

"Facing Our Fears"WHOM SHALL I FEAR?

Big
Two Fearing Top 10! PSALM 27

- (1) Don't speak
(2) Don't speak
(3) Failure

G.A.M.C. (1) Living with
(2) Med. power
(3) Med. power

THIS PSALM WAS THE BASIS FOR MY FIRST MESSAGE AT BCC IN 1968. HOWEVER, BEFORE THAT IT WAS USED FOR THE SENIOR CLASS SERMON IN SEMINARY WHERE ALONG WITH THE STUDENT BODY, GUESTS SAT ALL OF MY SEMINARY PROFESSORS NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH WAS DR. JOHN WHITCOMBE AND DR. ALVA J. MCCLAIN - THE TWO ~~SMALLEST~~ MEN I HAVE EVER KNOWN. I WAS SPEAKING ABOUT NOT BEING ~~ARMED~~ WHILE I WAS PARALYZED WITH FEAR! IN THE BACK OF MY MIND WAS THE HOPE THAT I DID NOT REPEAT WHAT A FELLOW SEMINARIAN HAD DONE IN CHAPEL WHEN HE SIMPLY FAINTED FROM FEAR! HOWEVER, I LEARNED A VALUABLE LESSON THAT DAY, NAMELY, THAT GREAT MEN ARE EASILY EDIFIED AND I REALLY HAD NOTHING TO FEAR! MY EXPERIENCE WAS NOT UNIQUE. BELA KAROLYI HAS WRITTEN A BOOK ENTITLED FEEL NO FEAR. IT EMBODIES HIS PHILOSOPHY GIVEN TO HIS GYMNASTIC STUDENTS. HOWEVER, IN THAT BOOK HE TALKS ABOUT MANY OF HIS GREATEST FEARS! HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO, LONG BEFORE TERMS LIKE PSYCHOLOGY AND PHOBIAS WERE KNOWN TO MEN, DAVID DISCOVERED THE SECRET OF LIVING A LIFE FREE FROM FEAR. IN THIS PSALM, HE SHARES SOME OF THOSE SECRETS.

I
Foes

I. ENEMIES - VERSES 1-3

Foes

What About
Fear of Ones
Enemies?

DAVID'S LIFE WAS NOT FREE FROM TROUBLE BUT IN THE MIDST OF TROUBLE HE REMAINED TRANQUIL. EVIL ~~DOGGED~~ DAVID'S LIFE BUT IT DID NOT DEVOUR HIM. LET ME MENTION THREE OF DAVID'S BIG ENEMIES:

(1) GOLIATH - I SAMUEL 17

THE PHILISTINES WERE AN ANCIENT WAR-LIKE, WAR-LOVING PEOPLE WHO WERE SKILLFUL AND

Elkview Bp. Ch.
Feb. 1995

Calvary Bp. Ch.
Covington, Ky. Aug. 1995

Grove Mountain S. Ch.
Nov. 1995

MT Tabor Bp.
Buckley, W. Va. March 1996

Rocky Ridge -
Grove Bp. Ch. July 1996
New Albany, O.

Calvary Bp. Ch. - Aug 1996
Radford, Va.

Shenandoah Bp. Aug.
Roanoke, Va. 1996

CoBBs Creek Bp. Ch.
March 1997

Calvary Bp. Ch. March '98
Portsmouth, O.

People's Bp. Ch.
Leays Valley, W. V. - July - 2000

Wintfield Bp. Ch. - Nov. 03

weapon
the war
machine
 SUCCESSFUL IN THE TACTIC OF GORILLA WARFARE, THEY WOULD SIEZE A FORTIFIED POSITION AND FROM THERE SEND OUT BANDS OF ROVING MARAUDERS TO PLUNDER, STEAL AND KILL UNSUSPECTING PEOPLE. GOLIATH WAS THE NO. 1 "WAR MACHINE" IN THE PHILISTINE ARSENAL AND AGAINST DAVID HE FELL NEVER TO RISE AGAIN. HUMANLY SPEAKING, THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO WAY A SLIGHT SHEPHERD BOY COULD PREVAIL OVER A PROFESSIONAL SOLDIER THE SIZE OF GOLIATH - BUT HE DID!

(2) SAUL - *David was never Saul's enemy*
(1 Sam. 19:17)

AFTER THE DEFEAT OF GOLIATH, SAUL WAS FRIENDLY TO DAVID BUT THAT FRIENDSHIP ENDED THE DAY SAUL AND DAVID RETURNED FROM BATTLE AND SAUL HEARD A VICTORY CHANT THE WOMEN ^{were singing} SANG AS THE RETURNING TROOPS ENTERED THE GATES OF THE CITY. SAUL, A VERY SENSITIVE, SELFISH, SUSPICIOUS, SICK MAN NEVER RECOVERED. FROM THAT DAY FORWARD HE PLOTTED AND SCHEMED AND USED EVERY MEANS AT HIS DISPOSAL TO KILL DAVID BUT IN ALL OF IT, HE FAILED MISERABLY AND DIED THAT WAY. (Saul's 2nd)
(1 Sam. 31:1-4)

(3) ABSALOM

DURING THE YEARS OF DAVID'S WANDERING, HE BROUGHT BACK FROM HIS RAIDS THE DAUGHTER OF THE KING OF GESHUR. A WILD AND UNINHIBITED WOMAN, SHE BECAME THE MOTHER OF ABSALOM. BY THE TIME THIS BOY HAD GROWN, DAVID HAD GROWN OLD. MUCH OF THE EXCITEMENT AND COLOR OF DAVID'S EARLY LIFE HAD BEEN FORGOTTEN. THE ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS OF HIS KINGDOM WERE IN DISARRAY. HE BECAME MOODY AND DIS-INTERESTED IN PUBLIC AND POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY. ONE OF THE LEGAL ASPECTS OF HIS LIFE WAS TO HEAR THE COMPLAINTS OR APPEALS OF HIS SUBJECTS. WHEN DAVID FAILED TO DISCHARGE

(2 Sam. 18:14)

"Since ye then be risen w, th Christ,
Seek those things which are above,
where Christ sitteth on the right hand
of God. Set your affection on things
above... (Col. 3:1)

(Jacks day - knuckled
himself down because
his nose too close to
the ground!)

①

Blasting of Goliath
(Thrust)

Goal

THIS RESPONSIBILITY, ABSALOM SIEZED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE HIMSELF. HE WAS HANDSOME AND HAD A FLAIR FOR PUBLIC LIFE. HE PROMISED THE PEOPLE A MORE LIBERAL, CARING GOVERNMENT AND IN THAT ENVIRONMENT GENERATED A CONSPIRACY AGAINST HIS FATHER. ABSALOM'S DEMISE IS WELL KNOWN TO STUDENTS OF SCRIPTURE. WHETHER IT WAS THE JEALOUSY OF SAUL OR THE SELFISH AMBITION OF ABSALOM, GOD SAW FIT TO DELIVER DAVID FROM ALL OF HIS ENEMIES - ALL OF THEM. APPLICATION: IF YOU AND I COULD LIST THE "ENEMIES" THAT FACE US ARE THERE ANY BIGGER THAN GOD? IF SO, WHY SHOULD WE WORRY AND LOSE SLEEP OVER EITHER PEOPLE OR CIRCUMSTANCES? WE WOULD DO WELL TO LEAVE OUR "WHAT ~~IF~~ TO GOD BECAUSE MOST OF THEM WILL NEVER COME TO PASS.

APP'



What
IF?

