

24 JULY 2011

WEB EDITION

ambassador|baptistchurch



be ye reconciled to God
2 Corinthians 5:20

be ye reconciled to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

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from the pastor's heart

THE PERSON OF GOD'S CHOICE



today's programme

the news

hymn | *blessed be the name*

opening prayer

hymn | *i know the Bible is true*

hymn | *it will be worth it all*

offertory

hymn | *open my eyes that I may
see*

exhortation | *pastor johnny*

invitation and closing

For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.

Isaiah 66:2

The Lord asks this question, "Are you going to make a place for me? All the things of earth are made by me: I am not looking for a place, I am

looking for a person." The world boasts of many so-called great and influential men. They are able to sway many by their words. There are many so-called megachurches that attract thousands. Is the Lord pleased with buildings? I dare say no, because He is not looking for buildings but bodies, bodies that are willing to be living sacrifices. What kind of person is the Lord

looking for?

HE IS LOOKING FOR A PERSON WHO IS POOR
Poverty of the inner man refers to a thinking that we are not and never good enough. It is an understanding that God is great and before Him, we are nothing. It is the right

continued on page 2

from the pastor's heart

estimation of our true self. Some may proudly think they are something; God will reject these people for God resisteth the proud. God is looking for a person with the proper estimation of himself, that we are poor in our spirit.

HE IS LOOKING FOR A PERSON WHO IS OF A CONTRITE SPIRIT

The word contrite refers to a broken spirit. Our world is filled with people who are of a strong spirit, who believe in themselves and believe in their own capability. God is looking for someone who is of a broken spirit, one that says, "Without God and through myself alone, I can't. There is nothing that I will do that will please God." The individual is very well aware of God's holiness and has a personal sense of sin and how we are weak in Christ. God is looking for a humble man and a person who is of a broken spirit, one who knows his own sense of fruitlessness without God.

HE IS LOOKING FOR A PERSON WHO TREMBLES AT HIS WORD

God is looking for someone who is humble, broken and one who reverences and holds God's word on a high platform and in high esteem. One who trembles at God's word

refers to one who knows, believes and is deeply aware of the reality that God's promises are true and there is also the promise that what God says in judgment, He will carry out. The Lord Jesus says that we are to fear Him who is able to destroy both body and soul in hell. A trembling refers to a shaking in fear in the heart and mind of the individual when the word of God is presented, knowing that what the Lord hath said, He will do it.

God is looking for a person; do we fit His mould?

Do you not yearn for the presence of God? Do you not care that God is with you, or absent from you? Learn the characteristic of a child in the presence God: he is humble, he is of a broken heart and he loves and trembles at the word of God. Are you humble today?

Do you realise your sin and is broken by it? Do you realise that God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble?

God is looking for a person; do we fit His mould? If you are, press on and keep on regardless of the obstacles, and If not, seek His face, for God is near to those who are of a broken and contrite heart.

*Evangelist-Pastor Johnny Tan
Ambassador Baptist Church*

thought for the week

The word of God is our comfort. Have you received His comfort today?

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
24 July 2011

I. The title for today's message is _____

II. The passage for today's message is _____

III. What does God want us to know when facing disappointments:

A. When facing disappointments in life, we need to realise that

B. When facing disappointments in life, we need to realise that

C. When facing disappointments in life, we need to realise that

D. When facing disappointments in life, we need to realise that

Sunday Worship Service
24 July 2011

Turn to: **1 Kings 17:17 – 24**

Luke 4:25-26 But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land; But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow

Jeremiah 29:10-11 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Ecclesiastes 3:14 I know that, whatsoever God doeth, it shall be for ever: nothing can be put to it, nor any thing taken from it: and God doeth it, that men should fear before him.

Genesis 50:20 But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.

Friday Church News Notes



Evangelicals and Catholics Together for Christian Rock

Friday Church News Notes, July 22, 2011 www.wayoflife.org

The 13th annual Lifest Christian rock festival in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, featured five days of rock & roll, complete with a Catholic mass and a message by well-known evangelical speaker Greg Laurie. Some 20,000 people gathered July 6-10 to hear Christian rock groups such as Hawk Nelson, Skillet, TobyMac, Lincoln Brewster, MercyMe, Superchick, Newsboys, and Kutless. Greg Laurie of International Harvest Crusades, spoke on the last day of the event, preceded by a Catholic mass led by bishop David Ricken of the Diocese of Green Bay. Lifest founder Bob Lenz said, "We want to get all the flavors of the church" ("Green Bay Bishop David Ricken Leads Mass," *Green Bay Press Gazette*, July 10, 2011). What Lenz is talking about is not a "church"; it is end-times apostasy and rebellion to God's Word. "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them" (Romans 16:17). Christian rock's unscriptural ecumenical philosophy is one of the many reasons why we warn against it in no uncertain terms.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND "WILL BE DEAD IN 20 YEARS"

