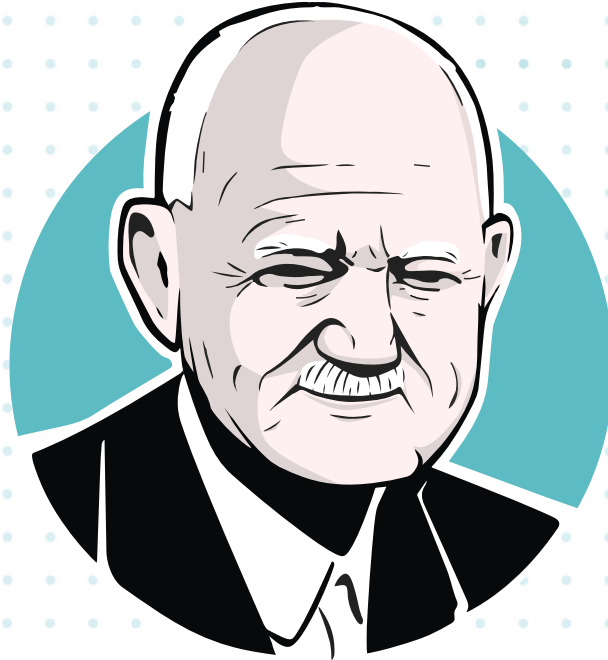


Herren.
Hvitt,
skalk,
bukk
Lover
språk ha høytlig Hvitt
kan sprek
I mitt hjerte her
for evig, Amen



I HAVE BEEN CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST

— Elias Aslaksen —

THEME 2

Høstfest, jula 1960.

Dyrbare kateket-brøder!
Ulter eldgamle metoder. —
Hvor du er stor
Her på jord
Jest for dem som tror!!!
Men ellers du nok er
For how is
En underlig en
Som gjør forkud og min
Akkurat som Fulberen. — —
Igor, fullt ut Aslaksen
1960

Deny oneself

Til å begynne med, og vanligvis, og til slutt også for de fleste, så har de det med det at mange vanskeligheter og mange hindringer – og den er slik og den er slik, og den har gjort det og den har sakt det og det er så mange vanskeligheter.

Det er ikke sant, det er ikke riktig. Det er rivruskende galt. Og det står her i dette ordet. Men det er det – en er så overfladisk, og derfor ser en det ikke.

Det står ikke det om noen vil komme etter meg, da må han greie opp med alle vanskeligheter og alle forhold – da må han fornekte seg selv, står det. Altså, det er et herlig korn. Det finnes bare en vanskelighet under solen, det finnes bare en hindring under solen, det finnes bare et eneste problem og et eneste kompleks, og det er oss selv. Kortere og greiere og enklere kan det ikke bli.

Og derav følger den setningen: at den som har overvunnet seg selv, han har overvunnet alt som finnes. Altså alt sammen består i det. De verste beklager seg over sine vanskeligheter av alle mulige slags og preker om sine sykdommer sent og tidlig, og så om

andre mennesker. Den er så vanskelig, og den er så vanskelig, og den har gjort det og den er sånn og den er sånn – og hadde ikke det kommet så hadde det vært bedre med meg. Det er blank løgn alt sammen! Når jeg fornekte meg selv når jeg ikke selv kommer til, så er det på livets vei, da er jeg på den trange vei, da har jeg gått gjennom den trange porten og så har jeg kommet inn på den smale veien, og der har jeg så mye plass som jeg bare har bruk for, på en veldig smal vei. Og der er det så fordelaktig, der er det så trivelig, Da har jeg jo blitt kvitt alt det jeg drasser på og eier og skal ta vare på og forsvare og så videre.

Der finnes ikke problemer, der finnes ikke komplekser, der er det ingen vanskeligheter og ikke noe innviklet av noe slags. Og så tenk alt en er kvitt, og så alt det som en ikke er blitt kvitt, det er det som gjør galskapen. For eksempel alle de pengene som jeg ikke har bruk for - bare problemer og vanskeligheter, hver gang en skal gi i kollekten, og hva det er for noen ting, så er det vanskeligheter. Og så er det den æren en skal ta vare på, ja, omtrent alle sammen, praktisk talt alle troende og de fleste av vennene, de er interessert i hva folk synes om dem og tenker om dem, og derfor kan de ikke avlegge sitt vitnesbyrd mange ganger også. De lurer på hva de vil synes da. Og derfor kan de ikke omvende seg til Gud, da lurer de på hva slektningene og kameratene synes da.