II. EXALTATION - VERSES 4-6

VERSE 6 IN THE NIV READS: "THEN MY HEAD WILL BE EXALTED ABOVE THE ENEMIES WHO SURROUND ME." CONTRAST THE WORD ABOVE AND THE WORD ABOUT. IN THESE VERSES THERE ARE THREE MAJOR IDEAS:

How To Rise
Above our
Enemies & Foes
(Thrust To Rise)
v4-6

(1) WHAT TO SEEK - VERSE 4

THE BELIEVER WOULD DO WELL TO BECOME A "ONE THING" PERSON. PAUL WAS A ONE THING PERSON. (PHIL. 3:13-14) BY CONTRAST, JESUS SAID TO MARTHA: "MARTHA, MARTHA, THOU ART CAREFUL AND TROUBLED ABOUT MANY THINGS: BUT ONE THING IS NEEDFUL AND MARY HATH CHOSEN THAT GOOD PART WHICH SHALL NOT BE TAKEN AWAY FROM HER." (LUKE 10:41-42) AS IN MARTHA'S CASE, THE VERSE BEFORE US INVOLVES WORSHIP. WORSHIP SHOULD BE A PERSONAL PRIORITY. JUDAS, LIKE MANY OTHERS, LOOKED UPON WORSHIP AS WASTE.

Worship Before Work.

Matth.
6:33

234

(1) [redacted] (2) [redacted]

231

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

(2) WHERE WE SIT - VERSE 5

THE HIDING TACTIC WAS VERY EFFECTIVE AGAINST SAUL. THAT IS, WHEN SAUL WOULD HAVE KILLED DAVID, HE SIMPLY COULDN'T FIGHT HIM. SAUL COULD NOT FIGHT WHAT HE COULD NOT FIND!

IN A DAY OF TROUBLE AND TROUBLEMAKERS, GOD SAVED DAVID WHEN HIS ENEMIES SOUGHT HIM. DURING THOSE DAYS OF OBSCURITY, DAVID TURNED THEM INTO OPPORTUNITY FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT. WHERE WE SIT OFTEN DEPENDS ON WHERE WE STAND.

Defining

(3) WHAT WE SING - VERSE 6

Rise Above your fears!

DAVID LEARNED TO SING IN THE FACE OF DANGER. (ACTS 16:25) WHEN ONE LOOKS AT THIS ACTS PASSAGE EVERYTHING SEEMED TO BE WRONG ABOUT THE PRAISE INVOLVED. IT WAS THE WRONG TIME - MIDNIGHT. IT WAS THE WRONG PEOPLE - PRISONERS. IT WAS THE WRONG PLACE - JAIL. IT WAS THE WRONG THEME - THEY SHOULD HAVE BEEN SINGING A SONG DEALING WITH PRISON BLUES. THE EXALTED BELIEVER IS ONE WHO RECOGNIZES HIS POSITION AND FOCUSES HIS ATTENTION ON THE LORD OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND NOT THE CIRCUMSTANCE. THE MODERN EQUIVALENT OF WHAT THESE VERSES SAY IS THAT YOUR ATTITUDE DETERMINES YOUR ALTITUDE.

*Stress
RKS.
(Dev. Songs)*

IB v. 7-9a

III. ENTREATY - VERSES 7-12

B. the Power of Prayer

THE VERY WORDS ANSWER ME SUGGEST THAT THIS IS A KIND OF SPIRITUAL 911 OR PRAYER-O-GRAM. THE WORD CRY IN THE TEXT IS NOT REFERRING TO JUST TEARS BUT RATHER A CRYING OUT OR CALLING UPON GOD. IT IS THE PICTURE OF SOMEONE WHO IS SUDDENLY VERY SERIOUS ABOUT PRAYER! GONE IS THE HALF-HEARTED, CASUAL

