and passages, and see the Cook feed the fowls that are put up right and keep them clean or they can never be fat nor good. To take care the house be kept clean and in order, help to sheet and make the strangers beds, that the beds and sheets be dry and well aired. get account from the chamber maid of what candles she gets from you for the rooms and see there be no waste of candle nor fire any where. Keep the key of the cole house but when it is wanted to get out coals, but be sur it be always lockt at night...

I have put my “translation” in the Optional Resources files for today if you want to check yours against it. This is only *part* of the housekeeper's duties that Lady Baillie outlines. It certainly sounds like hard work – and not just for the housekeeper!

Here is her account of a grand meal she had while staying at a great house in Twickenham on a visit of eight days. This time I've “corrected” her spelling for you using square brackets.

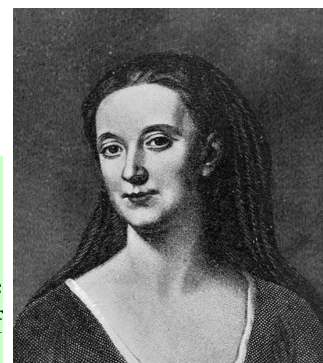
We had always an Eparn [epergne – see below] in the mid[d]le, 2 dish[es] at first [course], 4 at 2nd, 6 at the last, the variety was soups, peas, Mager [?], gravie [gravy], rise [rice], barl[e]y, vermaselly [vermacilli], variety of meat was ro[a]st Bieff [beef], Bra[w]n, st[e]wd cops [?], pigions [pigeons], minsd pys [minced pies], boyld [boiled] lamb, ro[a]st lamb, boyd [boiled] foull [fowl, i.e chicken], ro[a]st foull [fowl] and sa[u]sages, jack [?], hard fish, stewed rump bieff [beef], boyld beaff [boiled beef], ro[a]st veall [veal], ragu'd [ragù of] breast veall [veal], Turkie [Turkey], chean [chine a kind of joint of meat] pork, ro[a]sted breast of pork, Lamb, boyld [boiled] and backed [baked] pudin[g], orang pudin[g], Asparagras [Asparagus], Brocaly [brocoli] w^t [with]sa[u]sages, vension [venison] Pasty, ro[a]st venison, ro[a]st mutton, wild Ducks, rabets [rabbits], boyld [boiled] wild ducks w^t [with] ounions [onions], larks, ro[a]st goos[e], boyld [boiled]goose, sturge[o]n, rague [ragù of] sweat breads [sweetbreads], hogs pud[d]ings and white ones, lamb frys [fries], fricassy [fricassee] rabets [rabbits], ro[a]st rabets [rabbits].

Cops, (unless she mean chops!) *Mager* and *Jack* defeat me – do you have any suggestions? Use a cookery book to find out what is the exact difference between *stewed*, *boiled*, *roast* and *baked*. Does it tell you how to make *brawn*, a *ragù* or a *fricassee*? How many different kinds of meat are mentioned by Lady Baillie? Do you think you would have enjoyed this meal?

A story to read from history

Lady Grizel Baillie, *née* Hume is not just famous for her account books. She had an adventurous life. Here is an account of it from an old book:

Grizel Hume, born in 1665, was daughter of Patrick Hume, Baron of Polwarth, and became the wife of George Baillie of Jerviswoode. She began her life during the troubles of the Scottish persecution.² At the time of her father's liberation from prison, she was little more than ten years of age; and, soon after, those romantic incidents occur in her life which have given her a historical celebrity.



² The so called “Killing Time” when Scots Presbyterians suffered intense persecution under Charles II and his brother James Duke of York, later King James II of England and VII of Scotland.