Hver enkelt av oss som menneske er spennet gjerne, og det er hele vanskeligheten. I dybde og vidde og bredde og der er det ingenting glemt. Det er den eneste vanskelighet under solen.

Meg selv, det er min vilje, det er min lyst, min smak, alt hva jeg synes og mener, det er meg selv. Jeg fornekte det og så av hele mitt hjerte følger Guds ord, da er jeg kommet gjennom den trange porten og kommet inn på den smale veien, og der er det så trivelig. Der stortrives man

Elias Aslaksen

From a speech held in 1973

"En som har overvunnet seg selv, han har overvunnet alt som finnes."

Elias Aslaksen

"Når jeg fornekte meg selv når jeg ikke selv kommer til, så er det på livets vei, da er jeg på den trange vei..."

Elias Aslaksen



< Listen to this message.



I have been crucified with Christ...

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live . . ." Gal. 2:20.

This is the key Word of Scripture for obtaining rest in God. If we believe this Word, which, unfortunately, is highly unusual, then this Word is self-explanatory. However, this is precisely what people in general do not believe. Instead of believing it, they explain it away, and thus they explain away their own glorious salvation from wretchedness and shut themselves out of the rest in God into which some must enter. May you who are reading these lines be among these "some"!

Why not rather enter into this rest than continue to remain in all the evil and tiresome unrest and all the unnecessary, self-inflicted torment that is a consequence of your unbelief?

The truth is simple, straightforward, and crystal clear. The old man is the source of all unrest. When, by a living faith in the Word that is written in Romans 6:6, he is crucified with Christ and put off in reality (Eph. 4:22), all unrest is bound to cease, and rest will necessarily replace it. A striking illustration in connection with this deep mystery is the well-known phrase used in obituaries: "John Doe has entered into rest." (That is, by dying.) Look at Galatians 2:20 and Romans 6:7 now!

What remains a mystery and unknown (because of unbelief) is that by a living faith it is possible to die while we are still living in this body. We can die to sin and thus to the manifold unrest in our hearts and minds while the body is laboring under the bondage of corruption. A person who is set free from sin and unrest does not really belong in such a body. The Word divides and separates, and we also hope soon to be forever free from this corruptible body. Hallelujah!

"The old man is the source of all unrest."

Elias Aslaksen

"The greatest thing that can happen to a person during his sojourn on earth is that it can truly be said of him that he has entered into rest while he is in his perishable body."

The greatest thing that can happen to a person during his sojourn on earth is that it can truly be said of him that he has entered into rest while he is in his perishable body

Elias Aslaksen

"Skjulte Skatter" May 1965

Elias Aslaksen



< Listen to the audio of this article.



".. it is no longer I who live...." // Galatians 2:20

Think of the miracle that must have occurred for someone to be able to make such a statement while he is still here in this world! How can I continue to sin when it is no longer I who is living? How can I get angry, offended, bitter, discontented, unthankful, bear a grudge against someone, steal, lie, become anxious, be vain and fond of finery; how can I argue, quarrel, be discouraged, feel that my honor has been touched, love the honor of man, be proud or love money, or boast about myself if it is no longer I who live? Can you tell me that?

How can anyone who has completely ceased to live for himself do harm? A person sins as long as he himself is alive! How can I demand anything for myself when I no longer live?

If I do not want to forsake everything and die with Christ, then I am bound to continue to commit sin. "Whoever has been born of God does not sin," is the same as "he cannot sin" because he died with Christ, because it is no longer he who lives. 1 John 3:9.

"If I do not want to forsake everything and die with Christ, then I am bound to continue to commit sin."