*the Power of Prayer
the Power of Prayer
the Power of Prayer*

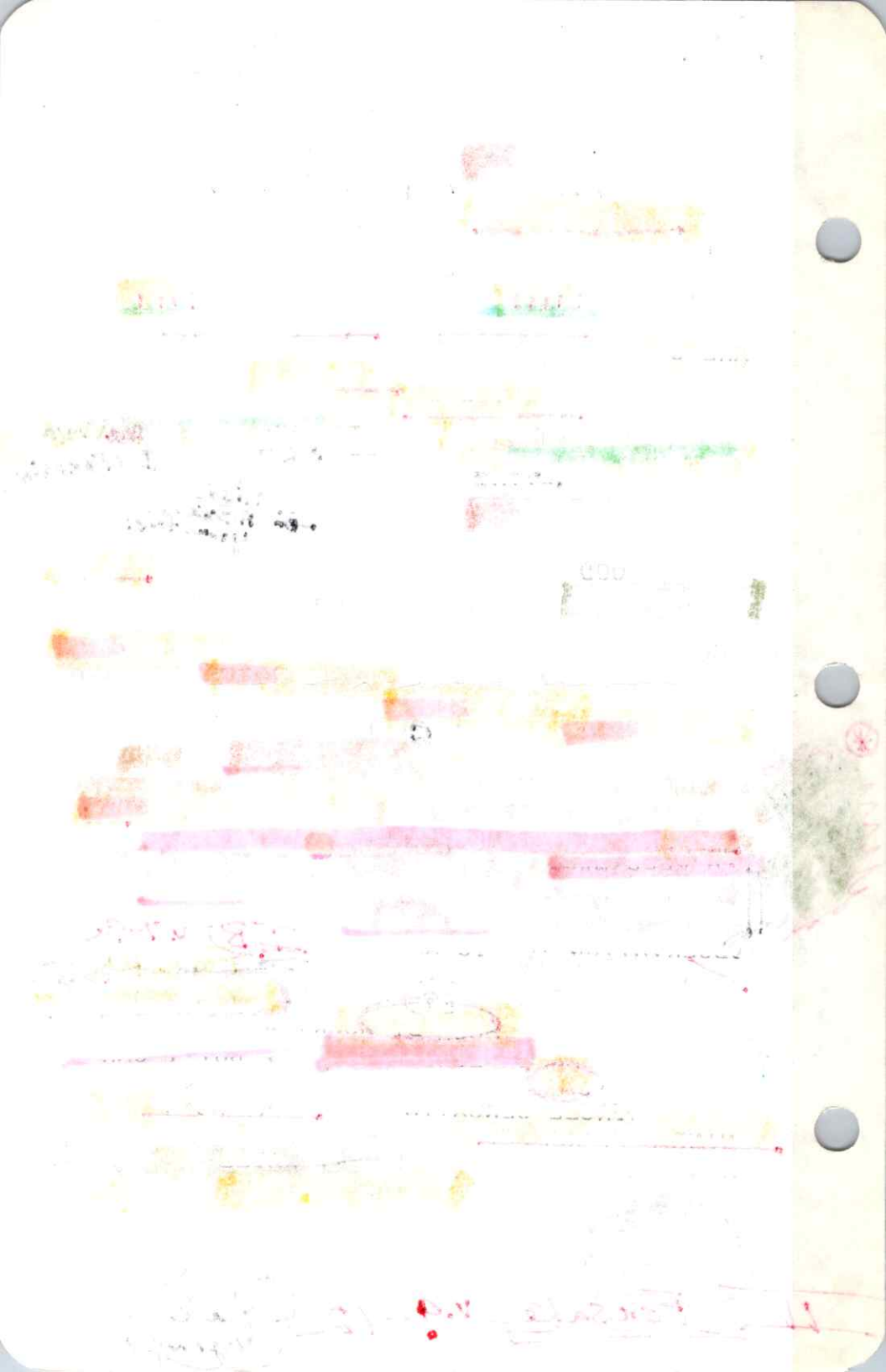
v. 7

*Spiritual
accident*

Real

11. Forsake v. 9-12

Kate crying



III. Faint
u13-14

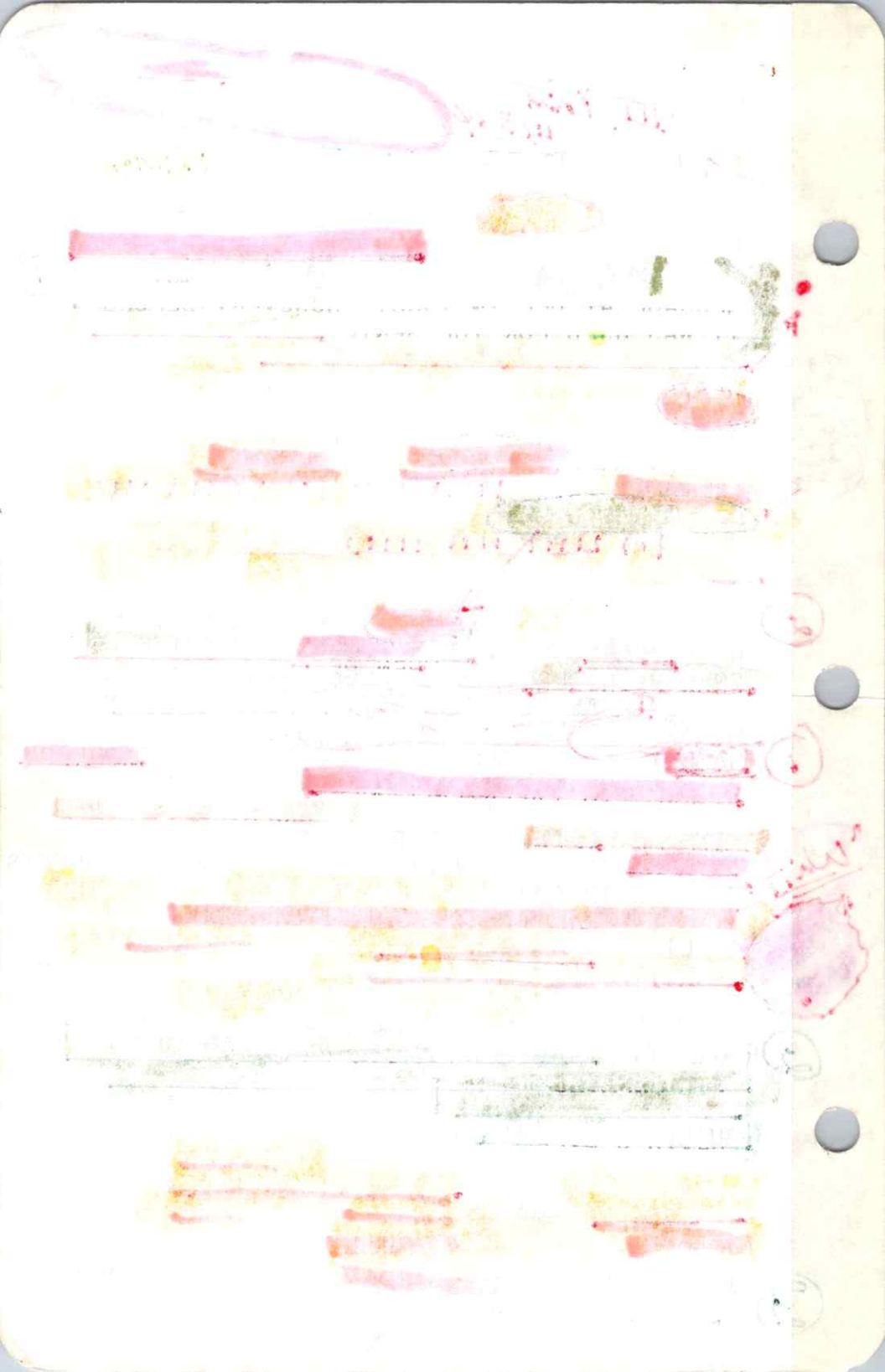
The Secret of Waiting on God
(A) An Antidote To Fear

IV. EXPECTATION - VERSES 13-14 Fainted

THE WORD FAINED IS IN ITALICS BUT THE IDEA IS CERTAINLY THERE. HAVE YOU EVER FAINTED? IT IS A FRIGHTENING EXPERIENCE. WE SHARED (1) THAT EXPERIENCE HERE IN THE LATE 1980'S ONE SUNDAY MORNING - EXPLAIN. WHEN YOU FAINT, SOMEONE ELSE MUST CARE FOR YOU. THE ANTIDOTE IN THIS PASSAGE TO FAINTING IS TO WAIT ON THE LORD. WAITING UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES IS NOT EASY. THIS IS NOT THE WAITING OF A PRISONER OR A PATIENT BUT A PILGRIM. THIS WAITING IS NOT WASTED TIME. ISAIAH 40:28-31 IN THESE PASSAGES WE LEARN THAT GOD NEVER GETS TIRED BUT MEN TIRE EASILY. EVEN THE YOUNG GIVE UP AND QUIT. THE WAITING PROCESS ENABLES THE CHRISTIAN TO GAIN AFRESH OR RENEW HIS STRENGTH. THE WORD RENEW MEANS TO EXCHANGE SOMETHING FOR SOMETHING ELSE. IT IS USED TO DESCRIBE A PERSON CHANGING CLOTHES. WE MAY EXCHANGE OUR FATIGUE FOR HIS STRENGTH. THE WORD WAIT IN PSALM 27:14 CARRIES THE IDEA "TO LOOK AWAY IN HOPE OR EXPECTATION." (2) IT IS SO TRANSLATED IN THE N.I.V. DON'T QUIT, DON'T GIVE UP, WAIT. IN THE HEBREW, THE WORD KAW-VAW IS USED IN DIFFERENT WAYS. IT SUGGESTS TO WAIT IN AMBUSH OR IN SERVICE. IT DEFINES THE ATTITUDE OF THE SOUL TOWARD GOD. IT IMPLIES A LISTENING EAR AND A RESPONSIVE HEART TO GOD'S DIRECTION. IT IS THE CONCENTRATION OF OUR SPIRITUAL FACULTIES ON HEAVENLY THINGS AND TO WAIT FOR HIM TO DIRECT. THERE HAVE BEEN OCCASIONS THROUGH THE YEARS WHEN I HAVE ASKED THE LORD TO RESCUE ME - AGAIN! (COMMENT REGARDING BUILDING PROGRAM AND WAITING ON HIM.) (3) THE TEXT REMINDS US NOT TO BE IMPATIENT EVEN IN ADVERSITY BECAUSE GOD IS NEVER LATE. BE COURAGEOUS AND CONFIDENT, DON'T FAINT. GOD'S DELAYS ARE NOT HIS DENIALS. THEY ARE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCIPLINE. RELATE STORY OF "I'M NOT AFRAID." LK. 18:1

GRS
Dr
am

Wait
Dear Son
Don't Give Up
Toward God



THE MAN WHO LOVED TO GO TO CHURCH

PSALM 84

MOST DISPENSATIONALISTS BELIEVE THE CHURCH IS A NEW TESTAMENT ENTITY. MY PURPOSE IS NOT TO BLUR BIBLICAL DISTINCTIVES, BUT TO APPLY AND ENCOURAGE THE IDEA OF WORSHIP IN THE HOUSE OF GOD BY CALLING THE LOCATION BY ITS NEW TESTAMENT NAME. THE PERSON IN THIS PSALM WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND TEMPLE SERVICES FOR REASONS NOT MENTIONED. THIS SPIRITUAL PERSON HAD AN INTENSE DESIRE TO WORSHIP GOD. IN OTHER WORDS, HE LOVED TO ATTEND THE HOUSE OF GOD. MANY MILLIONS HAVE SHARED THAT SENTIMENT. (CAT STORY.) (FOR 100 YEARS, BURR OAK CHURCH HAS HAD PEOPLE WHO LOVED THE HOUSE OF GOD. I SEE FACES WHO WERE HERE 30 ~~100~~ YEARS AGO.) THE PSALMIST REVEALS THREE REASONS WHY HE LOVED TO GO TO CHURCH:

