



Christian Church of God Newsletter

Volume 18, Issue 7 Nov/Dec 2010

Hello,

friendly.

Ah, November, home to our holiday of gratitude called "Thanksgiving." Thanksgiving is not a commemoration of the Pilgrims hosting a dinner to thank the Indians, now referred to as Native Americans, nor was the original Thanksgiving inspired by the harvest festivals in Europe. Thanksgiving is an original and uniquely inspired Christian celebration. The Pilgrims had steadfastly relied upon their faith in God, trusting in Him through all their adversity.

Thanksgiving should be one of our family's favorite celebrations and not just for turkey and football. Thanksgiving paints a picture of God bringing people together to accomplish a specific purpose. God's calling is never easy, often difficult and never popular. Barbara Curtis, in Christian Parenting Today, tells the story of that first, uniquely Christian and uniquely American celebration of gratitude:

|| In the early 1600s the Wampanoag Indians inhabited the coast of what we now call New England. They raised crops, lived close to the ocean in summer for seafood, and moved inland in winter to set up hunting camps. Their encounters with Europeans over the years were mostly

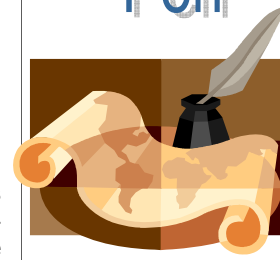
But there was one exception: In 1614 Captain Thomas Hunt captured several Wampanoag, along with a Patuxet Indian named Squanto, to be sold into slavery in Spain. A Spanish monk purchased Squanto's freedom, taught him Spanish, introduced him to Jesus Christ and sent him to England. In 1619, Squanto returned to his native land, only to find that his tribe had been wiped out by an epidemic. Thereafter he made his home with the Wampanoag.

Meanwhile, in 1608, a British group called Separatists fled to Leyden, Holland. There they found religious freedom, but also poverty, grueling work hours, and a secular culture that threatened to undo the values they had carefully instilled in their children. In 1620, they sold all their belongings to help finance their journey to America.

On the *Mayflower's* voyage, the Separatists were joined by another group of people bound for America. They called these people Strangers. The two groups, 102 people altogether, were called Pilgrims.

Their journey lasted nine weeks. In one of those divine "accidents" that change the course of history, the ship lost its course and landed far north of its destination at what we now know as Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Once outside the territory covered by the King's Charter, the Pilgrims became responsible for their own government, and so they

The Pastor's Pen





When they said, "Let's go to the house of God,"
my heart leaped for joy.

Psalms 122:1 (MSG)

Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love
and helping out, not avoiding worshiping together as
some do but spurring each other on, especially as we
see the big Day approaching.

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CHECK THIS MEDIA

Email: CoffGod@suddenlink.net

Our sermons broadcast on

KGRO Radio 90.5 AM

Sunday.

TEN RULES for a GOOD CLEAN FIGHT {for Couples, from Curtis Shelburne via Lyndon Latham.}

- 1) **Before we begin, we must both agree that the time is right** (Jeremiah 6:14; Psalm 141:3). Early in the morning or late at night are probably bad times. And why mess up a good meal?
- 2) **We will remember that our only aim is deeper understanding** (James 1:19-20). Remember that you love one another. Take turns speaking but mostly, Listen! Your mate may just need to blow off some steam. (And if you know you're wrong, just admit it. But if you're always right, you're likely the "wrongest" of all.)
- 3) **We will check our weapons often to be sure they are not deadly** (Matthew 5:21-22a; James 3:6). Phasors [as in a Taser® Stun Gun] should be set to "stun" and not "kill." You know your mate, weaknesses included, better than anyone else. You can hurt your mate more than anyone else if you so choose. Don't!
- 4) **We will stick to the issue** (Proverbs 10:19). No exhaustive lists of each other's faults. And never in a fight use the words "always" or "never." They are always unfair and untrue. Use "I feel" statements rather than "You" statements.
- 5) **We will lower our voices one notch instead of raising them two** (Proverbs 15:1). A shouter deserves to lose.
- 6) **We will never discuss or reveal private matters in public** (Proverbs 10:8) Duh!
- 7) **We will never involve the children in the battle** (Proverbs 10:12). NEVER fight in front of the kids or enlist their aid.
- 8) **We will never resort to violence** (Proverbs 29:11). Anger properly vented is not bad, but violence is absolutely off-limits.
- 9) **We will discuss an armistice whenever either partner calls "halt"** (Ephesians 4:26). Listen! When you mate signals, "Time out," stop. Some discussions will take longer than one session. One couple's signal is: "Let's refer this to the committee."
- 10) **When we have come to terms, we will put the issue away until we both agree that it needs more discussion** (Matthew 5:9). Some things you can agree on quickly. Some things you will never agree on. Don't back your mate into a corner and force agreement where there is none. If you're the more forceful spouse, this means you especially need to avoid the former temptation and take care of, rather than manipulate, your mate.