The following is excerpted from "Ageing Church of England," *London Telegraph*, July 12, 2011: "The average age of its members is now 61 and by 2020 a 'crisis' of 'natural wastage' will lead to their numbers falling 'through the floor', the Church's national assembly was told. The Church was compared to a company 'impeccably' managing itself into failure, during exchanges at the General Synod in York. The warnings follow an internal report calling for an urgent national recruitment drive to attract more members. In the past 40 years, the number of adult churchgoers has halved, while the number of children attending regular worship has declined by four fifths. The Rev Dr Patrick Richmond, a Synod member from Norwich, told the meeting that some projections suggested that the Church would no longer be 'functionally extinct' in 20 years' time."

MARY, QUEEN OF THE UNIVERSE CHURCH

The Roman Catholic Basilica of the National Shrine of Mary, Queen of the Universe is located in Orlando, Florida, near Disney World. The basilica's official brochures say: "As Catholics we look to Mary, Mother of God, for inspiration, encouragement and help in our lives. ... [The basilica] emphasizes devotion to the Mother of God as one of the God-given gifts enabling us to reach that salvation for which Christ gave us His life on the cross." Thus, according to this Catholic document Mary plays a role in salvation, which is a blasphemous heresy. That Rome's Mary is worshipped as queen of heaven is clear evidence that she is a Christianized pagan idol, for the only queen of heaven mentioned in the Bible is a goddess that the Jews were worshipping at the time of the destruction of the First Temple (Jeremiah 7:18; 44:17-25). The ancient mother-goddess worship, which began at Babel and spread throughout the world, was baptized by the Roman Catholic Church as the Madonna-Child. For photos of Mary hanging on the cross and Mary on God's throne at the basilica Santa Maria Maggiore, Mary hanging on the cross in the Church of the Mother of God of Polish Martyrs in Warsaw, and Mary on the ark of the covenant see the following -- <http://www.wayoflife.org/maryolatry/index.html>



SILENCE VS. THE SILENCE

There is a vast difference between biblical contemplation and the Roman Catholic contemplative prayer that is sweeping through evangelicalism. It is the difference between “silence” and “THE silence.” The silence of biblical contemplation refers simply to a quiet place in which the soul can effectively seek the Lord. In Scripture it is called seeking the Lord (Psalm 105:3; Isaiah 55:6), waiting on the Lord (Psalm 69:6), meditating on the Lord (Psalm 104:34), meditating on God’s Word (Psalm 1:2). In these times, when most of us use computers and smart phones and our waking hours are filled to the brim with distracting busyness, it is important to have daily periods of silence for spiritual devotion. On the other hand, “THE silence” of contemplative prayer refers to pursuing God beyond the Bible, beyond thinking. It refers to putting aside thoughts through mechanisms such as mantras. It has been popularized by contemplative gurus such as Richard Foster and Dallas Willard and is promoted by many evangelical leaders today, including Rick Warren, Bill Hybels, Chuck Swindoll, David Jeremiah, Beth Moore, Mark Driscoll, Max Lucado, Philip Yancy, Ed Young, Gary Thomas, Lee Strobel, and Charles Stanley. One of the popular contemplative prayer manuals is *The Cloud of Unknowing*. This book, which came out of the darkness of Roman Catholic monasticism, encourages the use of a mantra to drive away conscious thoughts with the objective of entering into an experiential communion with God in “the nothingness.” “Focus your attention on a simple word such as sin or

God ... and WITHOUT THE INTERVENTION OF ANALYTICAL THOUGHT allow yourself to experience directly the reality it signifies” (chapter 36, p. 94). This is not biblical meditation; it is a dangerous recipe for demonic delusion. We must seek God through faith, and faith comes only by God’s Word (Hebrews 11:6; Romans 10:17). If we try to know and “experience” God beyond the pages of Scripture, beyond the teaching of the Bible, we are walking in disobedience and unbelief and are setting ourselves up for spiritual deception from the hands of the one who appears as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11:14). Contemplative practices such as the Jesus Prayer, visualizing prayer, breath prayer, and centering prayer are exceedingly dangerous. Many who practice these things end up believing in a pagan concept of God such as pantheism (God is everything) and panentheism (God is in everything). Through these practices people typically become increasingly ecumenical and interfaith in thinking. One does not have to choose between knowing *about* God and knowing God personally. GOD IS KNOWN IN CHRIST THROUGH HIS WORD. The study of the Bible is not an end in itself and should never be a mere dry intellectual exercise; it is the means whereby we know God. “But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night” (Psalm 1:2). “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust” (2 Peter 1:4).

