

Christian Church of God

801 Quail Creek Drive
Amarillo, Texas 79124



The periodic enclosure of CHRISTIAN APPEAL is a special treat for your perusal and enjoyment. Some doctrinal, social, and cultural views will not be those of the Christian Church of God.

Christian Church of God Newsletter



Volume 20, Issue 3 May/June 2012

Hello My Sisters & Brothers,

In May & June we have Mother's Day, Pentecost on May 27th and Father's Day. On the second weekend of the month of May, we make a special effort to show our mothers the depth of our love, respect, admiration & appreciation for the most important job on the face of God's green earth. I get so aggravated at those secularists who demean motherhood and "full time mothers" as if it were a second tier career. I like the term "full time mothers" over the demeaning term "stay at home mothers" as the latter indicates they are dogging it and taking the easy way out over those who choose careers over children. Of course, I know that there are circumstances that do not allow some mothers the privilege of being full time moms, thank God for those can and do fulfill the virtue of

shaping and molding our next generation. For those of us who were blessed with full time moms growing up, we sing their praises! What a crown is laid up for those who changed career plans and put their children ahead of their own interests. What love that displays.

It is our duty to "honor" our mother and father. Of course, we give special honor and appreciation for the other half of God's family team on Father's Day, our Dads! But, back to Mothers. You cannot dishonor and disrespect your mother and be right with God. If your mother is still alive, don't miss the opportunity to love and honor her, and men, let us not forget our wives!

I share with you an anonymous poem I enjoyed:



Then the LORD said to me,
"Write my answer plainly on
tablets, so that a runner can
carry the correct message to
others." Hab 2:2
(NLT)





Let us go into His tabernacle; Let us worship at His footstool (Psalms 132:7, NKJV).

Behold, bless the LORD, All you servants of the LORD, Who by night stand in the house of the LORD! ² Lift up your hands *in* the sanctuary, And bless the LORD. ³ The LORD who made heaven and earth Bless you from Zion! (Psalms 134:1-3, NKJV)

Praise the name of the LORD. Praise him, you servants of the LORD ² who are standing in the house of the LORD, in the courtyards of the house of our God. ³ Praise the LORD because he is good. Make music to praise his name because his name is beautiful (Psalms 135:1-3, GW).

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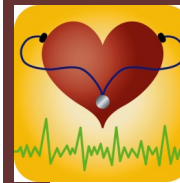
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CHECK THIS MEDIA

EMAIL:
CCOFGOD@SUDDENLINK.NET

OUR SERMONS BROADCAST
ON

KGRO RADIO 9:05 AM
SUNDAY.



Heartbeats

Editorial
Jerry McClenagan

Guard your heart more than anything else,
because the source of your life flows from it.
Proverbs 4:23 (GW)

WORKING OUR WAY THROUGH THE MAZE

One of the curses for disobedience is listed in Deuteronomy: "The LORD will afflict you with madness, blindness and confusion of mind" (Deut 28:28, NIV).

Confusion and disorientation were frequently on David's mind as he penned the Psalms—especially did he pray that his enemies would be frustrated and confused: "Let them be confounded and put to shame that seek after my soul: let them be turned back and brought to **confusion** that devise my hurt" (Psalms 35:4); "Confuse the wicked, O Lord, confound their speech, ..." (Psalms 55:9, NIV).

On the positive side he prayed for himself and God's people that they would *not* be confounded: "They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not

confounded" (Psalms 22:5).

Because Satan "deceives the whole world" Rev. 12:9), we must work our way through the maze.

The good news is that we have a Guide: the Word (both the written and the personified). We have God's guidance to enable us to get through the maze: "I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free" (Psalms 119:32, NIV); "Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight" (Psalms 119:35, NIV); "Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me" (Psalms 119:133, NIV).

When you see an overhead view of a maze you can figure out a way through it. Remember, that is God's viewpoint, and He is your Guide! ◇



GRACE & GLORY

For the Lord God is a Sun and Shield; the Lord bestows [present] grace *and* favor and [future] glory (honor, splendor, and heavenly bliss)! No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly. (Psalms 84:11, AMP)



For the Lord God is a sun and shield. Pilgrims need both as the weather may be, for the cold would smite them were it not for the sun, and foes are apt to waylay the sacred caravan, and would haply destroy it if it were without a shield. Heavenly pilgrims are not left uncomfortable or unprotected. The pilgrim nation found both sun and shield in that fiery cloudy pillar which was the symbol of Jehovah's presence, and the Christian still finds both light and shelter in the Lord his God. A sun for happy days and a shield for dangerous ones. A sun above, a shield around. A light to show the way and a shield to ward off its perils. Blessed are they who journey with such a convoy; the sunny and shady side of life are alike happy to them.

The Lord will give grace and glory. Both in due time, both as needed, both to the full, both with absolute certainty. The Lord has both grace and glory in infinite abundance; Jesus is the fulness of both, and, as his chosen people, we shall receive both as a free gift from the God of our salvation. What more can the Lord give, or we receive, or desire.