Let the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12) and the Love Chapter (1 Corinthians 13) be your constant guides.



For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.
~James 1:23-25 (NKJV)

WHEN DEATH CLAIMS ONE OF OUR OWN, whether a family member, or friend, or acquaintance, our thoughts turn sober about the brevity of life. And the Apostle James, in writing about our need to reflect on our inner spiritual condition, added, "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away" (James 4:14, NKJV).

Job's words come to mind: "For there is hope for a tree, If it is cut down, that it will sprout again, And that its tender shoots will not cease. 8 Though its root may grow old in the earth, And its stump may die in the ground, 9 Yet at the scent of water it will bud And bring forth branches like a plant. 10 But man dies and is laid away; Indeed he breathes his last And where is he? 11 As water disappears from the sea, And a river becomes parched and dries up, 12 So man lies down and does not rise. Till the heavens are no more, They will not awake Nor be roused from their sleep. 13 "Oh, that You would hide me in the grave, That You would conceal me until Your wrath is past, That You would appoint me a set time, and remember me! 14 If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my hard service I will wait, Till my change comes. 15 You shall call, and I will answer You; You shall desire the work of Your hands" (Job 14:7-15, NKJV).

And it is here that I hear the words of the Apostle Paul, as if in answer to Job's drumbeat sent through the forests of time: "Yes, Job, there is hope for you even as there is hope for that tree that has been cut down. Even now you are hidden in the grave until the heavens are no more; then you will be awakened from sleep by the One who became your Savior. Then your change will come; your Creator will complete the work of his hands. 'If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable. But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep' (1 Cor 15:19-20, NKJV); 'So also is the resurrection of the dead. The

body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power' (ibid, 42-43); 'Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed' (ibid, 51-52)."

As the autumn leaves fall from the trees, leaving many of them bare, the naked limbs succumbing to winter's cold, so must we all pass from this life. But we have the assurance of sacred Scripture that the Hope of the Resurrection and the future Kingdom of Heaven is an anchor for the soul: "And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end . . . [that] we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast . . ." (Heb 6:11, 18-19, NKJV).



" . . . 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.

Prayer Requests



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

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

Anna Law: In need of a kidney transplant; she has dialysis three times a week.

Dollie Meil: She suffers with cerebral palsy and lung problems.

Ryan Rankin: Thrown from a horse and broke his back.

Ted Rankin: MS; he is somewhat improved.

Jane Shaffer: Sister of Joe Kirkpatrick, malignant bone tumors. She is responding well to treatment.

Laura Stephens: Mother-in-law of Shannon (Sehorn) Stephens, cancer in lungs, kidneys & liver, but showing improvement.

Ron Vorheis: Doing better.

Ben Vorheis: serving another stint overseas, now in Afghanistan.



Condolences

TO THE FAMILY OF . . .

Helen (Curly) V. Shaklee was born April 8, 1923, at Rife, Washington. She was one of 13 children born to Johnnie and Pricie Cook. Helen attended school at Mossyrock. She met and married Victor Shaklee in 1942 and they spent their first married years in Colorado before moving to Washington in 1952. The family lived and farmed in the Boistfort Valley until 1967 when they moved to Rochester. Victor preceded Helen in death in 2006. She was the consummate devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She loved raising Cocker Spaniels, gardening, painting and traveling with her beloved Good Sams Club.

Helen is survived by her children Linda Booth and husband Jeff of Amarillo, Texas; Vickie Crevoi and husband David of Santa Fe, New Mexico; Terry Shaklee and wife Leona of Puyallup, Washington. Grandchildren Joel Boehland, Erica Boehland, Rick Shaklee, Jason Shaklee and Alison Shaklee. She is also survived by three sisters, Jo Hamond, Hazel Cheney, Connie MaKein and a brother, Pete Cook. Celebration of Life Memorial Services will be held November 12th at 11:00 a.m. in the Newell-Hoerling Chapel at 201 West Pine Street in Centralia. Memorial will be conducted by Jeff Booth, Christian Church of God, Amarillo, Texas.

