

A House of Love

by: Rick Woodall

Living a life of mere existence without setting spiritual goals, is sad, to say the least. We usually focus on the things that mean the most to us. We make ourselves busy with our hobbies and leisure activities. We entertain our lives with all the pleasurable things money can buy. The fact remains that all these things wear out through the course of time.

The grand architect of life itself, designed life to be lived at a higher standard. Our toys wear out and when they are gone, it leads to regretful consequences. Taking time out in life for the pleasurable things is not in its self, wrong. It's when we store up all those things as if our life depends on the material, and we cannot see the spiritual. Jesus teaches us with these words.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

- Matthew 6:19-21



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The End of Your Search for a Friendly Church . . .

Here Am I, Send Aaron

Steve Higginbotham

Throughout history, God has called various men to fulfill His purposes. We are probably familiar with the question God raised to the prophet Isaiah when he said, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" to which Isaiah responded, "Here am I, send me" (Isaiah 6:8). Likewise, when God spoke to Moses out of the burning bush, Moses also said, "Here am I" (Exodus 3:4). However, instead of saying, "send me," as did Isaiah, Moses basically said, "Send Aaron" (Exodus 3:13-14). One man made himself available to God, while the other man made excuses. While God does not call us in the same manner today as he once did, he calls us nonetheless. God still needs men and women to fulfill his purposes. Will you say, "No" to God? When your help is needed in your local church, when you're called upon to meet a need (e.g. teach a class, publicly serve in the worship, maintenance at the building, promote and attend special services through the week, visit the sick, transport people to and from church, prepare meals for the sick and shut-ins, etc.), do you make excuses? Do you say, "No"? Or, do you say, "Here am I, send me?" When examining the life of Moses, it is easy to see the error of having a "Here am I, send Aaron" attitude. However, like many things, it is just harder to see the same error when we embrace it ourselves. Take a good look at your own life. Have you been telling God, "No"? Which response to God's call describes you best, "Here am I, send me?" or "Here am I, send Aaron?" Give it some thought.

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SUNDAY SERVICES

Bible Study.....9:30a.m.
Worship.....10:30a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Ladies Class.....10:00a.m.
Bible Study.....7:00p.m.

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Do Not Fret !!!

~ Andy Robison ~

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble” (Matthew 6:34). “Be anxious for nothing...” (Philippians 4:6). A word from one who has trouble practicing these Scriptures: Be thankful they are there.

Awareness of evil in the world generally increases with age. Some precious children are exposed to humanity’s injustices earlier than are some pampered adults. Still, the more one knows about the world, the more one knows people mistreat people, the relatively innocent suffer at the hands of the oppressors (cf. Ecclesiastes 4:1), and the privileged and powerful exalt themselves at the expense of the lowly (cf. Matthew 23:14; 2 Timothy 3:6; James 5:5-6). This wicked phenomenon even happens within the Lord’s church (3 John 9-10). It is enough to depress one’s spirit beyond recovery, were it not for the Word of God.

The multiple exhortations of divinely offered comfort include: “Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity” (Psalm 37:1). “And why not?” the persecuted might object. “The evil seem to be getting their way! Their riches increase! People believe their slanderous lies!” (cf. Job 21:7-16; 12:6; Jeremiah 12:1; Psalm 109:1-5). Why not fret? Because the God who had the power to create and uphold the world with His Word (Psalm 33:6; Hebrews 1:3) is the One Who has the power to deal – and here’s the key – in His own good time with the wicked. “For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, And wither as the green herb” (Psalm 37:2). Rejoice, O soul, for the judgment of the Lord is nearer than one might think (James 1:9-11; 5:1-8).

That powerful and living (Hebrews 4:12), creative and judging (Hebrews 11:3; John 12:48) Word of God is also renewing (1 Peter 1:22-25) and sustaining (Psalm 119:49-50) to the downcast human spirit. Here is a reminder from an inspired man who knew suffering, and eventual exoneration: “Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday” (Psalm 37:3-6).

Can I Trust My Bible Geographically?

D. Gene West

When men have attacked the veracity of the Bible, they have done so on every level. They have claimed that it is replete with misinformation historically, scientifically, geographically, geologically and every other way known to us. Yet, when its histories are investigated, it is found to be historically correct; when its scientific utterances, though it is not a textbook on science, are investigated, again it is found to be scientifically correct. There is no true scientific discovery known to man, upon which the Bible speaks, that has been found to be false so far as the Bible is concerned. Someone will ask, "Well, what about evolution?" Friends, evolution is not science. It is guesswork based on some peculiarities in nature. It is more voodoo than science, but that is not the point under discussion today.

