



We are a congregation of the Lord's people looking for you. We desire to love our community and neighbors as our Lord has taught us to do. Please allow us to be an encouragement to you as you are an encouragement to us by visiting with us today.

If you have any questions about anything you see or hear today, please stop someone and ask questions. We are seeking to be New Testament Christians, and as such we desire to share what we have been given. We want to be ready to give you an answer for what we do and say (1 Peter 3:15)

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

Thank you for being our Guest today!

What Have They Seen in Your House? (2 Kings 20:15)

1. Authority? There must be authority in every business or institution.
2. A recognition of the true status of each person in the family? (1) Husband, head of wife (Ephesians 5:23). (2) Wife, keeper at home (Titus 2:5). (3) Children should obey parents (Colossians 3:20). (4) Parents should train children in Lord's nurture and admonition (Ephesians 6:4).
3. Bible study and prayer? (Acts 2:42).
4. Good influence? Influence lives on after we are dead (Revelation 14:13).
5. Hospitality? (Romans 12:13).
6. Good literature? As a person "thinks in his heart, so is he" (Proverbs 23:7). As one reads, he thinks.
7. Wholesome amusement? (I Thessalonians 5:22).
8. Good associates? (I Corinthians 15:33).

--Selected

What Are They?

*A crutch for folks
with wobbly knees,*

*A germ of every soul
disease,*

*A balm for reason's
lame conclusion,*

*A garb to dignify
delusion,*

*A drug for
conscience ill at
ease,*

*A microbe spread by
absentees,*

*A dagger through
the heart of giving,*

*A smoke screen for
sinful living.*

*Wherefore there's
neither sense or use*

*In offering God
some vain excuse.*

--Selected

Dangerous "Nations" among Us

In the history of the world, many nations have posed great danger to people who live around them. In ancient times, Egypt, Assyria, Chaldea, Rome, and others were dangerous.

However, the most dangerous "nations" are not earthly powers. They are spiritual forces.

1. Some things are **abomi-nations** to God, for they pervert and destroy man spiritually. In Deuteronomy 18:9-12, Moses taught that idolatry and many practices of the occult were abominations. Solomon said seven things are an abomination to God: a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet swift to run to evil, a false witness, and one who sows discord among brethren (Proverbs 6:16-19).
2. Many Christians are eternally ruined by **contami-nation**. They fall prey to worldliness-immorality, drinking, dancing, cursing, and gambling, for instance. They become spotted by the world (James 1:27).
3. **Discrimination** is a great danger to world peace and well-being. All people are made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27); in Christ all are of equal importance and value to God (Galatians 3:28). Why do some practice discrimination between rich and poor, young and old, male and female, black and white?
4. Some are defeated by **termination**. It may be that one becomes unhappy or upset with something in the local church such as family problems, disagreements among brethren, or hurting someone's feelings. What happens? They terminate-give up church responsibilities, stop contributing, and quit attending. In the end, they become entangled and overcome by the defilements of the world (2 Peter 2:20-22).
5. As innocent as it looks, **procrastination** is a dangerous nation. One may convince himself that he means well and will do better some day while completely dominated by this "nation."
6. **Denominations** are dangerous because, while appearing beneficial, they divide believers in Christ into separate competing groups. Christ came to unite all in one body (John 17:20; Ephesians 4:4), the undenominational church of Christ (Romans 16:16). Paul taught against this "nation," saying there should be "no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment" (1 Corinthians 1:10).

The ultimate danger to our souls is eternal **CONDEMNATION**. One day all will stand before God in judgment to receive eternal victory over these dangerous "nations," or to be condemned because of them.

--Darrell E. Beard

"The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."

Psalms 9:17

I Voted to Close the Church

Last Sunday I voted to close the church—not intentionally nor maliciously; but carelessly and thoughtlessly, lazily, indifferently I voted. Yes, I voted to close the open Bible that has been given us by many years of struggling, and by the blood of martyrs, who have died that we might have it to read. I voted for our minister to stop preaching the glorious truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I voted that the children of the Bible school be no longer taught the stories of the Bible. I voted for the voice of the congregation to be stilled and no longer heard in song. I voted for the darkness of superstition and degrading influence of sin, the blight of ignorance, and the curse of selfish greed once again to settle their damning load on the shoulders of an already over-burdened world. Carelessly, lazily, indifferently I voted. For, you see, I could have gone and I should have gone, but I didn't. I stayed away from church last Sunday. --Selected



Kids Say The Funniest Things

Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the 10 amendments.

The 5th commandment is to humor thy father and mother.

This Week's Q&A

Q: What 2 kings crossed over a brook just outside of Jerusalem during times of great affliction?

A: David, in 2 Samuel 15:22-24; Christ, in John 18:1-2.

Context: David, with his family and servants, escaped for their lives from Jerusalem at the hand of his son Absalom as he conspired against King David. They crossed the brook Kidron and fled toward the wilderness. Christ crossed the brook Kidron after the last supper. His escape was to be alone with God the Father in the garden for a time before the horrific events of that night and His crucifixion the next day. These two crossings were almost exactly 1,000 years apart!

Aside: The brook Kidron, even though dry most of the year, would be flowing red when Christ was crucified, because of the blood from Passover offerings.

An epidemic of Christianity is the only answer for the wave of sin.

Why Not Try to Be

A little less impatient with those we deem so slow,

A little less arrogant of all we know.

A little more humble, seeing our worth is slight,

We are such trivial candles compared to the stars at night.

A little more forgiving and swifter to be kind,

A little more desirous the word of praise to find.

A little more careful to speak with gentle voice,

A little more true eagerness to understand each other,

A little more striving to help a shipwrecked brother.

A little more high courage to each task that must be done,

Not alone today, but each day, every one.

--Selected

Humility on display is hypocrisy.

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Mail me to
someone
who might
read me!