Celebrations⁴

NOVEMBER

Birthdays:

Jody Kirkpatrick	11-07
Marvin Cryer	11-15
Steve Cryer	11-18

Anniversaries:

Francis & Roy Carlson	11-11
Reba & James Bailey	11-15

DECEMBER

Birthdays:

Darrell Sehorn	12-17
Arthur Carlson	12-20
Darrell Baker	12-29

Anniversaries:

Teresa & Steve Cryer	12-27
Deryl & Laura McClenagan	12-29



Congratulations!



To MARTHA McCLENAGAN on her quilt awards at the Tri-County Fair in Amarillo, Texas

A MORAL COMPASS¹³

Directional Principles for Right Living

Give me your lantern and compass, give me a map, so I can find my way to the sacred mountain. (Psalm 43:3, MSG) O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8, NLT)



HIT & RUN: WITHOUT A COMPASS

If a picture is worth a thousand words, how many are needed to describe the video of a man being struck by a hit-and-run driver and left to bleed unaided in the road, while numerous motorists and pedestrians casually maneuver around him and continue on their way?

Two, according to the blaring newspaper headline in Hartford, Connecticut, where the horrific incident took place: “SO INHUMAN” . . . And the article said:

At 5:45 on a recent Friday evening in plenty of remaining daylight, 78-year-old Angel Torres was crossing a street in a working-class Hartford neighborhood when he was struck by one of two cars driving recklessly across the center line.

The impact—caught on a streetlight surveillance camera--flipped Torres into the air, then sent him crashing to the pavement. As Torres lay in the road bloodied and paralyzed, the surveillance tape shows approximately nine motorists slowing to have a look at him, then driving away.

Other people are seen on the tape staring from the sidewalk or venturing into the street.

Though it was later reported that several witnesses called 911, none of the gawkers halted traffic or aided the severely hurt Torres. Approximately a minute and a half after the impact, a police car arrived. Torres was taken to a hospital in critical condition, paralyzed from the neck down.

“We no longer have a moral compass,” said Hartford’s shocked and angry police chief, after releasing the surveillance tape in hopes of identifying the hit-and-run driver. But the tape—capturing the inaction of so many bystanders—also caught the attention of outraged Americans, who swamped blogs, message boards, radio shows and more, wrestling with the same inconceivable question: Why didn’t anyone give more help to Angel Torres?

Tell us what you think: Is there any acceptable reason not to have helped Angel Torres, or anyone else in a similar situation? Do you think the people seen on the tape have been misunderstood? What would you have done?

From The Responsibility Project: exploring what it means to do the right thing . . . June 9, 2008, by Kathy McManus / See Responsibility Project by Liberty Mutual. com



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The Light of the World

At the beginning God expressed himself. That personal expression, that word, was with God, and was God, and he existed with God from the beginning. All creation took place through him, and none took place without him. In him appeared life and this life was **the light of mankind**. **The light still shines in the darkness** and the darkness has never put it out. A man called John was sent by God as a witness to **the light**, so that any man who heard his testimony might believe in the light. This man was not himself the light: he was sent simply as a personal witness to that light. That was **the true light** which shines upon every man as he comes into the world. He came into the world - the world he had created - and the world failed to recognise him. (John 1:1, 6-9, Phillips NT)

Jesus spoke to the people again and said, "**I am the light of the world**. The man who follows me will never walk in the dark but will live his life in the light." (John 8:12, Phillips NT)

At the end of the eight days, the time came for circumcising the child and he was called Jesus, the name given to him by the angel before his conception.

When the "purification" time, stipulated by the Law of Moses, was completed, they brought Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. This was to fulfil a requirement of the Law - 'Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord'. They also offered the sacrifice prescribed by the Law - 'A pair of turtle doves, or two young pigeons'. In Jerusalem was a man by the name of Simeon. He was an upright man, devoted to the service of God, living in expectation of the "salvation of Israel". His heart was open to the Holy Spirit, and it had been revealed to him that he would not die before he saw the Lord's Christ. He had been led by the Spirit to go into the Temple, and when Jesus' parents brought the child in to have done to him what the Law required, he took him up in his arms, blessed God, and said - "At last, Lord, you can dismiss your servant in peace, as you promised! For with my own eyes I have seen your salvation which you have made ready for every people - **a light to show truth** to the Gentiles and bring glory to your people Israel." (Luke 2:21-25, Phillips NT)



The Pastor's Pen

5



wrote a set of laws called *The Mayflower Compact*. On December 21, 1620, they began their new life at the place they named Plymouth.

