

News and Notes

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

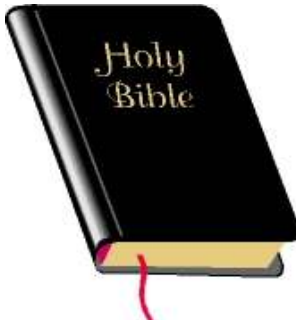
Sandy Craig - Broken shoulder in a fall last week.
Joseph King - Will have his tonsils out at St. Anthony Hospital in Oklahoma City, March 9th.
Jo Ann McLerran - COPD - Still unable to get out and moving to a new apartment to escape mold.
Dub McClish - To have a stent implant in the near future. Artery blocked.
Glenda Marble - Faithful Christian at Lexington, Okla. Heart problems.
Debbie Post - Wife of Doug Post, preacher in Salisbury, MD. Cancer has returned. Recently hospitalized in pain and dehydrated.
David Brown - Spring, Texas preacher. Serious respiratory problems.
Sissy Craig - For spiritual and emotional strength.
Charles and Linda Pogue - Congestive heart failure.
Nancy Verkist - Ellensburg, Washington. Suffering from Von Hippel Lindau disease.
Don Smith - Faithful brother in Christ persecuted for teaching fellow inmates in an Ohio prison.

SANDY CRAIG'S CONDITION - Sissy reported on Wednesday that Sandy is doing much better. Her health problems were compounded by a urinary tract infection, following her fall which broke her right shoulder. She has been on antibiotics to take care of that, and will begin physical therapy on her shoulder soon.

KENYA REPORT - Contributing this week to the Kenya Fund were Harold and Ruth Tydings, Broken Arrow, Okla.; Jess and Terry Whitlock, Denison, Texas; Gary and Jacque Rogers, Quanah, Texas; the Eastside church, Lexington, Okla.; the Bellview church, Pensacola, Fla.; the Morton Street church, Denison, Texas; and the Parkview church, Odessa, Texas. We are grateful to all of our faithful brethren who have fellowship with us in the great work of preaching in Kenya. The gospel meeting at Sota was recently completed with four persons baptized into Christ and one restored. More meetings are scheduled in March at Port Victoria in Kenya, Port Victoria (Lugala) in Uganda, and Nyacheki Kisii.

ELECTRICAL REPAIRS - The fluorescent light in the annex has been repaired, as has the light switch in the study. After waiting for more than a month for another company make the repairs, we called James White of White Electric last Saturday and the repairs were made on Wednesday.

<p>Those Who Serve Sunday Morning, Mar. 12, 2017 First Prayer - Earl Reed Closing Prayer - Jerry Brewer Communion - Jerry Brewer Offering - Earl Reed Sunday Afternoon, Mar. 12, 2017 First Prayer - Patrick King Closing Prayer - Dylan Brewer</p>	<p>Records - Mar. 5 Attendance Bible Class.....15 Morning Worship.....16 Afternoon Worship.....16 Contribution.....\$.297.00</p>
<p>Weekly Meeting Times</p>	
<p>Sunday Morning Bible Classes.....9:30 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30 Sunday Afternoon Worship.....5:00</p>	



Sound Doctrine

“But speak thou the things that become sound doctrine” (Titus 2:1)

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“How Shall The Young Secure Their Hearts?”

Jerry C. Brewer

The song we sing with that title is based upon a statement in Psalms 119:9: “Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word.” As the song says, a young man’s life can be guarded from sin only by the word of God—by knowing it and allowing it to guide his thinking. Teenagers, and others of a younger generation today, have imbibed so much of the world that their language to one another (even to young ladies) is of such a nature that none but the vilest in previous generations would have given it utterance.

Young people today are not only sexually active physically, but mentally and verbally as well (Matt. 5:27-30). It is heartbreaking to hear a young Christian whose language and actions are guided by the world instead of the everlasting word of God. Even though young men and women may be physically pure, their mental and verbal impurities will lead them down the devil’s pathway to eternal ruin, if those impulses are not controlled by God’s word. Paul told young Timothy to, “Flee also youthful lusts; but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2 Tim. 2:22), and to, “Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Tim. 4:12).

A Christian—young or old—whose mind and mouth is impure and demonstrates that impurity to his friends and intimate acquaintances brings shame upon the Lord and His church. Young men and women, flee youthful lusts. Do not set a pattern of behavior in your youth that will bring shame upon your parents, grandparents and the Lord and cause your soul to be lost forever. Young men, treat young ladies with respect. Do not befoul their lives and minds with evil words and actions. Young women, remain chaste and pure. Do not exchange your souls for sensual pleasures. Take heed to the word of God, by which the young—and those of all ages—may cleanse their way. When one’s heart is clean, his life will also be clean.