- I. HE FOUND THERE A SENSE OF BELONGING - :

VERSES 1-4 (RKS / Bee) SANCTUARY

IN THE HEBREW BIBLE, VERSE 1 BEGINS: "TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN". THE PSALM IS ADDRESSED TO THE CHOIR DIRECTOR IN THE TEMPLE. "GITTITH" - EITHER THE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT OR THE MELODY TO WHICH THIS PARTICULAR PSALM WAS SUNG WHILE TREADING THE GRAPES AT THE WINE PRESS. "SONS OF KORAH" - THE WRITERS OF THIS PSALM WERE TEMPLE MUSICIANS AND ALSO KEEPERS OF THE GATE IN THE TABERNACLE. THE WRITER MAY HAVE BEEN FAR FROM HOME AND THE HOUSE OF GOD. HOWEVER, SPIRITUAL PEOPLE ALWAYS HAVE A HIGH REGARD AND PRIORITY FOR THE HOUSE OF GOD. VERSE 1: THE WORD "AMIALE" MEANS EITHER LOVELY OR LOVED.

A. Lovely Place -

in Every way:

② What is seen? ② work of God
① What is Said? ① Christ!

Pages who more... Can't find a ch. like this one!

Appalachian B. College (Chapel)
- Oct. 1992

Burr Oak Baptist.
1992

Grace B. B. Ch.
March 1993

2nd B. B. Ch. - Martinsburg
Oct 1994

Fa. Ch. Baptist - Romney D.
Aug 1995

Galvary B. B. Ch.
- Portsmouth, O. March '98

Union Missionary B. B. Ch.
Chap. O. - March '99

Spring Hill B. B. Ch. - April 04

W
U U
U

THE MAN WHO LOVED TO GO TO CHURCH

PSALM 84

DISTINCTION: MOST DISPENSATIONALISTS BELIEVE THE CHURCH DID NOT EXIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT BUT IS A NEW ENTITY THAT CAME INTO EXISTENCE ON THE DAY OF PENTECOST. THE IDEA IS NOT TO BLUR BIBLICAL DISTINCTIVES BUT TO APPLY THE IDEA OF WORSHIP IN THE HOUSE OF GOD BY CALLING THE LOCATION BY ITS NEW TESTAMENT NAME.

INTRODUCTION: IN THE HEBREW BIBLE, VERSE 1 BEGINS: "TO THE CHIEF MUSICIAN". IN OTHER WORDS IT WAS WRITTEN TO THE CHOIR DIRECTOR IN THE TEMPLE. "GITTITH" (1) MELODY OR (2) MUSICAL INSTRUMENT. THIS PARTICULAR PSALM WAS SUNG AT THE TREADING OF THE GRAPES AT THE WINEPRESS. "SONS OF KORAH" - THE WRITERS OF THIS PSALM WERE TEMPLE MUSICIANS AND ALSO KEEPERS OF THE GATE IN THE TABERNACLE. (1 CHRON. 9:19, NUMBERS 16)

BACKGROUND: THE WRITER MAY HAVE BEEN FAR FROM HOME AND THE HOUSE OF GOD. HE REFLECTED ON THE LOST PRIVILEGE OF WORSHIP AND REVEALED HIS INTENSE DESIRE TO BE IN THE HOUSE OF GOD. POINT: THERE HAVE BEEN AND

ARE PEOPLE WHO LOVE TO GO TO CHURCH. WILLIAM JAMES SAID THAT SOME PEOPLE'S RELIGION IS A DULL ACHE WHILE OTHERS IS AN ACUTE FEVER! THIS MAN HAD A SPIRITUAL FEVER FOR GOD. TO HIM CHURCH WAS A BLESSING, NOT A BURDEN. THE SPIRITUAL MAN WILL ALWAYS HAVE A HIGH PRIORITY REGARDING THE HOUSE OF GOD. (RELATE CAT STORY AND CHERYL.) THE PSALM IS DIVIDED INTO THREE STANZAS FROM WHICH WE MAY LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT THE WRITER'S ATTITUDE FOR THE HOUSE OF GOD.

Cat - Volcanoes
1100

One Gospel Ch.

Bene, W.Va. Nov. 1994

Northgate Bp. - Pittsburg

Nov. 1994

1st Bp ch. St. Clair, Mich

Nov. 1994

Anna Lee Bp Ch.

Jan 1995

First Bp. Ch.

Prosper, W.Va

Apr 1995

STONE - Eden Ch.

Stoneville NC - 1989

Catary Baptist - Covington, Ky - Dec. 1990

Dr. Bess Ch.

Martinsburg, W.Va. - Oct. 1993

I. HE FOUND THE HOUSE OF GOD TO BE A PLACE OF

"SANCTUARY" - VERSES 1-4

(Some - drag - delight)

A Sense of Belonging - RW RES

THE WORD SANCTUARY MAY REFER TO A PLACE OF SAFETY. A PLACE OF HELP, HIDING, AND HOPE. (IT IS SO USED REGARDING POLITICAL ALIENS.) THE SANCTUARY PLAYED A LARGE ROLE IN THE PSALMIST'S LIFE. IT WAS THERE HE COULD ESCAPE FROM THE PHILOSOPHY AND THE PACE OF THE WORLD AND WORSHIP GOD. HE MENTIONS THREE DISTINCT IDEAS ABOUT THE SANCTUARY:

- (A) THE SANCTUARY OF GOD WAS A LOVELY PLACE (V. 1)

THERE IS SOME QUESTION WHETHER THE WORD AMIABLE MEANS LOVELY OR LOVED. BOTH IDEAS ARE TRUE. THE HOUSE OF GOD PLAYED A LARGE PART IN THIS SPIRITUAL MAN'S LIFE AND IN HIS VIEW IT SHOULD BE A BEAUTIFUL, INVITING, RESTFUL, COMFORTING AND WORSHIPFUL PLACE.

BY THE WAY, IT SHOULD BE CLEAN AND WELL KEPT - OUR TESTIMONY IS AT STAKE BY OUR APPEARANCE!

THOSE WHO HAVE NO MESSAGE MAKE TOO MUCH OF RITUAL AND FACILITIES AND WE WHO HAVE A BIBLICAL MESSAGE SOMETIMES MAKE TOO LITTLE OF IT!

((COMMENT REGARDING CATHEDRAL IN SAN FRANCISCO - ONE OF THE BUILDINGS ON THE TOUR.)) SOME FOLK NEVER SEEM TO FIT IN ANY LOCAL CHURCH. VANCE HAVNER SAYS THEY ARE LIKE THE NEIGHBORHOOD DOG - THEY WEAR NO COLLAR, THEY SIMPLY ROAM ALL OVER THE NEIGHBORHOOD, NEVER HAPPY, NEVER DEPENDABLE, NEVER EVER SETTLED. (COMMENT REGARDING AL KIZMAN REGARDING THE DIFFICULTY IN DETROIT - NO SENSE OF BELONGING.) FIND A PLACE AND A PROGRAM TO WHICH YOU CAN BE LOYAL AND BE LOYAL! NO CHURCH WILL FIT ALL OF OUR FOIBLES BUT THE MESSAGE IS THE KEY!

A

A Lovely Sanctuary

A

The way we think speak with we believe

Dear Dog?