The winter was devastating. Wind whipped through their settlement and sleet and snow chilled them to the bone. Half of the Pilgrims died. But the Separatists clung to their faith; not one person chose to return to England when the Mayflower made her return voyage.

Spring brought unexpected relief—the help of a Christian brother, Squanto. He taught them how to grow corn, use fertilizer, stalk deer, and catch fish. William Bradford, the governor of Plymouth, wrote that Squanto was "a special instrument sent of God for good beyond our expectations."

And so their first harvest was good. Governor Bradford proclaimed a day of thanksgiving to God, and the Pilgrims invited their Indian friends. Chief Massasoit and 90 members of his tribe came, along with Squanto, bearing venison and wild turkeys for everyone to share. The Pilgrims and Indians feasted, played games, ran races, and showed their prowess with bows and arrows and muskets. With so much to be grateful for, the Pilgrims celebrated that first Thanksgiving for three days!

What is most meaningful about this first Thanksgiving is that it was more than just a grateful celebration for their harvest and other blessings, as they were still grieving the loss of fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, and children. The lesson here is not only about giving thanks for our blessings and what we have, but giving thanks in all circumstances.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thess 5:16-18).

The Apostle Paul understood how the fruit of the spirit springs from a spirit-filled grateful heart. A grateful heart and thankful spirit makes for joy, peace, hope and faith through all adversity!

Happy Thanksgiving!

I give thanks daily for all of you,

Jeff Booth

{Reprinted from the Nov. 2006 newsletter}

Let your lives overflow with Thanks—
giving for all He has
done.—Colossians





DoorOpeners

And no stranger ever had to spend a night in the street; my doors were always open to travelers. Job 31:32 (MSG)

HOSPITALITY

Visits always give pleasure - if not the arrival, the departure. ~Portuguese Proverb

Santa Claus has the right idea: Visit people once a year. ~Victor Borge

We dare not trust our wit for making our house pleasant to our friend, so we buy ice cream. ~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Fish and visitors smell in three days. ~Benjamin Franklin

A dinner invitation, once accepted, is a sacred obligation. If you die before the dinner takes place, your executor must attend. ~Ward McAllister

Hospitality, n. The virtue which induces us to feed and lodge certain persons who are not in need of food and lodging. ~Ambrose Bierce, *The Devil's Dictionary*, 1911

Hospitality is making your guests feel at home, even if you wish they were. ~Author Unknown

We labor to make a house a home, then every time we're expecting visitors, we rush to turn it back into a house. ~Robert Brault

AND YET, Paul enjoins us in Romans 12:13, “. . . distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality” (NKJV); “Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality” (MSG); “Give freely to fellow-Christians in want, never grudging a meal or a bed to those who need them” (Phillips NT). ■

Brush Arbor Meeting on Hackberry Creek



Raised on a small farm in Oklahoma in the thirties and forties, I had the privilege of country experiences that I wish my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren could enjoy — if only for a short time. A part of that rich heritage was the church life. I'll be periodically sharing vignettes of that part of my life in these pages; it has stretched out to cover over seventy years of my life. Portions of the memories are a bit fragmented, but true at the core. Yes, I've embellished a scene or two, and most of the names are conspicuously absent. But I've kept the tone and spirit accurate. ~ JDM, Editor

6/ BEST LAID PLANS

It was the Spring of '53, and graduation exercises were over. My high school years were filled with church activities with many friends from surrounding communities. Singing was the highlight of church worship, even as it had been in school.

Now it was onward and upward. Perhaps. I had no dream of the future, no vocational plans, no aspirations of what I wanted to be when I grew up. But that Fall I registered at a nearby college and majored in music.

After one semester, due to the influence of an Evangelist/Professor, I enrolled in a Bible College.

In the summer of '54 I accompanied a lifetime friend to conduct a revival meeting with the idea that I would assist by helping with the music. This friend and colleague insisted that I fill the pulpit, and I preached my first sermon.

