

Christian Church of God Newsletter



The Pastor's Pen

Hello Friends,

Here we are celebrating the Fall Festival season and I thought I'd take a moment to mention why we as Christians under grace should be taking note of the Ancient Biblical Holy Days. We have just celebrated the Day of Atonement & the Festival of Trumpets, now the Festival of Tabernacles us upon us.

We can see that God has communicated His saving knowledge through instruction and reasoning, but we should also see how He communicates His message of sal-

vation through symbolic representations. Symbolic representation, known as "types," is found in scriptures and the study of these types is called "typology." Old Testament institutions, events, ceremonies, objects, or persons are types that God specifically designed to serve as predictive prefiguration (types) of His saving grace and power yet to be revealed. For more on this typological study on the Festivals, you may want to read Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi's 2 volumes of God's Festivals in Scripture and History.

Here are a few examples of an Old Testament person, event, or ceremony identified in the New Testament explicitly as a "type."

1. Israel's wilderness experience serves as a type of the Christian's walk in the world. (1 Cor. 10:6).
2. The 1st Adam is a type of Christ, the second Adam "who was to come" (Rom 5:14).
3. The salvation of Noah and his family through the flood points to its antitype the Christian baptism (1 Pet 3:21). |>>



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Special points of interest:

- Special Days Picture God's Plan
- A little bird told me [Eccl. 10:20]
- Don't Forget to Pray

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Our sermons broadcast on KGRO
Radio at 9:05 AM Sunday. Check
www.pan-tex.net

Our Home Page:
www.christianchurchofgod.org

Inside this issue:

Announcements	1
Power of Prayer	2
Prayer Requests	3
Song Story	3
Grapevine	2
Celebrations	3
Pastor's Commentary	1 & 6

HOLY DAYS ANNOUNCEMENT

FESTIVAL OF TABERNACLES

9/30, 1st Holy Day – 7 p.m. – Reception following service
10/1 – 3, Angel Fire, NM
10/7, Last Great Day of the Festival in Amarillo – 7 p.m.

NO SABBATH SERVICE IN AMARILLO OCTOBER 2ND





I hear by the

Grapevine

Nice to hear from Merle & Jo Beth Vines. He mentions the Feast: " I am sorry that we live so far apart and that circumstances don 't allow for us to see you this year. Twenty or so years feasting together has put us into the habitual category you see. We are addicted. We will miss you folks, and Jeff and Linda, Weldon and

Glennis, Reba and James, Joe and Jody, Dollie, Joe and Susan, Jim and Karen, Harry and Bella, the Hamiltons, Tina Maloney, the Sehorns and all the others. . . . At any rate, you

will be feasting in our hearts and memories this year. We will just miss seeing your dear faces. . . . We are well and God has blessed us abundantly. As you may have heard, Jo Beth had emergency appendectomy surgery last April and then later in the month she had a heart attack. But she has recovered very well and looks good. . . . We hope all is well is well with everyone there. We think of you often. Have a Happy Feast! " [I left out the parts about "blubbering " and "manly and heroic"

"bleating " and "obnoxious and grumpy " — stuck to the sentimental parts. Forgive me, Merle! / Want to send a note? m-jbvines@msn.com]

~

I snooped in my wife 's mail. Martha received this a few days ago from Santa Ana, California, Kelly Gallagher-Abbot, Curator: "Thank you for your interest, participation, and investment of time in the Hoffman Challenge. [She sent one of her numerous quilts.] We are thrilled to inform you that your entry was selected for traveling with the 2004 Quilt Collection C Exhibit. The trunks have all been shipped to begin their adventure, and will continue to travel until October 2005. "

~

Bad news / Good news: Ken Hamilton 's "lumbago " (a non-technical term for a type of arthritis I believe) has restricted his work on the road, which means he gets to be home with his family and we 're seeing him a lot more. Dilemma: do we pray for him to get better?

~

Linda B got to visit her parents in Washington State, even let Jeff tag along. Do I smell the aroma of smoked salmon?

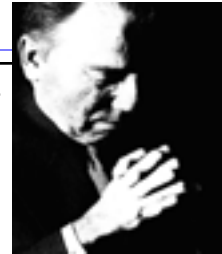
We miss Virgil C and his we need more of that in we?). And I know he is

Mixed Emotions: As you step outside and take a deep breath, the wonderful aroma of wet cedar greets you if there is a new wood roof nearby. The moisture is nearly always welcome, too. Mixed with this is the memory of a severe hail storm, and the constant barrage of storms in southeast continental U.S.

quiet demeanor (and this noisy world, don 't sorely missed in the

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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.



