

moral perspectives

Rev. Charles Erickson

## The meaning of heaven differs according to the way we seek to get there

News about the transition from Alexander Haig to George Shultz in the office of Secretary of State includes a fascinating lession for all of us. They share the same goals that should be expected of appointees of the same president. Reporters point out, however, that the two men have quite different respectives.

Shared goals with different perspec-tives gets us into the old debate about

perspectives.

Shared goals with different perspectives gets us into the old debate about the relationship of means and ends. Moral philosophy has long taught that the means becomes part of the end so we will not necessarily achieve the same goal by different methods.

A common remark that the choice of religion isn't important because we all want to go to heaven just isn't true. Haig is described as a military man who thinks about contering Russian feforts, building ailiances, protectionism, thwarting enemies, and suppressing rebels. Shultz is described as an economic man who thinks analyticating in rebels. Shultz is described as an economic man who thinks analytication as a fixilistic progress. Viewing life as a military or as a business process makes a striking difference.

MOST OF OUR debates and choices

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MOST OF OUR debates and choices are not about goals but about the route to alms we share. We all want peace, for example. We would agree that a health care system must be adequate to the needs, scientifically advanced and compassionate. We argue about responsibility for the system by those in immediate need and those who are only potential users, about the economics of scientific development, and about the meaning of commassion.

scientific development, and about the meaning of compassion.
Perspective looms as more crucial than goals. The masthead of this column uses a plural world which hints there are many moral perspectives, not the plural means we write about the perspective on many issues. We look at issues with a priority on morality rather than on economics or the military or any number of other areas.

Education and experience equip a person to think a certain way. Each profession has its own way of thinking. Lawyers think in a legal perspective, clergy in a theological perspective, and so on. All of us are often advised to think in the historical perspective. The perspective of a muther is revealed when riding in a residential area with a mother driving and feeling the car slow at every chance to look and marvel at a child at play. Perspective is a way of viewing reality. It sets priorities.

IN A DEMOCRACY, each of us is a little secretary of state. We must comprehend complex issues, voice on opinions and vote for candidates whose perspective seems best to us. We need to be more aware of our own perspective. Such awareness enables us to weed out some views, cultivate some and grow as citizens.

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One of the major features of this century is the necessity of thinking more inclusively. This is one planet with people interacting in one world. Our perspective simply must become broader. We must become uncomfortable with our tendencies to be provincially narrow or colonially manipulative.

Perspective came into our language from a word meaning to look through. It has slight ancient relationship to the root of perceptive which means to see with discernment. The lesson from the news is that awareness of perspective increases perception. The added benefit is becoming more self confident as we become more sensitive to our own perspective.

perspective.

Experts are self confident. We can be experts by cultivating the best of the confidence which comes with the midst of distractions and temptations to change a different game. Each of us owes ourselves the self-confidence which comes with clarity about our perspective.



## 70 percent of amputations done are due to diabetes

Dear Jo: I am a diabetic. Why should diabetics take such good care of their feet? Miss C.

Diabetics are susceptible to many types of infections, and once an infection occurs, especially in the feet, treatment can be difficult. Healing is slow because the diabetics circulation to his/her feet is decreased and is unable to carry sufficient oxygen, mitrients and antibodies to the injured site. Also, infections increase the diabetic standard in the complications.

Seventy percent of a spitial continuation of the are due to diabetic and the other of the complications.

Seventy percent of a spitial continuation of the amputees are the diabetic can diabete and allow in five years. Here can be comprehended to the care of your feet allow in the continuation of the continuati

cleansing.

If your feet are moist, apply a powder, such as corn starch; if they are dry, you can use an antifugal solution or thin cram

or thin cream.

• Cut toenails straight across and file down sharp edges. If your vision is poor, do not cut your own toenails. I would recommend that you have this done by a professional.

- If your feet are cold, wear wool socks. Do not apply a hot water bottle or heating pad.
  Never go barefoot.
  See a podiatrist regularly.
  Record any problems and report them to your doctor.

Dear Jo:
My uncle, who is not yet age 60, has
Alzheimer's disease. Could you explain
a little about this disease?

Karl B.

Alzheimer's disease was first described by a German neurologist in
1906. It is a disease that attacks the
brain cells, impairing memory and
judgment. Behavior can become biacre and the personality changes. The
disease progresses by affecting speech
and hearing, and in the final stages, the
person loses control over bodily movements.

Alzheimer's disease is most commonly seen in the elderly, although
stages can start as young as age of
The chances of the disease being inherited are less than 15 percent.

There is a tremendous need for pub-

There is a tremendous need for pub-lic awareness about this disease and its

impact on families.

Alzheimer's disease, considered to be true senility, has outpaced stroke as the leading cause of mental decline in old-

Your uncle and his family need a great deal of support and guidance with this disease.

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Pastor, Central Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, Missouri

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. Pastor Michael A. Halleen

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BEVERLY HILLS UNITED METHODIST 20000 W. 13 Mie at Evergreen - 646-9777 WORSHIP: 10 AM CHURCH SCHOOL: 10 AM (Nursery thru High School) Minister: John W. Bray

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Department needs volunteers to greet clients, weigh and measure children and plot simple growth grids on every first and third Thursday of each month. Volunteers are needed 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m.

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organization needing volunteer assistance may call the bureau.

CHILD HEALTH CARE VOLUNTEERS — The Oakland County Health
for the human service agency,
needs volunteers to do research, update
reformance of the human service agency.

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