Then I was asked to accompany the Bible School superintendent on an eight-state tour of the churches of that organization. For two-and-a-half months we averaged at least six services a week. The superintendent spoke at every service except one; I preached my second sermon on that trip. I led songs and did special music. Afterwards I returned to the Bible College.

It was the Spring of '55 my Music Theory

teacher at the Bible College, Martha Summerford, rode with me in my 'new' '48 Chevy. Although neither of us knew it, she was my wife-to-be. We were headed to the heart of Missouri in a three-car entourage. A male quartet accompanied by the pianist, Martha. Three of us guys rotated the preaching on this Gospel Tour.

We practiced the tradition of the churches of that organization, much the same as when Jesus sent out the 72 disciples. He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse. . . .” (Luke 10:2-4, NIV). Our pockets were almost empty as we began what turned out to be a month-long meeting. An offering instigated by a local deacon on the final night provided enough funds for gas to get us to our next scheduled meeting.

This Gospel Tour took us to three churches that summer.

Oh, one more thing: during that final meeting I proposed to the pianist! 🎵



Life Points of the Season

God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say "thank you?"
~William A. Ward

We hear the beating of wings over Bethlehem and a light that is not of the sun or of the stars shines in the midnight sky. Let the beauty of the story take away all narrowness, all thought of formal creeds. Let it be remembered as a story that has happened again and again, to men of many different races, that has been expressed through many religions, that has been called by many different names. Time and space and language lay no limitations upon human brotherhood. ~*New York Times*, 25 December 1937, quoted in *Quotations for Special Occasions* by Maud van Buren, 1938, published by The H.W. Wilson Company, New York

THE PILGRIMS MADE SEVEN TIMES MORE GRAVES THAN HUTS. NO AMERICANS HAVE BEEN MORE IMPOVERISHED THAN THESE WHO, NEVERTHELESS, SET ASIDE A DAY OF THANKSGIVING. ~H.U. WESTERMAYER

THANK YOU
For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food, for love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.
~Ralph Waldo Emerson

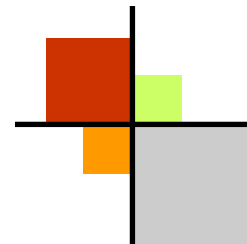
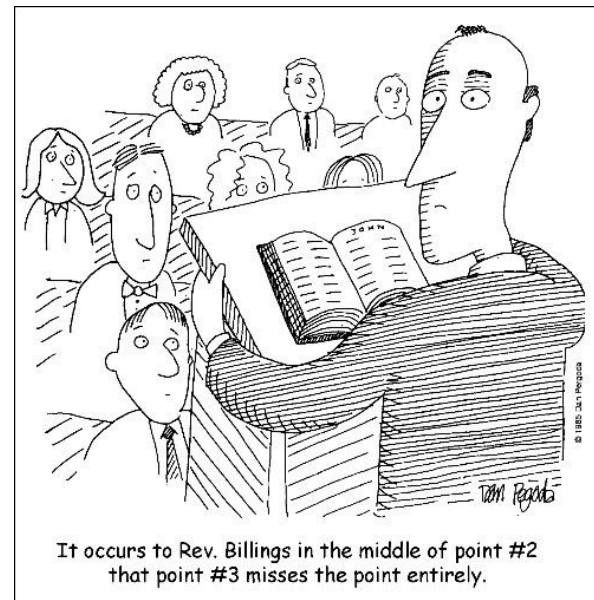
Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love!
~Hamilton Wright Mabie

GREAT LITTLE ONE! WHOSE ALL-EMBRACING BIRTH LIFTS EARTH TO HEAVEN, STOOPS HEAVEN TO EARTH.
~RICHARD CRASHAW

As each day comes to us refreshed and anew, so does my gratitude renew itself daily. The breaking of the sun over the horizon is my grateful heart dawning upon a blessed world.
~Terri Guillemets

Chuckles

A cheerful disposition is good for your health; gloom and doom leave you bone-tired.





Heartbeats

Editorial
Jerry McClenagan

Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life. Prov 4:23 (NIV)

'TIS THE SEASON to think about things like gratefulness, peace, giving. If approached properly, this time of year with its manmade holidays, can induce the ingredients of life that Paul emphasized in his letter to the Philippians (4:8-9, MSG): "Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious—the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse. Put into practice what you learned from me, what you heard and saw and realized. Do that, and God, who makes everything work together, will work you into his most excellent harmonies."

Life has plenty of bad things to fill our minds with negative thoughts. We can succumb to feelings of hopelessness and helplessness, or we can put forth that extra effort to follow Paul's advice.