Vickie Crevoi — chronic progressive MS (Linda Booth’s sister)

Vic Crosby — prostate cancer (friend of John Stickel)

Sam Kiser — multiple myeloma cancer; doing better (friend of Jeff and Linda)

Hank Unruh — two-year battle with cancer (friend of John Stickel)

Dollie Meil — cerebral palsy

Carrie McClenan — weekly dialysis for severe kidney failure

Audrey Strahl — irregular heartbeat

(Jeff Booth’s mother)

Kathryn Scott — severe MS, losing use of arms and swallowing ability (friend of Baileys)

Randy Gnessett — pulmonary hypertension and awaiting a lung for transplant (friend of Candace Sellers)

Velvet Green — suffering from schizophrenia (Gary’s wife)

Amber & Dylan Clark — cerebral palsy (grandchildren of Betty Clark)

Nell Foster — nursing home, demen-

tia and blood clots in leg

Ralph Moore — colon cancer (Francis Carlson’s uncle)

Virgil Cline — diagnosed with cancer

Bob Wertz — achalasia, a disorder of the esophagus

PRAISE CORNER

We thank God that Tina Gonzales has been declared cancer free (Cindy Lujan’s friend)

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday!

- Tiffany Hamilton October 4th
- Patricia Hamilton October 9th
- Julia McKinney October 11th
- Jason Kirkpatrick October 24th

Happy Anniversary!

- Merle & JoBeth Vines October 5th
- Joe & Susan Chiappone October 6th
- J. R & Norma Hamilton October 12th

Change of Address?

Please Notify Jeff Booth Of Any Change Of Address Or Phone Number. We Want To Know Where You

Are!



“Sing songs from your heart to Christ.” Sing praises over everything, any excuse for a song to God the Father in the name of our Master, Jesus Christ. ~ Ephesians 5:19-20, Msg.

Hymns for Him



Anna L. Waring, born into a Quaker family in Wales in 1823, was a lifelong student of the Hebrew language and daily read from the Book of Psalms in the original text. In 1850 she published a little volume of nineteen hymns, including “In Heavenly Love Abiding”: ‘In heavenly love abiding, / No change my heart shall fear; / And safe is such confiding, / For nothing changes here. / The storm may roar without me, / My heart may low be laid, / But God is round about me, and can I be dismayed?’ This verse reflects the words of God to Joshua (1:9): “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

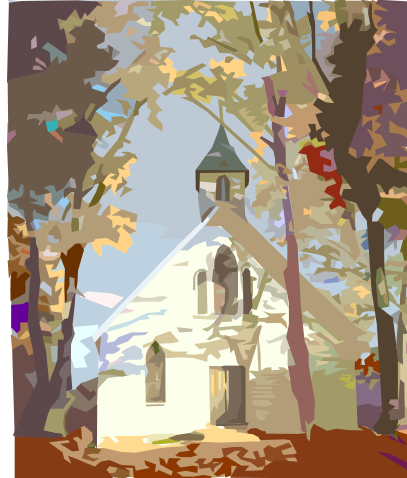
Christian Church of God

Praise the LORD.

Praise God in his
sanctuary;

praise him in his
mighty heavens.

PS 150:1



Christian Church of God

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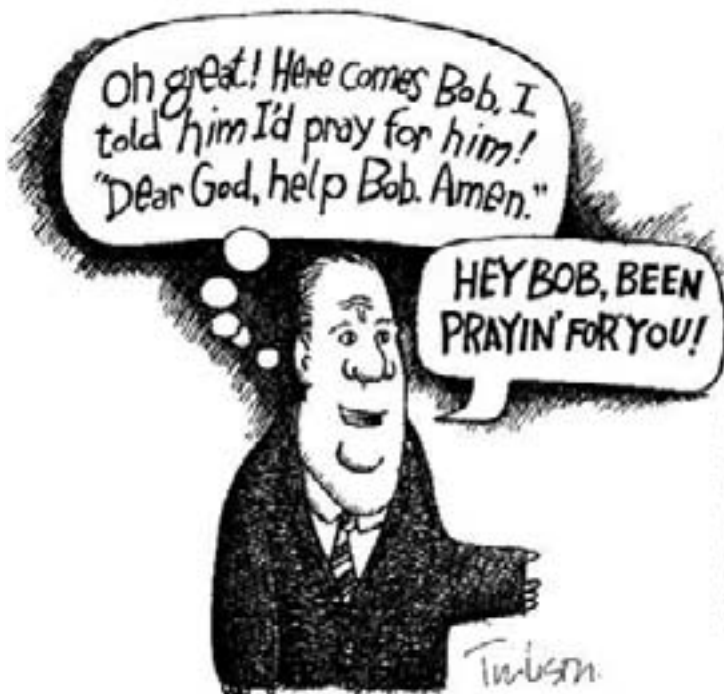
Power of Prayer