No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. Grace makes us walk uprightly and this secures every covenant blessing to us. What a wide promise! Some apparent good may be withheld, but no real good, no, not one. "All things are yours, and ye are Christ's, and Christ is God's." God has all good, there is no good apart from him, and there is no good which he either needs to keep back or will on any account refuse us, if we are but ready to receive it. We must be upright and

neither lean to this or that form of evil: and this uprightness must be practical, —we must *walk* in truth and holiness, then shall we be heirs of all things, and as we come of age all things shall be in our actual possession; and meanwhile, according to our capacity for receiving shall be the measure of the divine bestowal. This is true, not of a favoured few, but of all the saints for evermore.
—Treasury of David, The

Hints to the Village Preacher

I. What God is to his people. A sun and shield.

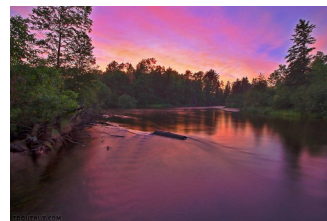
1. The source of all good;
2. a defence from all evil.

II. What he gives.

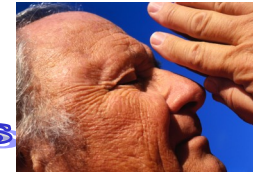
1. Grace here;
2. glory hereafter.

III. What he withholds.

All that is not good. If he withholds health or wealth, or his own smiles from us, it is because they are not good for us at that particular time. *G. R.* —Treasury of David, The



Prayer Requests



“ . . . The prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up; . . . Pray for one another that you may be healed.” — James 5:15-16.

Amber & Dylan Clark: Grandchildren of Betty Clark, cerebral palsy.

Betty Clark: Recuperating after being hospitalized for 10 days with pulmonary & heart difficulties.

Dan Copenhauer: Betty Clark's brother, pneumonia.

Vickie Crevoi: Sister of Linda Booth, Chronic Progressive MS.

Mary Jo Flatt: James Bailey's sister. She is still undergoing treatment for bladder cancer and is dealing with the side effects of the procedures.

Velvet Green: Suffers from schizophrenia and is having a hard time right now.

Joe Kirkpatrick: Underwent surgery to remove a number of bladder tumors and has just completed another series of chemo treatments .

Anna Law: In need of a kidney transplant; she has dialysis three times a week. Her condition has worsened and she is in a very weakened and frail state.

Dollie Meil: She suffers with cerebral palsy and lung problems. Has been moved to Grace House Bldg. 3 Room 3, 6502 4th Street, Lubbock, TX 79416

Ted Rankin: MS; he is trying alternative treatments.

Ben Vorhries: Is on his second deployment to Afghanistan.

Helen Arnold-Maker: Breast cancer, on arimidex pill. Pray with others for her complete recovery.

IF YOU HAVE UPDATES OR NEW REQUESTS PLEASE INFORM THE EDITOR.

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PraiseReport

Helen Arnold-Maker thanks each of you for your prayers. A recent scan showed her to be cancer free!

Celebrations⁴

MAY

Birthdays:

Glennis McAlister 5-4
Linda Sehorn 5-16
Jeff Booth 5-19
Joe Kirkpatrick 5-19
Thomas Vines 5-19

Anniversaries:

Shannon & Russ Stephens 5-20
Bill & Jackie Ballew 5-24

JUNE

Birthdays

James Bailey 6-2
Henry Sellers 6-10
Bill Dufur 6-30

Anniversaries

Jeff & Linda Booth 6-1
Ken & JoAn Westby 6-1



Happy
Mothers
Day!

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Pentecost

Sunday, May 27th

C.E.P. Bible Class: 11:00 a.m.
Holyday Worship Service: 11:45 a.m.

Pot Luck Lunch

Following Pentecost Services.



Rejoice in the Festivals of God!

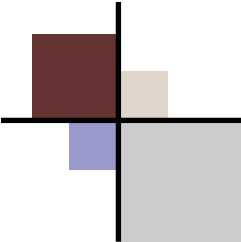
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Then you and your household shall eat there in the presence of the LORD your God and **rejoice**" (Deut. 14:26b, NIV).

The Feast of Weeks (23:15-22)