The Bible has been attacked geographically also. It has been claimed that the Bible is not geographically correct when it makes statements dealing with geography. Again, it must be pointed out that the Bible is not a textbook on geography, but when it speaks regarding geography, especially of the middle-eastern world, it speaks correctly. There are those who mock the Bible because it speaks, for example, of going down from Jerusalem to such cities as Caesarea, Tyre or some other city to the north of Jerusalem (Matthew 20:18; Acts 8:1, 5; 9:26, 30; 12:19; 14:26 with 15:1-2; 21:4, 8, 10, 12; 25:9). They say, "We do not go down to the north, we go up!" Consequently, according to this so-called reasoning, the Bible must be incorrect in its geographical expressions. However, let us investigate that for a moment. Years ago while living in Fairmont, West Virginia, we noticed that the natives there spoke of going down to Pittsburgh. Obviously Pittsburgh is several miles north of Fairmont, so why would they speak of going down to Pittsburgh? Because Fairmont is the headwaters of the Monongahela River which flows downward to Pittsburgh, though that city is north of Fairmont.

The city of Jerusalem was built on mountains that rise some 2,500 feet above sea level; hence, regardless of what direction in which one might travel from Jerusalem, he went down to the place, or from that place up to Jerusalem. The Word of God uses the best and true geographical descriptions. The Bible is right! Men are wrong!

Still another blunder, both historically and geographically, some of the critics of the Bible advanced (for which, incidentally, they have never apologized) was the teaching that the nation of the Hittites never existed. For hundreds of years the only record of these people was found in the Bible (48 times in 47 Old Testament verses), but the experts said the name was made up because they had no other record of it. Well, some people decided to begin searching where the Bible says these people were located, and low and behold, they found abundant archeological evidence for the existence of the nation where the Bible says these people were located, and that their civilization existed when the Bible says it did. Critics may come by the millions and no doubt they will, but the Bible will stand true because it is a product of the mind of God!

SFA FAMILY MATTERS

Prayer List

Our Members: Dolores Longfellow is still sick at home. Mary Shoemake, Sam Bolding, Duane Nelson, Margaret Coone & Sharon Washington.

Relatives: Judy Ford's son had a stent put in last Monday because of a blockage in his heart. Earl Anderson, Don Moore, Karen Swiney, Nina Hart, Annie Beth Coone.

Shut In Members: Newman Kirkland, Artis Bassett.

Others: Donna Arcand, Christina Feussner, Graham McDonald, Kathy Peel & Danny Edmonds.

Upcoming Events

April 20th - Men's Breakfast will be at Eagle Lake beginning at 8:00 am.

April 21st - 25th - Gospel Meeting at Eagle Lake Church of Christ. Speaker will be Sam Willcot. See bulletin board for more information.

May 18th - Ladies Day at So. Fla. Ave. church of Christ, Lakeland, FL. from 8:30 am - 1:30 pm. Lunch will be provided.

Visitors

Mr. & Mrs. Nathaniel Bishop & Violet. Mrs. Pam Bonine, Ronald Cox, Derrell & Barbara Ellerbe, Deedra Glenn, Jane Jessee, Mrs. Catherine Johnson, Roseanna O'Neill, Smitty Smith, David & Barbie South, Mr. & Mrs. Chad Tagtow & children, Amelia, Anna & Micah. Jack & Luke Deemer.

Congratulations

To Tyler and Jessica Anderson who are expecting twins in mid October. They ask for everyone's prayers during this joyous time.

Hither, Thither and Yon

Please continue to keep Bob and Bea Pratt, and any others who may be traveling at this time in your prayers. Also, those who are serving in the military.

~ SMALL GEMS OF TRUTH ~

If God is your Co-pilot, swap seats!
 Don't give God instructions, just report for duty.
 The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.
 The will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.
 We don't change the message, the message changes us.

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

April

Frank Hamby **Table** Stacey Paulin
 Ken Walker **Assist** Phil Fife

Sunday, April 14, 2013 9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Jim Turner
Prayer Ken Walker

10:00 A.M.

Announcements Kenny French
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer David Anderson
Closing Prayer Tim Croson

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader David Williams
Opening Prayer Jeremy Padilla
Closing Prayer Jim Turner
Greeters The Williams Family
Att. Cards Paul Sweeney & Sebastian Rapley
Open & Close Building David Anderson

Wed. April 17, 2013

Song Leader Frank Hamby
Opening Prayer Steve Hunley
Closing Prayer Jimmy Sweeney

*Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call **Chuck Wyatt**, so he can get a replacement - 859-5231.*

April 21, 2013 9:30 A.M.

Song at Bible Class Ken Walker
Prayer Stacey Paulin

10:30 A.M.

Announcements Kenny French
Song Leader Jason Hendrix
Opening Prayer David Williams
Closing Prayer Paul Romine

6:00 P.M.

Song Leader David Williams
Opening Prayer Steve Hunley
Closing Prayer Phil Fife
Greeters Marissa Paulin & Courtney Williams
Att. Cards Quadarius Askew & Antonio Martin
Open & Close Building David Anderson

Wed. April 24, 2013

Song Leader Jim Turner
Opening Prayer Jason Hendrix
Closing Prayer Tim Croson

~ HOW WE ARE GIVING ~

Mar. 17 \$3,804.70
Mar. 24 \$3,540.44
Mar. 31 \$3,994.51
Apr. 07 \$4,437.12
Contribution Average \$4,185.60
2013 Weekly Budget \$4,255.13