Truly meet

Truly meet

Why I Don't ATTend ^{Foot Ball Games} ~~(the Sports Band)~~

1. Music Hard to Sing. (Star Spangled Banner Too high!)
2. No Body Friendly - (No one shook my hand - spoke -)
3. Parents make me go when small - now I don't want to go.
4. GOT out of the habit. (Once a year)
5. Money the motive. - Big everything.
\$ - stadium - party hot -
Keep it small!
6. Be just as good a fan at home - watch it on T.V.
7. Seats too hard - too odd - weather bad - had to walk - mile from p. lot.
8. People who attend - hypocrisite (drunk - hot -)
9. Quarterback / Coach never came to visit me
10. Didn't like the play called - I could do better -

B. A Longed For Sanctuary

Saved.
Married
Ordained
Preached
Blessed
Funeral

Local church!

(B) THE SANCTUARY OF GOD WAS A LONGED FOR PLACE - VERSES 2-3

WHEN THE WRITER-WORSHIPPER, PERHAPS IN A DISTANT LAND, THOUGHT OF THE WONDERFUL PRIVILEGE HE NO LONGER ENJOYED HE THOUGHT OF THE BIRDS WHO COULD BUILD THEIR NESTS NEAR THE TEMPLE AND HE THOUGHT OF THEM AS FORTUNATE INDEED. MANY TIMES THE VALUE OF OUR PRIVILEGE IS NOT KNOWN UNTIL IT VANISHES. (SLOGAN - "IT'S A PRIVILEGE TO BELONG TO CALVARY") WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF... "I CAN'T WAIT TO GET TO CHURCH TODAY!" MOTTO: "GET READY BEFORE YOU GET READY." EXPLAIN

Fl. looked

Usher
not done

- Never Rpt.
(1) Host - (Aunt) Flame
(2) Song - (Aunt) Flame
(3) welcome (Mrs. L)

"quiet life is still life!"

Mr. Coy

THE SANCTUARY OF GOD WAS A LIVELY PLACE - VERSE 4

THE WORD LIVING SUGGESTS LIFE AND NOT NECESSARILY LOUD. IT MAY BE NICE WITHOUT BEING NOISY. CHURCH NEED NOT BE DULL, DRY AND DEAD. IT SHOULD BE A PLACE OF PRAISE. EVERY CHURCH SHOULD ADOPT THE MOTTO: "P.G.A. - PRAISE GOD ANYHOW." WE SHOULD COME TO CHURCH TO BE AS BLESSING AS MUCH AS RECEIVE A BLESSING. OTHER FOLK ARE NOT INTERESTED IN OUR ORGAN RECITAL. DON'T TELL THEM ABOUT ALL OF THE ORGANS THAT HURT OR WON'T WORK! (RELATE STORY OF MAN WHO SAID PRAISE GOD IN CHURCH - USHERS USHERED HIM OUT; "I CAN'T HELP IT, I GOT SAVED." "WE CAN'T HELP IT, YOU DIDN'T GET IT HERE!")

II. HE FOUND THE HOUSE OF GOD TO BE A PLACE OF STRENGTH - VERSES 5-8

MANY TESTIFY OF THE TIMES WHEN THEY COME TO CHURCH SPIRITUALLY WEAK AND LEAVE SPIRITUALLY HELPED. (RELATE SANGSTER STORY.) THE PSALM SPEAKS OF SEVERAL IDEAS REGARDING STRENGTH:

Handwritten notes at the top left, including "1/2" and "1/4".

Handwritten text: "PLATE - 1/2" and "1/4".

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Redacted line of text.

Handwritten text: "1/2" and "1/4".

(A) STRENGTH'S SOURCE - VERSE 5

THE PHRASE IS "IN THEE" AND NOT "IN ME."

FORMULA: STAY CLOSE AND STAY STRONG.

"IN CONCLUSION, BE STRONG - NOT IN YOURSELF BUT IN THE LORD, IN THE POWER OF HIS BOUNDLESS RESOURCE." (EPHESIANS 6-10 PHILLIPS TRANSLATION)

"I AM READY FOR ANYTHING THROUGH THE STRENGTH OF THE ONE WHO LIVES WITHIN ME."

"SO, MY SON, BE STRONG IN THE GRACE THAT JESUS CHRIST GIVES." (11 TIM. 2:1)

RELATE STORY OF SAMPSON AND JOSHUA. "BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS BECAUSE YOU WILL LEAD THESE PEOPLE TO INHERIT THE LAND I SWORE TO THEIR FOREFATHERS TO GIVE THEM. BE STRONG AND VERY COURAGEOUS. BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS. DO NOT BE TERRIFIED, DO NOT BE DISCOURAGED, FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD WILL BE WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO." (JOSHUA 1:6-9)

(B) STRENGTH'S SORROWS - VERSE 6

THE WORD "BACA" MEANS "WEEPING". SORROW COMES TO ALL SOONER OR LATER EVEN THE STRONG.

(RELATE STORY OF COOS BAY, OREGON - DOUBLE RAINBOW) "THE WAY TO THE RAINBOW IS THROUGH THE RAIN."

TEARS MAY BE A SIGN OF STRENGTH AND NOT WEAKNESS. THE STRONG

SOMETIMES CRY. (RELATE STORY OF JOE GAR WITH REFERENCE TO GERALD FORD.) (PAUL REESE

TELLS THE STORY OF TWO MISSIONARIES WHO WENT TO INDIA MANY YEARS AGO. THEY LEFT THEIR SIX CHILDREN WHILE THEY WENT TO ANOTHER LOCATION TO MINISTER THE WORD OF GOD. WHILE THEY WERE GONE, A LANDSLIDE CRUSHED THE HOUSE KILLING ALL SIX CHILDREN. AFTER SUCH A DEVASTATING EXPERIENCE, THE MISSIONARIES WERE NOT BITTER OR DEFEATED. THEY SIMPLY LOOKED UPON IT AS AN ACT OF TRAGEDY IN LIFE THAT HAPPENS TO SOME. THEY WENT ON TO

Yester or
future -
5/6 chck burial -

Refs
to
Courage
... Discouraged!

Hill
of
Fame

THESE ARE THE

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

THESE ARE THE

ESTABLISH ONE OF THE LARGEST ORPHANAGES IN INDIA. YEARS LATER WHEN THEY TOLD THE STORY OF THEIR MISFORTUNE THAT RESULTED IN BLESSING TO HUNDREDS OF HOMELESS CHILDREN, THE MISSIONARIES SAID: "WE THANK GOD FOR EVERY SORROW THAT HAS COME INTO OUR LIVES." THE COMMENTATOR WHO HEARD THE TESTIMONY SAID: "THERE WERE TEARS IN THEIR EYES AS THEY SAID THIS, BUT THEY WERE RADIANT TEARS."

(C) STRENGTH'S ~~SPAN~~ SPAN - VERSE 7

THE GROWING CHRISTIAN WILL BE A STRONG CHRISTIAN. "FAR FROM FAINTING AND FALLING, HE GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH." (SCROGGIE) THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS A GROWING PROCESS. ONE WOULD EXPECT TO GET STRONGER AND STRONGER. THERE MUST COME A TIME WHEN IT IS NO LONGER SURVIVAL THAT IS IN THE MIND BUT SERVICE IS UPPERMOST. *McClain - p 12 -*

(D) STRENGTH'S SUPPLICATION - VERSE 8

STRONG PEOPLE PRAY. THE STRONGER THE MORE PEOPLE PRAY. I AM PERSUADED THAT IF A CHRISTIAN NEVER HAD DIFFICULTIES, SORROWS, DISAPPOINTMENTS, HE WOULD PRAY VERY LITTLE IF AT ALL. HOWEVER, IN THE MIDST OF ADVERSITY HE FINDS THE PRAYER MEETING OR A PRAYER PLACE A MUST IN HIS LIFE WHERE HE RESORTS TO GOD AND HIS SOLUTIONS FOR LIFE'S PROBLEMS. OUR SORROWS AND FRUSTRATIONS BRING US NEARER AND CLOSER TO GOD. IT IS ON OUR KNEES AND BACKS THAT WE GROW STRONG, ~~AND~~ ON OUR FEET.

and get

2.739726 yrs!