Martha and I just returned from a whirlwind trip to South Texas to take care of some business. We took a small side trip to visit a lady who as a teenager assisted us in our church work and with our two children (prior to the birth of two more). This young, energetic girl went to college after that, and began teaching school. About eight or nine years ago she discovered she had cancer. She told us of two prayer events: the first resulted in a partial healing of the cancer in her lungs. After a while she became sick again, and was prayed for again. The result was the miracle she hoped for, and so after those terrible months she recuperated, was asked to return as the principal of that school, where she worked for another seven years or so. Now she is retired, having purchased a small acreage, rebuilt the old house, bought several black angus, and is active in community affairs. But I'm about to forget a third aspect of prayer for Helen, possibly the most important. After she retired and returned to her birthplace, she happened upon an 80-plus year old lady who was part of an intercessory prayer group. The lady said, "Oh, you're one of those we prayed for some years ago!"

No, God doesn't always heal us in this age. But the adage is ever true: "God is still on His throne and prayer changes things."

Our Lord and Savior knew the power of prayer even though He was the Son of God! Luke records: "But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed." (5:16, NIV) It isn't any surprise to read in the next verse: "And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick." The equation cannot be altered: Prayer = Power. Perhaps we can refine that truism by stating, "True prayer equals true power."

Prayer isn't always easy. Paul wrote of "Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you. . . ." (Col. 4:12, NIV) Jesus wrestled in prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, sweating as it were great drops of blood. Also at other times: "During the days of Jesus' life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death. . . ." (Heb. 5:7, NIV) Jacob wrestled in "prayer" with God at Peniel. (See Gen. 32:22-32.) The result was a blessing, but not without physical pain. Jacob walked with a limp after that all-night wrestling match with God.



The bottom line is that intercessory prayer is hard work. "I urge, then," Paul wrote, "first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—..." (1 Tim. 2:1). Some aspects of prayer are delightful, heart-lifting experiences. But there's no getting around the fact that interceding in prayer is just plain hard work. In fact, when you itemize things to do on your "work" list, it would be quite appropriate to put "prayer" on that list.

As the inspirational song puts it, "Just keep on praying . . ." And that is what we must do, not growing weary in this work of love.

~ JDM

Pastor's Pen Continued

- 4. The priesthood and sacrifices of the sanctuary are a "shadow" and "type" of Christ's sacrifice and heavenly ministry (Heb 8:5).

The annual festivals of ancient Israel serve a typological function by the use of their themes to depict the unfolding of salvation history. The sacrifice of the Passover lamb is seen in the New Testament as a type of the sacrifice of Christ, our Paschal Lamb (1 Cor. 5:7). The Festival of Pentecost celebrated fifty days after Passover was once the celebration of the grain harvest ingathering and is now seen as a type of the ingathering of God's people, consisting of "all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him" (Acts 2:39). And it was indeed on the Day of Pentecost that the Holy Spirit came as the promised "Comforter" & the New Testament Church was thereby established (Acts 2:1-4).

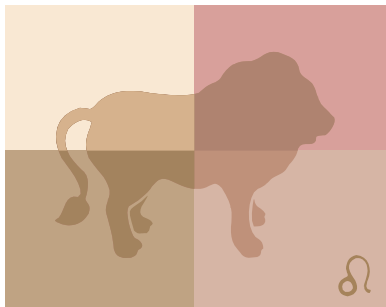
The Festival of Trumpets points to that day when "...the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord." (1 Thess 4:16-17). The Day of Atonement illuminates God's saving grace through the atonement made by our Savior (Rom. 5:11). The Festival of Tabernacles points us to that time of hope's consummation when God will "tabernacle" with man in the Kingdom (Rev. 21:1-4)

The Spring and Fall Festivals of ancient Israel were more than mere ceremonies designed to meet the immediate religious needs of the Church in the Wilderness. They were divinely designed prefigurations (types) of the divinely designed plan of salvation. The Spring Festivals of Passover, Unleavened Bread, and Pentecost typify the inauguration of Christ's redemptive ministry and the Fall Festivals of Trumpets, Atonement, and Tabernacles represent the consummation of His redemptive ministry. From Passover, the Festival of Redemption, on to Tabernacles, the Festival of the ultimate restoration of the new earth.

Through the typology found in these Holy Days, God takes us out of darkness to light, teaching us of the redemptive ministry of Jesus Christ divinely ordained from inauguration to final consummation.

God is Great & Grace is Good!

Jeff Booth



ISA 11:6 The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

ISA 11:7 The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

