

17 JULY 2011

WEB EDITION

ambassador|baptistchurch



be ye reconciled to God
II Corinthians 5:20

be ye reconciled to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

today's programme

second anniversary special

from the pastor's heart

REMEMBER



the news

hymn | *to God be the glory*

opening prayer

hymn | *wonderful grace of Jesus*

presentation | *filipino ministry*

hymn | *victory in Jesus*

presentation | *chinese ministry*

hymn | *surely goodness and mercy*

presentation | *youth ministry*

hymn | *faith is the victory*

presentation | *children's ministry*

offertory

hymn | *God is working His purpose out*

exhortation | *pastor johnny*

invitation and closing

cake cutting and **church photo**

lunch

And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place: there shall no leavened bread be eaten.

Exodus 13:3

We often remember things, events and situations that are meaningful to us. The

meaning of an event relates to how the event affects us. Memories can torment us: flashbacks, post traumatic stress, nightmares can affect us to the point that we cannot function effectively in life. However, memories can be pleasant as well: perhaps good times or encouragement from a friend. In the verse above, Moses, instructs the children of Israel to remember the life-changing event that

was about to take place in the life of the nation of Israel. That night, they would see deliverance from bondage, freedom from slavery, and liberty to live as they would and experience the joy of that freedom after 400 years. What did Moses instruct the children of Israel to remember?

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from the pastor's heart

THEY WERE TO REMEMBER THE DAY OF THEIR DELIVERANCE:

"Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage."

The children of Israel were commanded to remember this day of freedom. We need to remember our day of salvation: the time when we made free from sin and bondage. The day that the Lord Jesus made us free by His blood from our sin. There is nothing more significant than being saved from sin in this world, is there?

THEY WERE TO REMEMBER ALSO HOW THE LORD DELIVERED " BY STRENGTH OF HAND".

They were to remember the plagues: water turning to blood, diseases striking the Egyptians' animals, darkness falling, the frogs, flies, hailstones of fire, and the death of all the Egyptians' firstborn. They were to remember the power of God upon the Egyptians to destroy them and His power to protect and care for the Israelites. The Lord Jesus had to die to free us from sin, He gave His life to pay the ransom and there is nothing else to the salvation by Christ because the Lord Jesus gave Himself for us. It was by the strength of His hand that we are saved and kept by the power of God for

His glory.

THEY WERE TO REMEMBER TO STAY AWAY FROM THE SIN OF THIS WORLD.

"there shall no leavened bread be eaten."

"Since," God told the Israelites, in essence, "I require of you, to be my people, to obey me and believe my word. I want you to stay away from the leaven of this world. To leave the sins of this world, the things of this world."

Do you remember the day of your salvation and how the Lord did so many things for you? Are you staying away from the leaven of this world or are you good friends with the things, ambitions and people of this world?

Lord, today as we remember Your leading, help us to draw closer to You that You may use us for Your sake in this world. May we at Ambassador be a set apart people for your glory, a light to the lost and a blessing to the believers.

*Evangelist-Pastor Johnny Tan
Ambassador Baptist Church*

"We need to remember our day of salvation: the time when we made free from sin and bondage."

thought for the week

As you remember what good things the Lord has done for you, have you dedicated yourself to Him?

memory verse

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Sunday Worship Service

17 July 2011

"Remembering the Leading of the Lord"

I. The message for today is

II. The passage for today is

III. What do we remember about the leading of the Lord?

A. We remember that the Lord led us _____

B. We remember the Lord has led us _____

1. In His guidance, God leads us by

2. In His guidance, He protects us _____ .

3. In His guidance, He _____

C. We remember that the Lord has led us _____ .

D. We remember that the Lord has led us for _____ .

Sunday Worship Service

17 July 2011

"Remembering the Leading of the Lord"