III. HE FOUND THE HOUSE OF GOD TO BE A PLACE OF SATISFACTION - VERSES 9-12

THE WRITER OF SCRIPTURE SPEAKS OF SOME INTERESTING ODDS - 1000 TO 1! ONE DAY WITH THE LORD IS BETTER THAN A THOUSAND ANYWHERE ELSE. THEN HE CONTRASTS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A DOORKEEPER AND A DWELLER. LEUPOLD SUGGESTS THAT THE WORD DOORKEEPER REFERS TO ONE WHO IS ABLE TO ADVANCE ONLY TO THE THRESHOLD OF THE TEMPLE. IN HIS MIND THAT IS PREFERRED TO THE THRONE IN THE TENTS OF THE GODLESS. IN OTHER WORDS, REAL SATISFACTION IN LIFE COMES FROM GODLINESS, NOT WICKEDNESS. (COMMENT ON STORY REPEATED OVER AND OVER AGAIN IN OUR LOCAL CHURCH. GOOD JOB, NICE HOME, FANCY CAR, INFLUENTIAL FRIENDS, REAL DISSATISFACTION. THE ANSWER TO THIS DILEMMA IS IN A RELATIVELY WELL-KNOWN YET LITTLE UNDERSTOOD STATEMENT OF OUR BLESSED LORD - "MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE." EXPLAIN.) THE PRODIGAL SON THOUGHT HIS FAME AND FORTUNE WERE IN THE FAR COUNTRY BUT IN REALITY THEY WERE IN THE FATHER'S HOUSE. HE DISCOVERED WHEN YOU EAT AT THE DEVIL'S TROUGH YOU SLEEP IN THE DEVIL'S PIGPEN. THE LORD IS A GIVER OF "GOOD THINGS" - GOOD HEALTH, GOOD JOB, GOOD FAMILY, GOOD FRIENDS. IT IS A LONG LIST OF GOOD THINGS. THE PSALMIST CONCLUDES HIS WRITING AROUND THE WORD TRUST. THROUGH TRUST, HE LEARNED TO RECEIVE FROM GOD THAT SPECIAL HELP HE NEEDED WHATEVER THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN LIFE. (COMMENT ON REGAN'S BOOK ENTITLED FOR THE RECORD.) POINT: HE TRUSTED IN A MAN WHOM HE BELIEVED LET HIM DOWN.

"O taste and see... the Lord is good."

(Peter Shaw - into great!)

(Heaton Worship)
(Chuck Sennitt)

(Abolition Biography)
(L. Barad)

v.p.
all in
Barkley
- and
dead!

(*)
cliff

2 works
to describe
man's
inner
working!

Tom Ellis
7005

HE FOUND THE HOUSE OF GOD TO BE
PLACE IN RELATION - VERMONT 1-2

THE WATER OF THE RIVER WAS SOME
INTERESTING TO THE PEOPLE

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

THEY WERE OF THE RIVER AND THE
WATER WAS OF THE RIVER

Handwritten notes and stamps on the right margin, including a circular stamp and a rectangular stamp.

Handwritten notes at the bottom left corner.

Intro Our New Address:
324 Romans
Road

(15:25) Being just had
freely by his grace
than the old redemption
that is in Christ
Jesus...

"IN CHRIST"
ROMANS 3:24

THE PHRASE, "IN CHRIST" APPEARS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE BIBLE HERE. OUR SPIRITUAL POSITION IS INDICATED BY A SIMPLE PREPOSITION. IT IS A TECHNICAL TERM USED BY PAUL TO REFER TO THE BELIEVER'S STANDING OR POSITION IN CHRIST. THE BELIEVER IS ACCEPTED BEFORE GOD AND ENJOYS A PERMANENT, UNCHANGEABLE RELATIONSHIP TO HIM. JUST AS A BIRD DEPENDS UPON THE AIR FOR FLIGHT, JUST AS A FISH DEPENDS UPON WATER FOR SURVIVAL, JUST AS A TREE DEPENDS UPON SOIL FOR NOURISHMENT, SO THE BELIEVER'S SPIRITUAL ATMOSPHERE AND ENVIRONMENT IS JESUS CHRIST. THE BIBLE SEES EVERY PERSON IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SPIRITUAL ADDRESSES - HE IS EITHER "IN ADAM" OR "IN CHRIST." HE IS NEVER "IN NEUTRAL." SO, JUST AS EVERY PERSON HAS A GEOGRAPHICAL ADDRESS SO HE HAS A SPIRITUAL ADDRESS. TO BE SURE, FOR SOME IT IS DIFFICULT TO LOCATE THAT ADDRESS. YET THE BIBLE MAKES IT VERY CLEAR. (COMMENT REGARDING PEOPLE WHO MOVE TO CHARLESTON ESPECIALLY IN SOUTH HILLS. WHEN ASKED HOW OUR CITY WAS DEVELOPED, ONE WAS SAID IT WAS LAID OUT BY AN ENGINEER FOLLOWING A GOAT.) VERSES SUCH AS II CORINTHIANS 5:17, I THESSALONIANS 4:16 EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS TECHNICAL EXPRESSION. LET US EXAMINE SOME OF THE BENEFITS AND BLESSINGS THE BELIEVER ENJOYS - "IN CHRIST."

I. IN CHRIST THE BELIEVER HAS ACCESS TO GOD

ROMANS 5:2

(Romans outline) 5:1 "therefore - Just
8:1 " " - Just
12:1 " - Conclude

THIS VERSE APPEARS IN THE SECOND MAJOR DIVISION OF ROMANS. (EXPLAIN) THE WORD ACCESS MEANS RIGHT OF APPROACH. IT MEANS TO LEAD OR BRING NEAR. IT WAS USED IN ANCIENT TIMES TO DESCRIBE A PERSON WHO USHERED PEOPLE INTO THE

Stacy House
White House
Cabela House

"Access Code"
"PIN"
Book
2 = R. Spauldy

I.B.C. Martinsburg W.Va.
Feb. 1994

Orange Gospel Ch.

Barren, WVA. NOV. 1994

Orange Bible Ch - Hudson Fla.
Feb. 1995

Elkhorn Bap. Ch - Feb. 1995

Orange Bible Ch. Id. June 1995

Rocky Ridge G.B.C. - July 1995

East Huntsville Bap. Ch.
NC. Sept. 1995

People's Bap. Ch.
Tengs Valley - Oct 1995

Berkley Bap. - SAIBans
Oct. 1995

Hunters Bap. ~~Ch~~ Burlington, NC.
Dec. 1995

Elij Bap. Ch. - Barnett Bend.
Dec 1995

Emmanuel Bap.
Huntsville, SC. (S.S. class)
- Feb 1996

MT. Tabor Bap. Ch.
Berkley, WVA. March 1996

Gibson C. & F. B. C. Ch. - May 1996
Gibson City - Ill - (one)

Jury Duty
(1) Judge
(2) Jury

PRESENCE OF ROYALTY. IT WAS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE PRESENCE OF A KING WITHOUT PERMISSION OR AUTHORIZATION. A CERTAIN OFFICER IN THE ORIENTAL COURT HAD THAT RESPONSIBILITY AND THE TERM USED TO DESCRIBE THE WORD ACCESS IS THE VERY TERM THAT WAS USED TO IDENTIFY THAT SPECIAL PERSON. WE HAVE ALL LEARNED THERE ARE PEOPLE, PLACES AND POSITIONS THAT ARE SIMPLY INACCESSIBLE TO MOST OF US. THERE ARE PLACES THAT ARE ACCESSIBLE "BY INVITATION ONLY" - ALL OTHERS STAY OUT! I LEARNED THE MEANING OF THIS TERM IN A SPECIAL WAY IN OUR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. (RELATE STORY OF LONG, TENUOUS ATTEMPT TO GAIN ACCESS TO OUR CHURCH PROPERTY ON CORRIDOR G. THE ROAD THAT FINALLY LINKED ANGEL TERRACE APPROXIMATELY 100 YARDS IN LENGTH RUNNING PARALLEL TO A FOUR-LANE HIGHWAY IS CALLED - AN ACCESS ROAD!) THE HUMBLEST BELIEVER HAS IMMEDIATE ACCESS INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD BECAUSE OF HIS IDENTIFICATION WITH JESUS CHRIST - A SON WHO HAS LEGAL RIGHT TO ENTER INTO GOD'S PRESENCE ANY AND ALL TIMES!