Prediction Triumphantly Fulfilled

Ron Cosby

This article introduces an absolutely amazing prophecy that every person today can verify with his own study. First, take note of a few prophecies. God's prophets of old penned over 300 prophecies concerning the coming Messiah. Their predictions were not ambiguous, vague speculations like Nostradamus and the fortune teller Ms Dixon; they spoke specifically. Micah foretold the Messiah's place of birth (Micah 5:2). Isaiah not only foretold that a Son would be born but that a virgin would conceive and give birth (Isa. 7:14). Daniel predicted the time frame (Dan. 9:24-27). One of the most detailed predictions ever penned for posterity is Isaiah chapter 53. Herein, inspiration gave mankind a complete summary of the life of the coming Prince of Peace. All of these prophecies were penned centuries before their fulfillment.

Now to the one that ought to amaze. Nearly 2,700 years ago it was predicted that the Messiah would be worshipped by all nations. Isaiah told the people of his day that a new kingdom would be established, comprising all nations: "It shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it" (Isa. 2:2). Daniel expanded on that proclamation, saying, that God would give the Messiah "dominion, and glory, and a kingdom"; and then, astoundingly, he adds, "that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him" (Dan. 7:14).

Putting this into proper prospective, what is the likelihood of a farmer predicting that a young farm hand would succeed and be exalted to the highest office in America? Zero! Actually, a farmer, named Worthy Taylor, failed miserably. One summer, when James A. Garfield was a teenager, working on Mr. Taylor's farm in Ohio, he sought the hand of the farmer's daughter. His request was refused because he had no money, no name, and with few to zero prospects of things getting any better. The boy left. Thirty years later, Worthy Taylor tore down his barn. Carved on one of the rafters in the loft was the name James A. Garfield, who at that very time was the President of the United States. Because of the farmer's human inability to see a mere three decades into the future, Taylor lost a valued member of the community.

I suggest to you that it is an even greater feat to have foretold 60 and 70 decades in advance of One that all the world would happily exalt higher than America's highest office. Worthy Taylor could no more predict the success and presidency of a young Ohio farm boy than ordinary men could predict the universal exaltation of Jesus. Isaiah and Daniel were ordinary men, but each was endowed with God-given supernatural ability.

What is the likelihood of a farmer predicting that a young farm hand would succeed

and be exalted to the highest office in America? Zero! Even more astonishing is the traceable fact that God predicted the exaltation of Jesus *before* He was a man, *before* He was a teenager, *before* He was a baby in Jerusalem, even centuries *before* He was born. The prophecies exist and you can read them today. Moreover, they existed and could be read centuries before Jesus was born.

This world-wide, God-given prediction of worship was not fulfilled in the days of Jesus' birth, nor in the three years of His ministry, nor when He died. About 100 years after the death of the Christ, and hundreds of years after it was foretold, Jesus was exalted as King the world over. In Justin Martyr's apology to the Emperor Antoninus Pius and the sacred Senate, and in his apology to Trypho, a Jewish unbeliever, he indicates that the prophecies of the nations were fulfilled by the middle of the second century. Astonishing!

Decades after His death (284-305 A.D.), the Roman Emperor Diocletian and his subjects thought that they had successfully eliminated Christianity and its King. The Romans thought so highly of their accomplishment that they erected two monumental pillars in Spain, on which was written:

Diocletian Jovian Maximian Hercules Caesares Augusti, for having extended the Roman Empire in the east and the west, and for having extinguished the name of Christians, who brought the Republic to ruin.

Diocletian Jovian Maximian Hercules Caesares Augusti, for having adopted Galerius in the east, for having everywhere abolished the superstition of Christ, for having extended the worship of the gods.

Daily life demonstrates that this amazing prophecy stands fulfilled until this very day, for even now, the name of Jesus is exalted above the hills in every nation. In honor of Jesus, even our calendar is calculated from Christ's birth. Others *have been* praised worldwide, but of none was it predicted. Others *are now* praised worldwide, but of none was it foretold. Only of Jesus!

"Sweet" Preaching

Buford Holt (Deceased)

Today we hear much about 'the spirit' of Jesus in condemning error. The 'sugar' from these 'sweet tongued orators' is likely to draw flies, but the gospel (not sugar) is the power of God to save the lost (Rom. 1:16; John. 6 :44-45). Jesus was the greatest fighter who ever lived, or shall live. He knew no compromise and made no mistake; all others have. He fought hard enough to conquer the enemy, but we are conquered by the enemy—Satan. Surely, we should all have the spirit of Christ—that spirit that silenced every accuser and conquered every foe. **(The Lighthouse, Northpoint church of Christ, Denton Texas, Dec. 27, 2015)**