From the tact and activity with which, far beyond one of her years,³ she accomplished whatever she was entrusted with, her parents sent her on confidential missions, which she executed with singular fidelity and success. In the summer of that same year, when Robert Baillie of Jerviswoode, the early and intimate friend of her father, was imprisoned for rescuing his brother-in-law, Mr James Kirkton, from a wicked persecutor, Captain William Carstairs, she was sent by her father from his country-house to Edinburgh, a long road, to try if from her age she could get admittance into the prison unsuspected, and slip a letter of information and advice into his hand, and bring back from him what intelligence she could.

Proceeding on her journey, she succeeded in getting access to Baillie, though we are not informed in what way. But in whatever way young Grizel got access to Baillie, and whatever were the circumstances of their interview, she successfully accomplished the purpose of her mission. It is also to be observed, that it was in the prison on this occasion that she first saw Mr Baillie's son, and that then and there originated that intimacy and attachment between him and her which afterwards issued in their happy marriage.⁴

When, in October 1683, Robert Baillie was apprehended in London and sent down a prisoner to Scotland, her father, who was implicated in the same patriotic measures for preventing a popish successor to the British throne,⁵ for which Baillie was arrested, had too good ground to be alarmed for his own personal safety. But he was allowed, it would appear, to remain undisturbed in his own house till the month of September next year, when orders were issued by the government for his apprehension; and a party of troops had come to his house on two different occasions for that purpose, though they failed in getting hold of him. Upon this he found it necessary to withdraw from home, and to keep himself in concealment till he got an opportunity of going over to the Continent. The spot to which he betook himself for shelter was the family burying-place, a vault underground at Polwarth Church, at the distance of a mile from the house. Where he was no person knew but Lady Grizel Hume, and one man, James Winter, a carpenter, who used to work in the house, and of whose fidelity they were not disappointed. The frequent examinations to which servants were at that time subjected, and the oaths⁶ by which it was attempted to extort discoveries from them, made Grizel and her mother afraid to commit the secret to any of these.

By the assistance of James Winter, they got a bed and bed-clothes carried during the night to his hiding-place; and there he was concealed for a month, during which time the only light he had was that admitted by means of a chink at one end, through which nobody on the outside could see who or what was in the interior.⁷ While he abode in this receptacle of the dead, Grizel, with the most exemplary filial tenderness, and with the most vigilant precaution, ministered to his temporal wants and comforts. Regularly at midnight, when men were sunk in sleep, she went alone to this dreary vault, carrying to him a supply of food and drink, and to bear him company. She stayed as long as she could, taking care to get home before day, to prevent discovery.



3 She was twelve years old.

4 They were married in 1692.

5 This refers to the Rye House Plot of 1683 which was an attempt to assassinate Charles II and the Duke of York. Robert Baillie, already a very sick man and dying, was executed for his alleged, but unproven, involvement in the Rye House plot on 23 December 1684.

6 The servants would be made to swear that they did not know where their master was. If they refused to swear it would be taken that they knew. They would then probably be tortured in order to make them reveal what they knew. It was better for them not to know.

7 Image courtesy of Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association. Polwarth church was rebuilt in 1703. The vault is still underneath but now there is a grating into the vault from outside as in the picture.

She had a great deal of humour in telling a story; and during her stay she took a delight in telling him, nor was he less delighted in hearing her tell him, such incidents at home as had amused herself and the rest of the family, and these were often the cause of much mirth and laughter to them both.

Grizel's adventures were continued into Holland, whither her father retired,⁸ and where she showed her natural traits of sagacity, those marks of genius for which she has been celebrated. She wrote many pieces of poetry, and one in particular, "Werna my heart licht I would dee," which has been praised as simple, lively, and tender...

Extracted from *Women of History Selected from the Writings of Standard Authors* (1890)

When wicked King James II ran away and William and Mary became King and Queen of England, Mr Hume and his family were able to return in safety. No doubt the troubles they had to endure made them think often of the coming of the "Day of the Lord" that we looked at in our memory verse. When that great day comes there will be no more persecution, prison and death for God's people but eternal joy in the presence of God.