II. IN CHRIST THE BELIEVER HAS AN ADVOCATE BEFORE GOD - I JOHN 2:1

THIS WORD ADVOCATE IS USED IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN TO DESCRIBE THE HOLY SPIRIT AND IS TRANSLATED COMFORTER. IT LITERALLY REFERS TO ONE WHO PLEADS THE CAUSE OF ANOTHER. A LAWYER IS A JUDICIAL ADVOCATE. (I' ~~am not a lawyer~~) A BOOK ENTITLED "THE MAN TO SEE." IT IS THE BIOGRAPHY OF EDWARD BENNETT WILLIAMS. HE REPRESENTED ALL KINDS OF PEOPLE FROM CROOKS TO CONGRESSMEN, THE RICH AND FAMOUS, THE POOR AND NOT SO FAMOUS - HE WAS THEIR ADVOCATE IN COURT. WHAT DID HE DO? HE KEPT MANY IF NOT MOST OF THEM OUT OF JAIL. IN VERY FEW CASES DID HIS CLIENTS GO TO JAIL. FOR MOST LIKE GOVERNOR JOHN CONNALLY OR WASHINGTON LAWYER CLARK CLIFFORD HE

Common Folk

Cottagemill
Eagle, W.Va.
June 1996

Liverview Bp Ch.
Rippledand, Va. Aug 1996

Stegmiller Bp Ch.
Roanoke, Va. Aug 1996

Terre Haute Bible Center
T. H. Ind. Oct. 1996

New Hope Bp Ch.
July 1997

Calvary Bp Ch.

W. Williamson, W.Va.

Sept '97

Vision Bp Ch.

Oct '97

Platttown, N.C.

Ann's Creek Bp Ch.
Oct '97

Fellowship Bible Ch

Bridgeport W.V. - Jan '98

Calvary Bp Ch. - March '98
Tortson, W.V.

Johnston Chapel - Princeton, W.V. / April '98

Huntsville Bible Ch. - Hot Springs, Ala. - May '98

Union Missionary Bp Ch

July '98 - Chesapeake, D.

Faith Bp Ch.

Cornington, Va.
Aug - '98

LAST sentence in the man to see: re Ben Badlee:
after Williams death in 1988

3

In years after, Badlee
... in times of trouble, Badlee
... reach for the phone to
call Ed Williams
remembered that trial just
over

most

SIMPLY WAS THE BEST TRIAL LAWYER OF HIS DAY! NO
CLARK CLIFFORD WROTE TO HIM THE FOLLOWING WORDS
OF GRATITUDE AFTER WILLIAMS SUCCESSFULLY
DEFENDED CLIFFORD IN A HIGHLY PUBLICIZED CASE
"I AM TROUBLED THAT THERE IS SOMEONE WHO WAS
ATTEMPTING TO TRAFFIC INTO THE DESTRUCTION OF
SOMETHING I HAVE SPENT A WHOLE LIFE TRYING TO
BUILD AND PRESERVE, BUT THE FACT THAT **YOU ARE**
WITH ME WHEN I NEED YOU ALMOST MAKES THE WHOLE
EXPERIENCE WORTHWHILE." AN ADVOCATE IS HIS
CLIENT'S FRIEND, YOUR CASE IS HIS CASE, YOUR
CAUSE HIS CAUSE. A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP EXISTS
BETWEEN CLIENT AND COUNSELOR. THE BELIEVER HAS
SOMEONE IN HEAVEN WHO SPEAKS IN HIS FAVOR, WHO
CHAMPIONS HIS CAUSE BEFORE GOD. EVERY NEW
BELIEVER NEEDS TO LEARN A VERY IMPORTANT
SPIRITUAL LESSON IN THE AREA OF **ADVOCACY**. THERE
IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SPIRITUAL BATH OF
REGENERATION AND THE SPIRITUAL CLEANSING OF
RENEWED FELLOWSHIP. (JOHN 13:10) THERE ARE
TWO LINKS THAT BIND THE BELIEVER TO GOD.
(EXPLAIN) THE BELIEVER IS ENCOURAGED TO "SIN
NOT" - THAT MEANS NOT EVEN ONE TIME. GOD DOES
NOT ADVOCATE SIN BUT HE HAS PROVIDED AN
ADVOCATE WHEN THE BELIEVER DOES SIN. GOD'S
INSTRUCTION TO THE BELIEVER IS NOT UNLIKE A
PARENT'S INSTRUCTION TO HIS CHILD ON THE FIRST
DAY OF SCHOOL. SIN IS SO HEINOUS THAT THE
THOUGHT OF PERMITTING IT EVEN ONE TIME IS
UNTHINKABLE. TO THE CHILD OF GOD, SIN IS
ACCIDENTAL AND OCCASIONAL NOT HABITUAL. THIS
VERSE IS NOT GIVEN WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT
GOD'S PEOPLE ARE SINLESS. BUT IT IS GOD'S
WILL FOR HIS CHILDREN THAT THEY SIN LESS. FOR
EXAMPLE, RACE CARS ARE DESIGNED TO RUN AND NOT
CRASH. EVEN THOUGH ONE IS A GOOD DRIVER THERE
ARE CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN EVEN THE BEST OF
RACERS CRASH. FOR THAT REASON EVERY CAR IS
EQUIPPED WITH SAFETY FEATURES AND EQUIPMENT
SUCH AS ROLL BARS, SAFETY HARNESS, HELMET,
FIRE PROOF CLOTHING, FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND

Matt.
28.46

Re-
do

Job.
9.33

Adam
Rutty
NASCAR

Lee
Rutty
Kyle
Adam

Mom-School

Dayton Beach!
2005!

Parliament Bap. College - Sept '98

Cross Lanes Bible Ch. - Jan 99

Bothlehem Bap. Ch. - Dahlonega,
Ga. May 99

Calvary Bap. Ch. - Raleigh, NC
Nov. 1999

Kings Mills

Bap. Ch. - Mason, O.
Feb. 2000

Grace Bap. Ch. - Louisville, NC
- May 2000

Calvary Bap. Ch. - New Bern, NC.
June 2000

Community Bible Ch. -
Winston, Ind. - June 2000

Keenerly Rd. Bap. Ch.
Irmo, S.C. - July 2000

West Madison Bap. Ch.
Madison, WV Aug 2000

Colonial Bap. Ch. Blue Ridge, Va
Aug 2000

Tri-City Bap. Ch. - Petersburg - Sept 2000

Goodwill Bap. Ch. - Richmond, Va
Sept 2000

Grace Bap. Ch.
Bedford Va - May - 01

Grace Way - S. Ches. WV
Oct. 01

Titanic

- 4 -

Titanic

Cruise
Ship

OTHER EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT FOR JUST THAT - THE EMERGENCY SITUATION. 2 AIRPLANES ARE DESIGNED TO FLY AND NOT CRASH. 3 SHIPS ARE DESIGNED TO FLOAT AND NOT SINK BUT THERE ARE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES SO THAT PASSENGERS MAY BE FULLY PROTECTED. THIS VERSE IS FOR THE EMERGENCY SITUATION SO THAT THE BELIEVER MAY CONTINUE IN UNBROKEN FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD. JESUS CHRIST OUR ADVOCATE MAKES THAT POSSIBLE. (EXPLAIN EXPERIENCE OF GORDY BARNARD AND PARKING LOT SCUFFLE.)