IRAN TELLS CHRISTIAN PASTOR: RECANT OR FACE EXECUTION

The following is excerpted from the Baptist Press, July 15, 2011: “Iranian pastor Yousef Nadarkhani faces execution unless he renounces his faith in Christ, a written verdict from the country’s supreme court has confirmed. Baptist Press reported July 8 that Christians in Iran were challenging news reports that Nadarkhani’s death penalty had been annulled. The Christian Solidarity Worldwide human rights organization reported July 14 that the court’s written verdict had been released, confirming that Nadarkhani faces execution unless he renounces his faith. The original verdict on charges of apostasy was based on ‘fatwas’ by Iran’s most powerful religious leaders--Ayatollahs Khomeini, Khamenei and Makarem Shirazi -- meaning the Supreme Court may have been reluctant to overturn the verdict for fear of inviting controversy, CSW advocacy director Andrew Johnston said in a press statement. ... Nadarkhani was arrested in October 2009 while attempting to register his church. His arrest is believed to have been due to his questioning of the Muslim

monopoly on the religious instruction of children in Iran, according to news reports. He initially was charged with protesting; however, the charges against him were later changed to apostasy and evangelizing Muslims.”



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.

CAMPUS CRUSADE CHANGES ITS NAME

Campus Crusade for Christ is changing its name to “Cru.” The objective is to “overcome existing barriers and perceptions inherent in the original name.” The Baptist Press says, “For some, in a post-9/11 world ‘crusade’ conjures up thoughts of jihad or of the Holy Wars of the 12th and 13th centuries. Campus Crusade for Christ has field tested the new name since the 1990s and has found no negative connotation with the ministry’s future name. In contrast, the name ‘Campus Crusade for Christ’ has caused some people to lose interest in the ministry’s message, the organization says. Twenty percent of people who were willing to consider the Gospel turned away when they heard the organization’s name, according to the Campus Crusade website” (Baptist Press, July 20, 2011). Campus Crusade, which was founded by Bill Bright, is radically ecumenical. In 1969, Bright said, “We do not attack the Roman Church. We believe God is doing a mighty work in it and will no doubt use millions of Roman Catholics to help evangelize the world” (*The Post & Times Star*, Cincinnati, Ohio, Aug. 30, 1969). By the 1970s Campus Crusade had several Catholics on staff (James

Hefley, *A Prejudiced Protestant Takes a New Look at the Catholic Church*, 1971, p. 122). In an interview with *Wittenburg Door*, June-July 1978, Richard Quebedeaux said, “In Ireland, Campus Crusade is registered as a religious order. ... And they work entirely within the Catholic church there with Catholics...” At Billy Graham’s Amsterdam ‘86 conference, Bright said, “There was a day when Protestants and Roman Catholics would not have much to do with one another. But today the Spirit of God is doing such a great work in both the Roman Catholic and Protestant fellowships and communions that I feel very much at home wherever Jesus Christ is honored” (*Foundation*, Jul.-Aug. 1986). We would ask how it is possible that the Roman Catholic Church honors Jesus Christ when it denies the sufficiency of His atonement and of the Holy Scriptures, and when it ignores His commands about such things as adding human traditions to the Word of God and calling religious leaders “father,” and when it exalts Mary to the position of Advocate and Mediatrix (Vatican Council II, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, chap. 8, II, 62, pp. 382-383)?

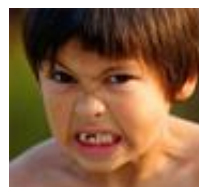
OBAMA’S OUTREACH HAS NOT IMPROVED ARABS’ VIEWS OF THE U.S.

The following is excerpted from “Poll: Obama’s Outreach,” CNSNews.com, July 14, 2011: “Two years of outreach to the Arab-Islamic world by the Obama administration apparently has not ushered in more favorable opinions of the United States among Arabs, according to a new poll of attitudes in six key Mideast countries. Favorable views of the U.S. among respondents in the Zogby International poll have dropped by more than half across the six countries compared with a similar survey conducted two years ago--from an average 33 percent in 2009 to 15 percent in 2011. In four of the six countries polled--Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and the United Arab Emirates--favorable opinions of the U.S. are even lower now than they were in 2008, the final year of President Bush’s second term. In the other two countries--Egypt, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia--they are higher now than in 2008, but down noticeably from 2009, when the poll was conducted several months after President Obama took office.”