Exodus 15:13 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

2 Timothy 2:13 If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

*Turn to: **Psalms 78:34 - 39***

Psalms 34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

*Turn to: **Psalms 78:40 - 51***

*Turn to: **Psalms 78:52 - 53***

Exodus 3:8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

Friday Church News Notes

Emerging Pastor Agrees With Independent Baptist Leaders

Friday Church News Notes, July 15, 2011 www.wayoflife.org

Emerging pastor Mark Batterson, who has spoken in conferences with Paul Young of *The Shack*, agrees with many independent Baptist leaders who are against public criticism on the basis of the “non-essentials.” In a blog entitled “Let’s stop Throwing Stones,” Batterson says: “... few things bother me more than sideways energy in the kingdom of God. We end up infighting and forget who our very real enemy is. I can’t help but wonder what would happen if we stopped throwing stones at each other. ... If something is heretical, that’s one thing. But we quibble over far too many things. ... I’m all for holding the fort of orthodoxy, but that strikes me as misidentifying the enemy. ... I’ve always subscribed to something Rupertus Meldenius said: ‘In the essentials, unity. In the non-essentials, liberty. In all things, charity.’ Obviously, it’s hard to know where to draw the line between essential and non-essentials. But let’s not major in minors.” Batterson’s statement reminds me of IBaptist leader Charles Keen’s book *Thinking Outside the Box*, in which he says, “I finally realized that not all truth is of equal value. ... Let’s decide who the enemies of the cross are and divide from them. Then let’s decide who the friends of grace are and tolerate them.” Batterson’s statement reminds me of Kevin Bauder, president of Central Baptist Seminary in Minnesota, who praises “conservative evangelicals” and promotes the “non-essential”



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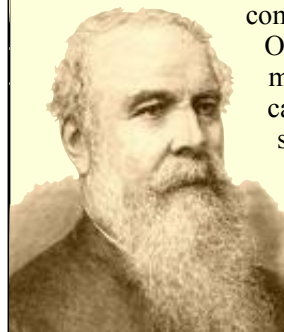
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST TRADES GOD THE FATHER FOR FEMALE SHACK GOD

Last week the United Church of Christ removed God the Father from its doctrinal statement. Denominational spokeswoman Barb Powell said the term “heavenly Father” is too restrictive and doesn’t allow for inclusive language such as “Father and Mother” (“God the Father banished,” *WorldNetDaily*, July 5, 2011). This liberal denomination is therefore the first to put *The Shack* god, with its female “God the father” and female Holy Spirit into its official doctrinal statement. The apostasy is very, very deep and is spreading throughout “Christianity.” It involves not only the rejection of the doctrine of the Bible but also the rejection of the God of the Bible. Every church that does not make the effort to shut off the bridges to these treacherous apostate waters will be infiltrated.

J.C. RYLE’S LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF PROPHECY

J.C. Ryle (1816-1900), the Bishop of Liverpool, was considered the best man in the Church of England by Baptist pastor Charles Spurgeon. Interestingly, he interpreted Bible prophecy literally. The following is from his book *Are You Ready for the End of Time* (1867): “I believe we have cherished an arbitrary, reckless habit of interpreting first advent texts *literally*, and second advent texts *spiritually*. I believe we have not rightly understood ‘all that the prophets have spoken’ about the second personal advent of Christ, any more than the Jews did about the first. ... But suppose the Jew asks you if you take *all* the prophecies of the Old Testament in their simple literal meaning. Suppose he asks you if you believe in a literal personal advent of Messiah to reign over the earth in glory, a literal restoration of Judah and Israel to Palestine, a literal rebuilding and restoration of Zion and Jerusalem. Suppose the unconverted Jew puts these questions to you, what answer are you prepared to make? Will you dare to tell him that Old Testament prophecies of this kind are not to be taken in their plain literal sense? Will you dare to tell him that the words Zion, Jerusalem, Jacob, Judah, Ephraim, Israel, do not mean what they seem to mean, but mean the *Church of Christ*? Will you dare to tell him that the glorious kingdom and future blessedness of Zion, so often dwelt upon in prophecy, mean nothing more than the gradual Christianizing of the world by missionaries and gospel preaching? Will you dare to tell him that you think it ‘carnal’ to expect a literal rebuilding of Jerusalem, ‘carnal’ to expect a literal coming of Messiah to reign?

Oh, reader, if you are a man of this mind, take care what you are doing! I say again, take care.”