III. IN CHRIST THE BELIEVER HAS AN ANCHOR FOR

THE SOUL - HEBREWS 6:19-20

THE SCENE IS A NAUTICAL SCENE - IT HAS TO DO WITH SHIPS, THE SEA AND SHIP EQUIPMENT. ONE FUNCTION OF AN ANCHOR IS TO KEEP A SHIP OR BOAT FROM DRIFTING. WHAT AN ANCHOR IS TO A BOAT, HOPE IS TO THE CHRISTIAN. (RELATE SEMINARY JOB IN FOUNDARY TO LEARN THAT EVEN SMALL BOATS NEED AN ANCHOR. THE SEA OF LIFE IS SOMETIMES ROUGH AND ONES BOAT IS TOSSED TO AND FRO - HOPE GOES DEEP BENEATH THE STORM TO FASTEN TO THE SURE PROMISES OF THE WORD OF GOD. FOR SOME, HOPE IS AN UNCERTAIN INDEFINITE TERM, SUCH AS "I HOPE I'M SAVED." THE IDEA IS THAT OF WISHING, LUCK OR FORTUNE. IT CARRIES THE IDEA OF MUDDLING THROUGH TO MAKE IT TO HEAVEN. HOWEVER, THE BIBLE WORD HOPE IS A TERM OF CERTAINTY. YOU WILL REMEMBER THAT IT WAS THE KEY CALLED HOPE ON A CHAIN AROUND CHRISTIAN'S NECK WHICH UNLOCKED EVERY DOOR IN DOUBTING CASTLE. DR. IRONSIDE TELLS AN INTERESTING STORY ABOUT THE USAGE OF THE TERM FORERUNNER IN THE TEXT. HE SUGGESTS THAT THIS TERM REFERS TO A SMALL BOAT THAT WAS USED BY GREEK SHIPS WHEN THEY CAME TO A HARBOR THAT WAS NOT PASSABLE AT LOW TIDE. IT WAS CUSTOMARY TO PLACE ANCHOR IN A BOAT THAT WAS CALLED THE FORERUNNER AND CAST THE ANCHOR INSIDE THE HARBOR THUS SECURING THE SHIP UNTIL THE TIDE CHANGED. THE BELIEVER'S SECURITY IS

(*) (QE = anchor)

- New Zion Bp Ch / Trinaculum WV
- Emmanuel Bp Ch ^{Sept - 02}
Fayetteville, WV - Feb. 03
- Grace Bible Ch - Lansing Mich - June 03
- Big Bottom Bp Ch. - Chesapeake - July 03
- 1st Bp Ch. Gallipolis, OH - Nov. 03
- ~~Community Bp Ch. - Rocksville, NC. - Mar. 04~~
~~considered~~
- Spring Hill B. Ch. - March 04
- Community Bp Ch. - 6 - 04
- 1st Bp Ch. Elmore WV - Oct 05
- " " " Whitesville WV. Oct 05
- ~~S. B. Ch. - Ashland, Ky - Nov. 05~~
- Valle G. Ch.
Hagerstown, Md. - Feb 06
- Christ Community Ch. - May - 06
Hantersville, NC.
- Heritage Bp. Ch. - June 06
Elkview WV
- Winfield Bp. Ch. - July 06
Winfield, WV
- Calvary Bp Ch. - July 06
Raleigh, NC.
- Great Gospel Ch. - Aug 06
Parkersburg, WV
- App. Bible College - Oct. 06
- Fellowship Bp. Ch. - Boonville WV
Aug 07
- East Lynn Bp. Ch. - Sept. 07
" " WV

GUARANTEED BECAUSE HIS HOPE IS BOUND UP IN JESUS CHRIST WHO IS ALREADY SAFELY INSIDE THE HARBOR OF GLORY!

IV. IN CHRIST THE BELIEVER HAS AN ALTAR THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO GOD - HEBREWS 13:10

OLD TESTAMENT STUDENTS ARE AWARE THAT ALTAR WAS A SPECIAL WORD. FOR EXAMPLE THE BRAZEN ALTAR WAS THE LARGEST OF THE SEVEN PIECES OF FURNITURE IN THE TABERNACLE, IT WAS THE FIRST WHEN ONE ENTERED THE GATE FOR IT SIGNIFIED THE PLACE OF SACRIFICE OR THE FIRST STEP IN ONE'S APPROACH TO GOD. IT WAS BRASS BECAUSE BRASS IS THE SYMBOL OF JUDGMENT. THEREFORE, MAN'S APPROACH TO GOD BEGINS AT THE ALTAR WHERE THE BLOOD WAS SHED. ANY OTHER APPROACH WAS UNACCEPTABLE. THIS WAS THE LESSON CAIN NEVER LEARNED! THE FIRST ALTAR I ENCOUNTERED IN CHURCH WAS NOT IN A CATHEDRAL IN ROME BUT IN A RURAL BAPTIST CHURCH WHERE IT WAS CALLED "A MOURNERS' BENCH." LATER ON, I LEARNED THAT IT WAS NOT THE PLACE BUT THE PERSON WHO WAS THE PROPER ALTAR. IN CHRIST, GOD HAS MADE ADEQUATE BELIEVER FOR THE SINNER'S APPROACH TO GOD. (MANY YEARS AGO ON A VISIT TO MEXICO 30 MILES N.E. OF MEXICO CITY AT A PLACE CALLED TAOTAWACON - THE PYRAMID OF THE SUN. IT SEEMS THAT YEARS AGO INDIANS THOUGHT OF THE SUN AS THE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE AND BELIEVED THAT THIS GOD MUST BE FED WITH HUMAN SACRIFICES AND SPECIFICALLY THE HUMAN HEART. FOR THAT REASON, CAPTIVES IN WAR WERE SAVED FOR THAT SPECIAL PROVISION. ON ONE RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY TWENTY THOUSAND WERE SACRIFICED. EACH YEAR ON A CERTAIN RELIGIOUS HOLIDAY A SINGLE BOY WOULD CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THE PYRAMID OF THE SUN SOME 250+ STEPS TO THE TOP LAY HIMSELF BACKWARD ACROSS A STONE ALTAR THEN A PRIEST WOULD OPEN HIS CHEST CAVITY WITH AN AXE AND KNIFE REMOVE

- Lower Fall Byp Ch.
Staiths W.V. Feb 08
- New Valley Fellowship Mar 08
Nassau, Va.
- C. Kerley - Jacksonville NC
Oct. 08

HIS BEATING HEART FROM HIS BODY AND OFFER IT AS A SACRIFICE TO THE GOD OF THE SUN.) I AM GLAD THAT NO SUCH SACRIFICE IS REQUIRED OF US BEFORE GOD. OUR SACRIFICE HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE AT A PLACE CALLED CALVARY. (COMMENT REGARDING BROOKE - "I DID IT, ~~I'M GUILTY~~, ~~I'M RESPONSIBLE~~, I'M SORRY!")

Its my fault!

Jean Edmonds

*(3 daughters now.)
1 grandson*