How often do we fall into what I'll dub the Elijah Trap? After being used of God in various miraculous ways, he let himself be gripped with self-pity and despondency. In 1 Kings 19 we read how he fled from Jezebel, his life threatened by her: "When Elijah saw how things were, he ran for dear life to Beersheba, far in the south of Judah. He left his young servant there and then went on into the desert another day's journey. He came to a lone broom bush and collapsed in its shade, wanting in the worst way to be done with it all—to just die: 'Enough of this, God! Take my life—I'm ready to join my ancestors in the grave!' Exhausted, he fell asleep under the lone broom bush" (vv.3-5, MSG).

God tried to shake him out of his negativism: "Suddenly an angel shook him awake . . ." and fed him. "... The angel of God came back, shook him awake again, and said, 'Get up and eat some

more—you've got a long journey ahead of you.'" Then Elijah "walked forty days and nights, all the way to the mountain of God, to Horeb. When he got there, he crawled into a cave and went to sleep. Then the word of God came to him: 'So Elijah, what are you doing here?'" (vv. 5-9, MSG).

Guess what? After all of God's reassurance and blessing, he still chose to stay in the Trap: "'I've been working my heart out for the God-of-the-Angel-Armies,' said Elijah. 'The people of Israel have abandoned your covenant, destroyed the places of worship, and murdered your prophets. I'm the only one left, and now they're trying to kill me'" (v.10, MSG).

Once more God had to try to shake him out of the doldrums. God told Elijah what he was to do: Get busy! Take Action! God knew that this was the only way for him to get out of the Trap he had set for himself. Then God told him he wasn't "the only one left": "I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him" (v. 18, NKJV). That was the final chapter of Elijah's life.

And it seems that we, too, spend a lifetime overcoming negativism. Perhaps these inspired words of David will help you out of the Elijah Trap:

"I waited and waited and waited for GOD. At last he looked; finally he listened. ² He lifted me out of the ditch, pulled me from deep mud. He stood me up on a solid rock to make sure I wouldn't slip. ³ He taught me how to sing the latest God-song, a praise-song to our God. More and more people are seeing this: they enter the mystery, abandoning themselves to GOD" (Psalms 40:1-3, MSG). ■



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HOW KING DAVID SAW IT: Is this any way to run a country? Is there an honest politician in the house? ² Behind the scenes you brew cauldrons of evil, behind closed doors you make deals with demons. ³ The wicked crawl from the wrong side of the cradle; their first words out of the womb are lies. ⁴ Poison, lethal rattlesnake poison, drips from their forked tongues— ⁵ Deaf to threats, deaf to charm, decades of wax built up in their ears. ⁶ God, smash their teeth to bits, leave them toothless tigers. ⁷ Let their lives be buckets of water spilled, all that's left, a

damp stain in the sand. Let them be trampled grass worn smooth by the traffic. ⁸ Let them dissolve into snail slime, be a mis-carried fetus that never sees sunlight. ⁹ Before what they cook up is half-done, God, throw it out with the garbage! ¹⁰ The righteous will call up their friends when they see the wicked get their reward, Serve up their blood in goblets as they toast one another, ¹¹ Everyone cheering, "It's worth it to play by the rules! God's handing out trophies and tending the earth!"

Psalms 58:1-11 (MSG)

CHURCH POLITICS EXPLAINED USING CHESS PIECES



BISHOP:
MOVES DIAGONALLY.
COMES INTO PLAY
EVERY NOW AND
THEN FOR
CONFIRMATIONS
ETC



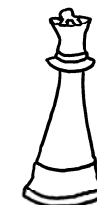
VICAR:
FOR EVERY
STEP FORWARD
TAKES TWO
TO THE SIDE.
LOOKS A BIT
LIKE A HORSE



CHURCH
FIXTURES AND
FITTINGS:
MAY NOT BE
MOVED
WITHOUT
A FACULTY



ORDINARY
CHURCHGOER:
LOTS OF THEM,
MOVE SLOWLY
IN ONE
DIRECTION.
FAIRLY
DISPENSABLE



CHURCHWARDEN:
MOST
POWERFUL
PIECE.
CAN ATTACK
IN ANY
DIRECTION



THIS PIECE
IS THE ONE WE
ARE TRYING
TO PROTECT.
I FORGET WHAT
IT IS CALLED