BATTERSON....

philosophy (*In the Nick of Time*, Bauder's blog, March 2010). Batterson's statement reminds me of Calvary Baptist Seminary of Lansdale, Pennsylvania, which says, "We should grant each other the freedom to hold differing viewpoints and to refrain from caustic letter-writing campaigns to or about those with whom one might differ. ... in our zeal to earnestly contend for the faith, fundamentalism became more concerned about minor issues and less concerned about what the Bible clearly presents as the majors" (alumni mailing, Aug. 25, 2010). Calvary Baptist Seminary identifies "minor issues" as such things as which English translation to use, dress standards, musical styles, election, and baptism. We are told that such things should not determine fellowship. Batterson's statement also reminds me of Clayton Reed, who co-authored *Church Still Works* with Paul Chappell. In his blog entitled "Ecclesiastical Separation," Reed says, "... we ought to join every willing, warm-hearted Christian in advancing our Lord's kingdom while it is day." He says we should not separate over "non-fundamentals" and refers to John R. Rice's principle that we should work with those who disagree with us on baptism, tongues, prophecy, election, and association with the Southern Baptist Convention. Those who hold the "in essentials unity; in non-essentials liberty" doctrine cannot show us where this principle was taught by Christ or Paul or any of the apostles. They cannot show from the clear teaching of Scripture how to identify a "non-essential" doctrine, nor can they show how a list of "non-essentials" can keep from growing larger with each generation as it has everywhere this principle has been accepted. At first only things like "music" or "dress" or "Bible versions" are considered "non-essentials," but after awhile the list includes things like a woman's call to preach and the interpretation of prophecy and the definition of God's sovereignty in election and ecumenical evangelism and definitions of the atonement. And the list just keeps growing. The biblical way is to reject the "essentials/non-essentials" philosophy and to respect the whole counsel of the New Testament faith (Jude 3). This does not mean that we consider all doctrine of equal importance. There are damnable heresies (2 Peter 2:1-2), which only the unregenerate hold, and lesser heresies, which even born again believers hold (1 Cor. 11:19). But every clearly-taught teaching of the Word of God should be honored and none despised. And we should be willing to defend whatever doctrine happens to be under attack at any given time.

SPURGEON REPROVED QUICK PRAYERISM

The following is from Charles Haddon Spurgeon's *The Soul Winner*: "It is a serious injury to a person to receive him into the number of the faithful unless there is good reason to believe that he is really [born again]. I am sure it is so, for I speak after careful observation. Some of the most glaring sinners known to me were once members of a church; and were, as I believe, led to make a profession by undue pressure, well-meant but ill-judged. Do not, therefore, consider that soul-winning is or can be secured by the multiplication of baptisms, and the swelling of the size of your church. What mean these dispatches from the battlefield? 'Last night, fourteen souls were under conviction, fifteen were justified, and eight received full sanctification'. I am weary of this public bragging, this counting of unhatched chickens, this exhibition of doubtful spoils. Lay aside such numberings of the people, such idle pretence of certifying in half a minute that which will need the testing of a lifetime. Hope for the best, but in your highest excitements be reasonable. Enquiry-rooms are all very well; but if they lead to idle boastings, they will grieve the Holy Spirit, and work abounding evil. ... Do not aim at sensation and 'effect'. Flowing tears and streaming eyes, sobs and outcries, crowded after-meetings and all kinds of confusions may occur, and may be borne with as [coincidence] of genuine feeling; but pray, do not plan their

production. It very often happens that the converts that are born in excitement die when the excitement is over." **NOTE FROM BROTHER CLOUD:** Some were obviously practicing Quick Prayerism in Spurgeon's day and counting empty professions as salvations. I observe, though, that in his day the professions at least had at least some slight semblance of spiritual reality. They were accompanied by tears and outcries and excitement. A large number of today's Quick Prayerism results are accompanied by nothing more than a muttered prayer followed by the door slamming shut in the "soul winner's face" and the individual getting back to whatever he was doing before being momentarily distracted.

The Friday Church News Notes is designed for use in churches and is published by Way of Life Literature's Fundamental Baptist Information Service. Unless otherwise stated, the Notes are written by David Cloud. Of necessity we quote from a wide variety of sources, but this does not imply an endorsement.

ASSAULT ON BIBLE PROVES ITS DIVINE INSPIRATION

The broad assault on the Bible today is a fulfillment of prophecy and therefore an evidence that the Bible is true. 2 Timothy 3:7-8 warns that that even professing Christians will join in the assault. They will be ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth, and in fact, will resist the truth (2 Tim. 3:7-8). This is a perfect description of Christian higher education today, even among “evangelicals” (as we have documented in the book *New Evangelicalism*). The typical seminary takes a syncretistic approach, having a tolerant attitude toward a wide assortment of “theologies” and enthusiastically entertaining an endless stream of ancient and end-times heresies, while despising any dogmatic approach to doctrine and attacking those who hold the Bible as the infallibly inspired Word of God. *Christianity Today* recently published an article questioning the