Elias Aslaksen

How I can stop loving when Christ lives in me? Gal. 2:20. How can I commit unrighteous deeds when Christ lives in me? Christ and conscious sin cannot dwell in me simultaneously. If Christ is within me, then sin is outside my heart. If sin is within my heart, then Christ is on the outside. This is precisely why He can stand outside the door of the heart of converted people and knock, as we read in Revelation 3:20.

Unfortunately, most of them continue to live for themselves, because it is a well-known fact that the vast majority of people can commit all kinds of sins over and over again, even some of the basest sins, such as lying or bearing a grudge against someone!

How can I continue to defend myself and my possessions and justify myself, when I am dead? How can I be selfish when it is no longer I who live? How can I have a living interest in all sorts of things around the house, in clothes and nice colors, when I am dead? And what interest can a dead person have in what other people say about him or think about him??? Can you tell me that?

How much pain can it cause me when someone cheats me in earthly matters if I am dead to them? And how much does a dead person rejoice if payments in his name keep coming in? Can you answer me that?

No one can rightly say that he does not have any self-will left, but by God's grace it can become like this, that it appears as if he does not have a self-will left. How can I love the things of this world if I am dead to them?

There is a song that contains these words, "My will no more," i.e., it is no longer I who live. Is this true in your life? It is not so uncommon for people to want quite a few things!!!

A dead person, someone who is no longer alive, has nothing more to lose because he has in fact left everything behind; he has passed away. However, someone who is alive has much to protect. He may suffer many misfortunes and much loss, as well as considerable afflictions from his fellow men. But these afflictions are not the death of him, as people quite often maintain. He still has the opportunity to lay down his life of his own free will.

Then this great wonder, or miracle, will occur, namely, that he will be rid of all his unnecessary grief and pains! This is amazing! Thus everything becomes only gain, every little bit of it.

"That we, having died . . ." 1 Pet. 2:24. "We who died . . ." Rom. 6:2. If we have died with Christ, why then should we consider ourselves "as though living in the world"? Col. 2:20. Have you ever heard such a thing?

Now we must ask this question: What must first happen so we can truly achieve this indescribably glorious state? Two things:

- I We must truly want to die to everything of ourselves and of our own, and
 - II We need to have a living, personally appropriated faith that we have died with Christ when He died on the cross of Calvary.
- If #1 is our desire, it enables us to believe. When we believe #2, it becomes reality.

Elias Aslaksen

"Skjulte Skatter" February 1963



< Listen to the audio of this article.



Give up everything

Og den som ikke bærer sitt kors og følger etter meg – altså bære det korset som jeg selv skal nagles til, altså hjelpe til, enfoldig sagt, med sin egen korsfestelse. Jeg skal nå korsfestes med Kristus. Og så skal jeg hjelpe til selv. Jeg skal ville det forferdelig gjerne selv.

Den som ikke bærer sitt kors og følger etter meg kan ikke være min disippel. Nå har han sagt det to ganger. Og så kommer det vers 33: Således kan da ingen av eder være min disippel. Det er altså hans innbydelse til å bli opptatt til hans skole, etter at vi har blitt omvendt.

"Den som ikke bærer sitt kors og følger etter meg kan ikke være min disip-

"Det er altså hans innbydelse til å bli opptatt til hans skole, etter at vi har blitt omvendt."

Elias Aslaksen

Tredje gang – og dermed er det hele sagt. Her står det helt annerledes, fullstendig annerledes, og tar med resten: Således kan da ingen av eder – det var de som var kommet til han og fulgte han – være min disippel, eller elev, eller bli opptatt til hans skole – uten at han oppgir alt det han eier. A L T. Alt det han eier

Elias Aslaksen

From a speech held in 1973



< Listen to this message.



Taking up your cross...

Taking up your cross and bearing your cross is assisting in your own crucifixion. My cross is everything and everyone that crosses my will, my human will, the will of my flesh.

"I am not worthy of Christ if I do not take up my cross!"

Elias Aslaksen

...dient to the faith and daily walking as a true friend of the crosses to which his self-will is to be nailed. This was the only thing the glorious apostle Paul desired to glory in, and the greatest thing he knew! His life and teaching are clear evidence of this!