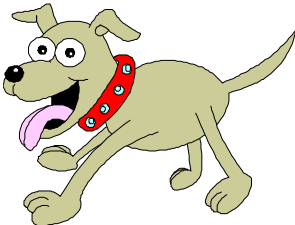
The Feast of Weeks (cf. [Num. 28:26](#); [Deut. 16:10](#)) was known in New Testament times as the day of Pentecost ([Acts 2:1](#); Gr. *pentēkostē*, “50th,” from which comes the Eng. “Pentecost”) because it was celebrated seven weeks plus 1 day (50 days) after the wave offering of the barley sheaf during the Feast of Unleavened Bread ([Lev. 23:15-16](#)). It was also called the Feast of Harvest ([Ex. 23:16](#); cf. [34:22](#)) and “the day of firstfruits” ([Num. 28:26](#)). As an early summer agricultural celebration at the end of the wheat harvest (cf. [Ex. 34:22](#)), it was both distinct from and yet related to the previous firstfruits of barley. The designated time lapse of 50 days links together this firstfruits offering at the end of early summer wheat harvest with that of the preceding firstfruits offering at the beginning of the spring barley harvest. No such time sequence is specified to link these celebrations with the fall festivals which were simply introduced as occurring on designated days in the seventh month (cf. [Lev. 23:23, 27, 34](#)). Of the three major feasts (cf. [Deut. 16:1, 3, 6](#); [Lev. 23:42-43](#)), only the Feast of Weeks is not identified in the Old Testament with some prior occasion in Israel’s history that it commemorates. Jewish tradition, however, supplied such an occasion by relating it to the day Moses was given the Law of God

[23:15-17](#). Following the identification of the time elements in this feast ([vv. 15-16a](#)), the key feature of presenting **an offering of new grain to the LORD** is explained as bringing **two loaves** of *leavened* bread **as a wave offering of firstfruit to the LORD**. This is the one time in the year when leavened bread was brought to the Lord, though none of it was burned on the altar. The bread was leavened by placing in the dough a lump of leaven (i.e., sourdough) from bread of the preceding barley harvest, thus reemphasizing the close connection between the barley and wheat harvests, and the festivals associated with them.



CONT. FROM PG.
7: INNER PEACE >>>

... THEN YOU ARE
PROBABLY THE FAMILY
DOG!



[CONT.
FROM
PAGE
ONE]



5

No Occupation

She rises up at break of day and through her tasks she races.
She cooks the meals as best she may and scrubs the children’s faces
While schoolbooks, lunches, homework too, all need consideration...
And yet the census man insists
She has— “No Occupation”
When breakfast dishes all are done
She bakes a pudding, maybe.
She cleans the rooms up, one by one,
With one eye watching baby.
The mending pile she then attacks
by way of variation.
And yet the census man insists
She has — “No Occupation.”
She irons for a little while, then presses pants for Daddy.
She welcomes with a cheery smile returning lass and laddie.
A hearty dinner next she cooks...no time for relaxation,
And yet the census man insists
She has— “No Occupation.”

Let us not take our mothers and wives for granted...they civilize us men!

Some years ago I found this and still love it:

When God Created Mothers

When the good Lord created mothers, He was into His sixth day of overtime, when an angel appeared and said,
“You’re doing a lot of fiddling around on this one.”
The Lord replied, “have you seen the specs on this order? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic; Have 180 moveable parts ... all replaceable; Run on black coffee and leftovers; Have a lap that disappears when she stands up; A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a

disappointing love affair; And six pair of hands.”
The angel shook her head slowly and said, “Six pair of hands? No way!”
“It’s not the hands that are causing me problems,” said the Lord. “It’s the three pair of eyes that mothers have to have.”
“One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks ‘What are you kids doing in there?’ when she already knows. Another in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn’t, but what she needs to know, and of course the ones in front that look at a child when he goofs up and say, ‘I understand and I love you,’ Without so much as uttering a word. “I’m so close to creating something so close to myself. Already, I have one who heals herself when she is sick ...can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger ...and get a nine year old to stand under a shower. Not only can she think, she can reason and compromise.”
Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek of the mother. “There’s a leak,” she pronounced, “I told you that you were trying to put too much in this model.”
“That’s not a leak,” said the Lord, “it’s a tear.”
“What is it for?” asked the angel.
The Lord replied, “It’s for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness and pride.”
“You’re a genius!” shouted the angel.
With a somber look on his face, the Lord said, “I didn’t put it there.”

How about a hand now for the crowning jewel of God’s creation: our mothers!
Lord, help us never to be too busy for mom or wife.

Thanking God,

Jeff Booth

A Tribute to Mom

There is an enduring tenderness in the love of a mother to her children that transcends all other affections of the heart!

It is neither to be chilled by selfishness, nor daunted by danger, nor weakened by worthlessness, nor stifled by ingratitude. She will sacrifice every comfort to their convenience; she will surrender every pleasure to their enjoyment: she will glory in their fame, and exult in their prosperity ~ and if misfortune overtake them they will be the dearer to her from misfortune; and if disgrace settle upon them she will still love and cherish them in spite of their disgrace; and if all the world beside cast them off she will be all the world to them.
~ Washington Irving (revised)

Chuckles

7

A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.
~ Prov 17:22 (NLT)

Inner Peace

If you can start the day without caffeine,

If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,

If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,

If you can eat the same food everyday and be grateful for it,

If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,

If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,

If you can conquer tension without medical help,

If you can relax without liquor,

If you can sleep without the aid of drugs, . . . [cont. on bottom pg. 8]



"We interrupt this Special Bulletin to give you an even **MORE SPECIAL BULLETIN!**"