historicity of Adam and Eve and pretending that it doesn't matter one way or the other. 2 Timothy 4:3-4 prophesies that end-times Christians will trade sound doctrine for fables and will be led in this diabolical business by heaps of teachers who are willing to scratch people's ears with new things. Peter prophesied that many will teach damnable heresies, even attacking the person and character of Christ; and by their false teaching and sensual lifestyle they will bring great reproach upon Christianity (2 Peter 2:1-2). Peter also prophesied that at the end of the age there will be widespread unbelief toward the global flood and the second coming of Christ; there will be scoffing and flagrant rejection of God's moral laws (2 Peter 3:3-6). The apostasy, which began in the days of the apostles, will grow in intensity as the church age progresses (2 Timothy 3:13). These amazing 2,000-year-old prophecies, which are precise and detailed, give a perfect description of conditions in our day. This would not be possible apart from divine inspiration.

FREEDOM OF RELIGION VICTORY IN FLORIDA SCHOOL

The following is excerpted from “Florida District Buckles,” *WorldNetDaily*, July 2, 2011: “Officials in the Santa Rosa County, Fla., School District have agreed to gut an ACLU-inspired consent decree they imposed on students and faculty several years ago and pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees to settle a legal challenge to their decision that banned ordinary phrases such as ‘God bless’ from their campuses. Word of the settlement was announced yesterday by the nonprofit Liberty Counsel, which represented faculty and students in the district after the ACLU decree was adopted several years ago. The restrictions were so draconian that employee Michelle Winkler in 2009 was charged with contempt after her husband, who is not employed by the district, offered a meal prayer at a private event in a neighboring county. During testimony in the case, she also described how she and a co-worker, who recently had lost a child, had to hide in a closet to pray. Further, former Pace High School Principal Frank Lay, now retired, and Athletic Director Robert Freeman were tried for contempt after the ACLU demanded that they be punished. Freeman had been accused of offering a blessing for a lunch for some 20 adult booster club members. While the battle over their own rights were raging in court, members of the 2009 graduating class at Pace expressed their objections to the ACLU restrictions on statements of religious faith by rising up en masse at their ceremony and reciting the Lord's Prayer. The consent decree that led to criminal indictments against school employees for prayer and banned ‘God Bless’ will now be gutted and revised, according to the announcement from Liberty Council.”

DAVID CLOUD APPRECIATION PAGE

Well, folks, there is a “David Cloud Appreciation Page” at Facebook. I had nothing to do with it, but this is a free country. Actually, the page was originally named “David Cloud Is My Hero,” and at our request the owner toned it down! Recently I posted the following to the page: “I am encouraged in the Lord for the support reflected on this Facebook page, because I do get a lot of really hateful mail and there are many people who have an unreasonable dislike of me, usually because I have spoken against one or more of their heroes or pet heresies, and oftentimes when they haven't even read my writings for themselves. It is always more fun to be liked than hated! And men of God should be honored when they are doing something right Scripturally

(Romans 13:7; 1 Timothy 5:17). But I also want to make it clear that I had nothing to do with setting up this page, and I have never wanted or encouraged a personal following. Let's be followers of Christ, for we can indeed give Him ‘unquestioning loyalty’ and He will never disappoint or lead astray. We need to learn the Bible so well and walk with Christ so intimately that we can know the truth, so that we can test every man by the truth. And while we do that, let us not forget to be humble and respectful toward God-called authorities. I believe in always giving the authority the benefit of the doubt. David Cloud.”

PLANT AND BACTERIA COMMUNICATE

The following is from *Creation Moments*, June 15, 2011: "Some people talk to their plants. But what do you say to a bacterium? Evidently the soybean plant knows just what to say to make bacteria its close friend and helper. Symbiosis means a relationship between two different creatures in which they both help each other. Plants need nitrogen for healthy growth. However, while there is more than enough nitrogen in the air, plants normally can't make use of that nitrogen. Legumes, like soybeans, link up with bacteria that are able to take nitrogen from the air and turn it into a form of nitrogen that plants, including the soybean, can use. In return, the plant creates a nice home for the bacteria in nodes in its roots and provides the bacteria with food. The bacteria need a great deal of oxygen and energy to fix nitrogen into the soil. The oxygen is supplied by heme. If that name reminds you of the hemoglobin that carries oxygen in blood, you're on the right track. That's why the heme in the nodules turns them reddish. Who makes the heme, the soybean or the bacteria? When alone, neither creature has any heme. Researchers have learned that the plant performs the first part of the chemistry needed to make heme ... and the bacterium finishes the job! The plant and the bacterium actually communicate chemically with each other so that

production goes smoothly! Communication between such different creatures, allowing them to perform sophisticated chemistry to improve both of their lives, shows how inadequate evolution is to explain life. This arrangement surely glorifies the Creator!"