It was not just that he was excited about this perfect theory! Not at all! He lived it fully, exhorting us to follow him! Let us do this without reservation, my beloved friends!

Listen to what he says: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live . . ." Gal. 2:20. "But God forbid that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." Gal. 6:14.

To him, this was the greatest thing of all, the most glorious thing of all, the most effective thing of all, and the secret to the greatest happiness a person can achieve here, during his time of sojourn!

"Nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." Luke 22:42. This is and remains the principal thing all the days of our lives; it is even the very essence of it! Actually, there is nothing else besides this that matters. "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Luke 11:2. In heaven everything is done precisely and as quick as lightning!

It is obvious that we must attain this: forsake and crucify our own will as quick as lightning, or else God's will cannot be done on earth as it is done in heaven!

However, who has such a high goal and such faith???

Even if we do not possess it, let us wake up in earnest so we can have this goal and an active faith in God's exceedingly powerful assistance in realizing it! Let it be so!

Your, brother, deeply grieving over all spiritual sleep—

Elias Aslaksen

"Skjulte Skatter" February 1970

I am not worthy of Christ if I do not take up my cross! This is the state of many believers. Paul says that they walk as enemies of the cross of Christ, that is, the cross they should be taking up and to which their self-will should be nailed.

In Galatians 5:24 we find this extremely serious truth: "And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires." Therefore those who have not done this and continue that way do not belong to Him! They are not His disciples!

The most glorious thing of all is that Jesus was willing to be crucified; He even assisted with His crucifixion! The next most glorious thing is when a person is willing to be crucified with Him by faith, being obe-

"Nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." This is and remains the principal thing all the days of our lives; it is even the very essence of it!"

Elias Aslaksen



< Listen to the audio of this article.



The two great goals in a Christian's life

I. Constant victory over all conscious sin. We have our sins forgiven if we believe that Christ died for our sins and if we forgive everyone from our heart who has transgressed against us.

By faith we also gain victory over all conscious sin; namely, by believing that our old man was crucified with Christ (Rom. 6:6), or as it is stated in Galatians 2:20: "I am crucified with Christ . . ."

By believing this, we die to sinning, to all conscious sin so that instead of committing sin, we remain a conqueror in every temptation. How glorious it is always to live with a good conscience toward God and men!

Paul writes, "Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ . . ." 2 Cor. 2:14.

Unfortunately, most people have most certainly not reached this temporary, glorious goal in their life. There are two specific and good reasons for it:

A. A person simply does not want to forsake everything of his own and die with Christ. This eliminates the opportunity of obtaining this glorious life of victory.

B. He absolutely does not believe that he is crucified with Christ and neither can he believe it if he is not willing to forsake everything of his own. God does not give us faith for something that we do not agree to.

If a person really, and in truth, wants to walk on the way in Jesus' steps, he also receives faith to walk on it. Glory to God!

II. By increasing in the light of life; by exposing unconscious sin and putting it off; by growing in goodness.

This is the same as increasingly being transformed in our inner man; it is the same as increasingly partaking of the divine nature.

Here there is no limited goal for us; however, there is, so to speak an unlimited opportunity. Then the goal is: maximum growth and transformation!

For the same reason, we have a genuine, continuous interest in all the fruits of the Spirit and all the virtues of Christ to the utmost extent and depth possible.

Paul says, "We believe, therefore we speak." We speak about what we believe. There is a specific reason for not speaking about it at all: One does not believe it.

There is this to be said about points I and II: Wishes and dreams are useless, also, more or less half-hearted attempts. They are utterly in vain! The only thing that is of use, that is effective, is having a living faith in the work of God and of Christ and in the Word that speaks especially clearly and firmly and decisively about this matter; it speaks about almost nothing else! Read, think, and believe!

"If a person really, and in truth, wants to walk on the way in Jesus' steps, he also receives faith to walk on it."

