



GOD'S HIGHWAY

Gary Wadding

BASIC PURPOSES

Daytona Bike Week brings a kaleidoscope of motorcycles and motorcyclists into this coastal vacation spot. If you can imagine it, you can find it in Daytona. I took some German friends to visit the Harley Davidson dealership where they could see every type of H-D on the planet. After we walked around the ground floor, my friend's mouth was drooling; then I showed him the second floor. It was too much. The Japanese bikes have just as many fascinating types of machines to choose from too. Every time I visit another manufacturer's display, they have come out with something new to make their motorcycle a bit more advanced than the competition.

It's all very interesting to say the least, but after a while it fails to excite me. I don't throw my leg over a motorcycle in order to push buttons on a GPS and plan out every turn on my trip. I don't put on my helmet and jacket just so I can adjust the equalizer on my digital sound system playing six of my favorite CDs through the headset in my advanced technology helmet speakers. Don't get me wrong. I'm really not resistant to improvements. There are definite advantages to being able to change the air pressure in the middle of a ride without laying on my back and wrestling with a shock absorber. Pushing a button really does beat jumping on a kickstarter 50 times; however; the joy of my ride is found in the wind, not the electronics. I enjoy a shiny bike, but I don't need an expensive paint job to find the freedom that

a biker seeks. If my GPS, CB, satellite radio, intercom or airbag distract me from the plain old joy of riding, I didn't gain, I lost. I'm not afraid of technology, as evidenced by the fact that I'm writing this article on my personal laptop computer, using a wireless connection, while watching NCIS on my flatscreen TV after recording it on Tivo. (That even impressed me) Technology has its place, but not if it means losing touch with the basics of why I ride.

Many of you once asked Jesus Christ to be your personal Lord and Savior. You knew the peace and freedom that He brought into your life. You felt the fulfillment of knowing that you had dealt with the eternal issues of Heaven and Hell. You enjoyed reading the Bible. You found wisdom, comfort and insight. Somewhere along the way you got off track. Your life became more and more involved with things that are secondary, and you forgot the fundamentals. Accessories aren't evil, not unless they displace the essentials. Come back to the source of life and peace. The Lord allows U-turns. Come back to Jesus. You know I'm right. Blessings to you.