Conclusion

Friends in Christ, do not be discouraged by any of this. It is God's will that we know the times (1 Ch. 12:32; Mat. 16:3) and that we be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. These things remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the coming of the Lord. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ day by day? "And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof" (Rom. 13:11-14). This material is sent only to those who personally subscribe to the Fundamental Baptist Information Service list. To SUBSCRIBE or UNSUBSCRIBE or CHANGE ADDRESSES go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/fbis/subscribe.html>. Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org. David Cloud is the director of Way of Life Literature and author of the Friday Church News Notes.

news highlights

from the heart

WELCOME TO AMBASSADOR

Welcome to Ambassador Baptist Church! A place where we desire very much for the name of our blessed Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, to be honoured and glorified.

As you worship with us, may God fill you with the knowledge of His will and may you be led in the ways of righteousness for His name sake.



Ambassador turns...

We thank the Lord for His grace in leading us as we celebrate the second anniversary of Ambassador under the headship of the Lord Jesus Christ. We hope you too will be thrilled and challenged by the Lord today and may the Lord touch your heart to return to Him and live for Him with commitment as He has committed Himself to us!

THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

“To win the north of Singapore for Christ and a thousand souls for Christ in five years.”

THEME FOR THE MONTH:

The Word of God

NEW PLACE • FUNDS

CHURCH BUILDING FUND

Getting ready for the big move

God has miraculously provided Ambassador with a permanent place of worship at Woodlands which is due in the 2nd quarter of 2013. However, we need God to provide us funds for the renovation of the new place. The target of \$180,000 needs to be raised by March 2013.

If you are a Christian and believe that the Lord wants you to give to this project, you may contribute to the fund by enclosing it in an envelope, indicating "Church Building Fund" on the front and dropping it into the offering bags. For cheques, please indicate "Building Fund" on the back of the cheque.

For more information, please contact the fundraising directors - Bro. Roland and Bro. Joshua - by emailing them at buildingproject@ambassador-baptist.org



the week at a glance

18 - 24 JULY 2011

18 Jul	19 Jul	20 Jul	21 Jul	22 Jul	23 Jul	24 Jul
monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
	Outreach Efforts	Outreach Efforts		Rivers In a Dry Place	ABC Youth	Worship Service <i>DITW inactive</i>

timings

Sunday Services

Children's Bible Hour 09:30AM
 Sunday Bible Hour 09:30AM
 Mandarin Service 09:30AM
 English Worship Service 11:00AM

Routine Weekly Activities

Faith Bible Institute - TERM BREAK
Mondays, 07:45PM

"Rivers in a Dry Place"
Fridays, 08:00PM

Ambassador Youth
Saturdays, 10:30AM

"Daily in the Word"
Sundays, 1:30PM

Outreach Efforts -

SEMBAWANG
 Person-in-Charge: Bro. Robert
 Tuesdays, 08:15PM

YISHUN
 Person-in-Charge: *We need one.*
 Wednesdays, 08:15PM

For more information on our weekly activities, visit our website at www.ambassador-baptist.org

get in touch

We'd love to hear from you, be it feedback about this bulletin, requests for material, or just about any other query you may have about Christ, His Kingdom, and Ambassador. Contact us by:

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 (pastor's email)

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/ambassador.baptist.church.SG

Twitter: @abc_singapore

prayer list

- **The new place**
- The vision of Ambassador: To Win the North for Christ!
- The various ministries
- Growth of Ambassador and its members
- Plan and Budget 2011
- Pastors for Chinese and Filipino Ministries
- More to be committed to the ministry of the Lord
- Outreach efforts
- Salvation of our families and loved ones

"I thank God for..."

There are so many blessings this week we had to make a special booklet just for them. Be sure to pick up a copy!

WANT TO SHARE?
 Do you have a prayer request or an item of thanks that you would like to share with the church? Make your submissions to timlee@ambassador-baptist.org by Thursday every week. Submissions may be edited for space and clarity.