You may need to use a dictionary to help you with some of the words the writer has used here. Make a list of any that are unfamiliar to you and write sentences of your own using them. I have put a simple version of this story for younger readers in today's Optional Resources files.

Something to make



By Daderot - Own work, CC0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=81643927>

"We had always an Eparn in the midle," wrote Lady Grizel in the extract from her account book that I gave you above. "Eparn" was her way of spelling "epergne" but perhaps you (like me) are still none the wiser as to what she was talking about! You can see an eighteenth century epergne in the picture. This one is silver but it could be made of glass, china or anything pretty. It would be filled with fruit or flowers and placed in the centre of a dining table. A feature of an epergne is that it usually consists of small separate dishes, bowls, fluted vases or parts and these are often detachable. You can see these in the picture. Perhaps individual guests could be handed or select one each.

It would be fun to make your own epergne. You could rig up something out of cardboard (for fruit not flowers!) or simply make an arrangement of separate bowls close together in the centre of the table. One cereal bowl full of fruit surrounded by egg cups or small glasses might do. It is not a good time of year for flowers but you could fill the egg cups with tiny bunches of seasonable leaves such as holly, fragments of other evergreens or festive decorations. Another idea might be a tall vase of big evergreens (tied with bright ribbons for colour) surrounded by individual bowls or glasses of fruit or even little edible treats. Anything you can make like this would help to make a family meal extra special. Don't forget to take a picture of it *before* you eat the fruit!

⁸ i.e. escaped.

Something to think about

On 6th December 1906 some photographs⁹ of Stonehenge¹⁰ were put on display at the London premises of the Society of Antiquaries. You can see one of the photos below. These were the first



photographs of any archaeological monument in Britain ever to be taken from the air. They were taken from a hydrogen balloon, probably towards the end of September 1906, by 2nd Lieutenant Philip Sharpe of the Royal Engineers' Balloon Section. The Royal Engineers had started using hydrogen balloons as early as 1878 and from 1881 (and maybe before) had carried out experiments with using them for photography. As the military use of aerial photographs increased during the first and second world wars it became apparent also that archaeologists could make good use of similar techniques.

Sometimes it is easier to see an archaeological feature from the air than it is to see it from the ground. New archaeological sites have been discovered when aerial pictures have been examined because very small variations in ground conditions which have been caused by things buried in the ground can be spotted from the air. Slight differences in ground levels often indicate a buried site. These cast shadows when the sun is low in the sky which can be seen most easily from the air. They are called **shadow marks** and are one of the things aerial archaeologists look out for. A buried ditch can often form part of an archaeological site. A buried ditch will hold more water than the ground around it, making crops grow differently to those in the surrounding area. This gives rise to what are known as **crop marks**. These are much more easy to see from the air than from the ground. Then there are **frost marks** caused where water has gathered along the lines of buried archaeological features. In cold weather on ploughed fields these show up from the air. **Soil marks** appear when archaeological features underground cause a difference in soil colour. These can also be spotted from the air on ploughed fields. Aerial photos taken after heavy rain can show differences in the way water behaves caused by what is buried under the ground. In some places there are lines on the ground that do not seem to have any particular meaning. From the air, however they form a pattern or picture that indicates the site of an archaeological site or feature.

9 Photo from <http://www.sarsen.org> by kind permission.

10 See the lessons for 21st and 2nd of June for more about Stonehenge itself.

This strange picture of a monkey, for instance, is marked in the soil of the Nazca Desert in the south of Peru along with many other patterns and pictures. The monkey is 93 by 58 metres in size and is difficult to see when you are on the ground. From the air, however, the whole display of patterns and picture becomes clear.

There are parallels to this in other areas of life too. It is hard for us earth-bound mortals to see the true shape of things. We are creatures of time and cannot see the future. The whole discipline of archaeology should point out to us just how little we know about the past. **But the day of the Lord will come.** Then we will see the true pattern of everything. God's children will rejoice to see the truth of what they have believed "...all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."¹¹



11 Romans 8:28.