Elias Aslaksen

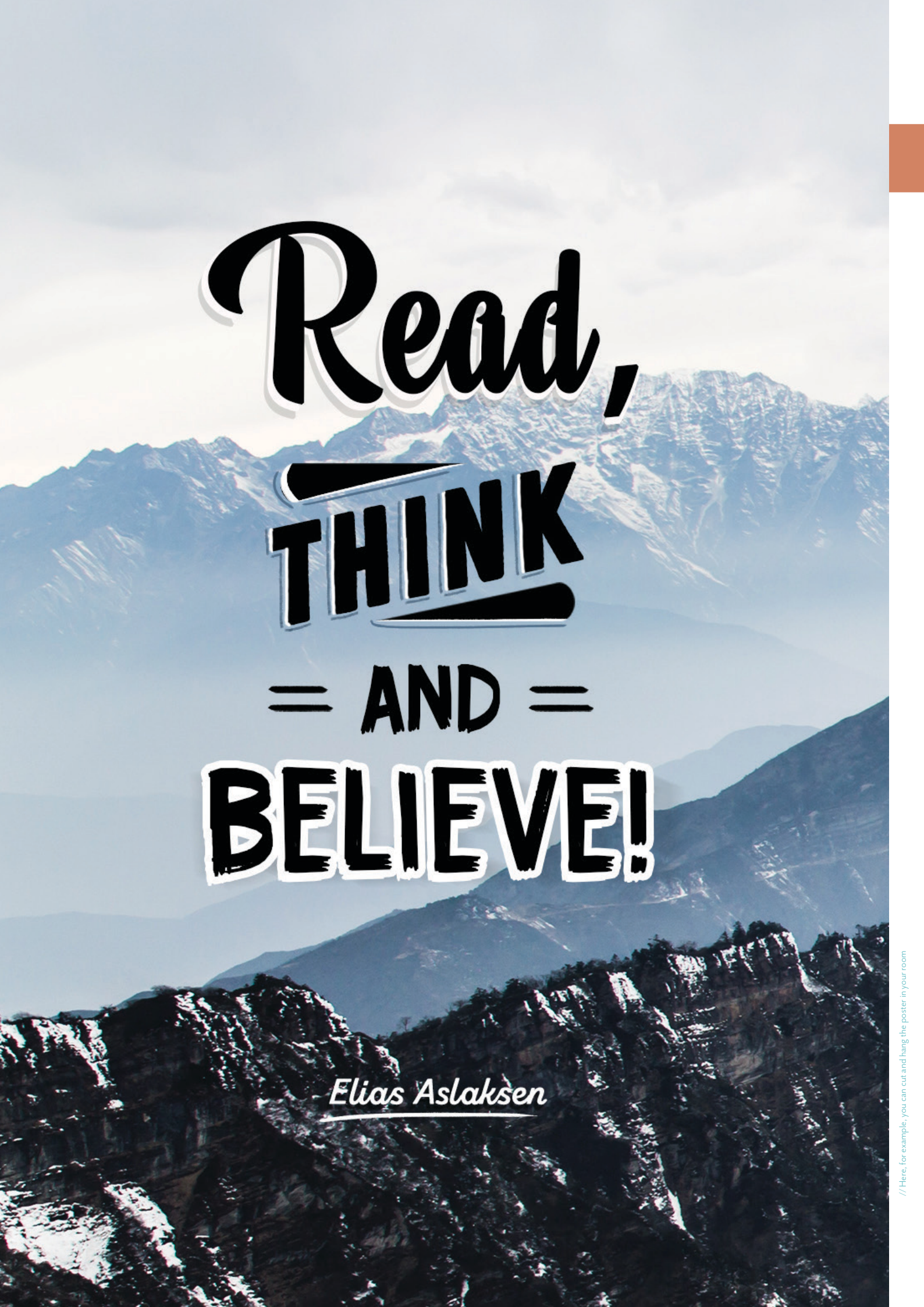
Elias Aslaksen

"Skjulte Skatter" November 1957



< Listen to the audio of this article.





Read,
THINK
= AND =
BELIEVE!

Elias Aslaksen

A photograph of a forest path with a white graphic frame overlaid. The frame contains the text 'NOT MY WILL, BUT YOURS BE DONE' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The path is made of dirt and rocks, surrounded by green foliage and tall trees. The lighting is soft, suggesting a misty or overcast day.

**NOT
MY WILL,
BUT YOURS
BE DONE**

Luke 22:42