RISE OF THE VIOLENT “LITTLE EMPERORS”

The following is excerpted from “Rise of the Violent,” *Daily Mail*, July 11, 2011: “Children are becoming increasingly violent towards their parents when they do not get their own way, a leading psychologist has warned. The ‘little emperors’ of this ‘spoilt generation’ lash out both at home--particularly at mothers who stand in their way--and school or even nursery. Experts have blamed the decline in respect for authority on a lack of clear parental boundaries and rules, as well as an emphasis on children’s rights. The problem is getting worse and spans the class divide, according to Dr Aric Sigman, a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine. He said the age at which children were violent and disrespectful towards their teachers ‘is coming down to nursery level’. He added: ‘They’re swearing and throwing chairs at their teachers at younger and younger ages. It isn’t surprising this is happening in a domestic setting. Parent abuse and parent battery appear to be on the rise and what seems to underlie this is to do with parenting, the lack of boundaries and the reversal of authority. It’s the extreme end of the spoilt generation where they actually lash out at parents, almost exclusively their mothers. There’s a lack of

impulse control, demands for instant gratification and not accepting deferred gratification.’ Dr Sigman analysed academic studies, psychologists’ observations and police reports in Britain, America and New Zealand to update his book on the subject, *The Spoilt Generation*. He said: ‘There’s been a change, it’s getting worse and it’s going further down the age scale. I’m talking about younger and younger children, including girls, beating up their mothers and kicking them down the stairs. Mothers are ashamed to ask for help.’” Proverbs 29:15 “The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.” 2 Timothy 3:1-2 “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.”



PH.D. SAYS NO SCIENTIFIC FACT CONTRADICTS THE BIBLE

Terry Mortenson, Ph.D. in the History of Geology from Coventry University in England, says there is no scientific fact that contradicts the Bible. Dr. Mortenson is on the staff of the Creation Museum in Kentucky, and in a video recorded interview with me at the museum on June 23, 2009, he said: "I have studied a lot of arguments from evolutionists; I have had seven formal debates with evolutionary professors at universities, and I have never read or heard any scientific fact that contradicts what the Bible says. There are evolutionist's interpretations of the facts, but the facts themselves are not contrary to Scripture." In a blog entitled "Origins Views and the Assemblies of God," dated December 11, 2010, Dr. Mortenson wrote: "Science has not found anything that contradicts the straightforward, literal understanding of Genesis ... Science has not found a living cell spontaneously evolving into existence by chance from non-living matter, as evolutionists claim has happened 3.5 billion years ago. Science has not found transitional forms between different kinds of plants and animals, either living or in the fossil record, to support evolutionist claims that all life is descended from a common ancestor--the first living cell. And science has not found millions of years of time in the rocks or a gas cloud collapsing to form a star. None of those things has ever been observed by any scientist, so they are not findings of science. Rather, evolutionary scientists using anti-biblical (naturalistic and uniformitarian) assumptions and imagination have interpreted some of the

observations of the natural world (while ignoring other observations) to invent a story about the past that contradicts the time-tested, historically orthodox and exegetically sound interpretation of God's inerrant Word. It is not a conflict between the 'findings of science' and 'traditional interpretations' of the Bible. It is rather the conflict between the atheistic and deistic interpretations of God's creation by people who are suppressing the truth in unrighteousness (Romans 1:18-20) versus the sound interpretation of God's Word by godly leaders and pastors in the church down through history."



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.

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.



IN PICTURES • WE REMEMBER AMBASSADOR'S SECOND ANNIVERSARY

Remembering the Leading of the Lord - 14 July 2011

COMING UP

NATIONAL DAY; PRAYER AND FASTING

on 9 August 2011

*Blow the trumpet in
Zion, sanctify a fast,
call a solemn assembly...*

Joel 2:15

Drastic times call for Biblical measures, and we are living in very drastic times. With problems popping up faster than we can solve them, we need divine intervention.

In order to meet the challenges ahead, Ambassador is calling for a day of prayer and fasting on the national day holiday. All are encouraged to make time to attend this important event.

PRAYER AND FASTING

Date: 9 August 2011

Time: 10:30AM - 2PM

Location: 1096 Sembawang Road.

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



the week at a glance

25 - 31 JULY 2011

25 Jul	26 Jul	27 Jul	28 Jul	29 Jul	30 Jul	31 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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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

Church Building Fund

Don't forget that we are working to meet our target of \$180,000 before March 2011. The money will be used for the renovation of our new facility. Over the next two years, this space will be used to bring updates about the fund and the new facility, including growth charts, pictures and illustrations.

Watch this space and give as the Lord leads!