



be ye *reconciled* to God

2 Corinthians 5:20

the weekly digest of ambassador|baptistchurch

find.it

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from the pastor's heart

OTHERS FIRST



today's program

the **news**

hymn | *a mighty fortress is our God*

opening **prayer**

hymn | *a shelter in the time of storm*


hymn | *surely goodness and mercy*


offertory

hymn | *turn your eyes upon Jesus*

exhortation | *pastor Johnny*

invitation and closing

 Pastor Johnny Tan (johnny@ambassador-baptist.org)

 Courtesy ivanatman, Flickr

We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

Romans 15:1

It is written in 2 Timothy 3:4 that, in the last days, men shall be "lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;" This is

certainly true and it is reflected in the pleasure-seeking society we live in. Pleasing ourselves, entertaining personal likes and distaste is a trend of the world devoid of spirituality. It focuses on what the Lord wants us not to focus on: ourselves. Christ said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself." We are to care for self with a view to honouring, obeying and serving the Lord, not for

self-gratification and personal glory.

There was a trend in the Roman thinking, even as Christians, that they needed to be right, to win and to stand tall. Yet, when it came to non-issues, Paul taught God's will to them.

continued on page 2

Firstly, Paul advocated that the strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak. The "strong" referring to Christians strong in faith and in the issues at hand. They were able to see the reasons and the outcomes of these issues. These were the ones that Paul admonished to bear the infirmities of the weak. The infirmities referred to the weak conscience pertaining to spiritual things of those who, being weak Christians, found it literally impossible to sustain themselves. Paul admonishes the spirit of charity (unconditional love) that we need to see our brethren with. We need to see past their strong-willed stubborn attitude with regards to a situation that is an obvious non-issue in scripture, yet important to them. A man controlled by the Spirit of God will esteem the other better than himself. In understanding the principle of meekness, he would rather allow a situation to continue without interference, lest in winning the argument, he loses the brother. Therein lay the reason for Paul's counsel to bear the infirmities of the weak.

Secondly, Paul addressed the attitude of the strong, that they do not aim to please themselves. It is possible that, besides bearing the weak, Paul needed to admonish the self-seeking attitude of the more matured Christians. Spiritual maturity does not come with age, it comes with principled obedience to the Word of God and to the influence and control of the Holy Spirit. A man of older age may be less spiritually mature compared to one younger than he. In this

situation, the older Christians, so-called stronger in faith, were pleasing themselves, which is a contradiction.

Thirdly, Paul referred to the principle of care of another brother. Paul's motivation for this principle is the care of a younger brother, one for whom Christ died, one whom we need to be careful we do not lay a stumbling block over. So many Christians, in the name of rightness and personal opinion, have stumbled many others and checkered their own faith. Sometimes the price to pay for being right is so severely negative that it leads to division. It brings disappointment and destruction. Paul teaches a better way in the name of our Saviour; a way of God to bring about restoration and reconciliation.

Dear reader, do you care enough that you may not prevail in every debate or argument? The goal is not to condone sin or encourage unrighteousness for that is never the intention of this writer. Yet, when being right in a non-issue brings up attitudes and spirits contrary to the principle of Scripture, such as contention and division, are we willing to be not right and esteem the other brother better than ourselves. May we see the need to bear the infirmities of the weak and not to please ourselves. If we see ourselves as the strong in faith, let us bear the infirmities of the weak for the Lord's glory, for the unity of the assembly and for the brother's sake.

thought of the week

If we do as God commands
and do not seem to succeed,
it is no fault of ours. Failure
itself would be success as
long as we did not fail to
obey

Spurgeon

memory verse

My sheep hear my voice, and I
know them, and they follow me:
And I give unto them eternal life;
and they shall never perish,
neither shall any man pluck them
out of my hand.

John 10:27 – 28

Sunday Worship Service
21 April 2013
"The Man God Uses"

Turn to: **2 Corinthians 8:16 - 24**

Psalms 25:14 The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

Genesis 18:17 - 19 And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Matthew 13:11 - 12 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.

Matthew 10:41 - 42 He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward; and he that receiveth a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man's reward. And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

Acts 20:24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Luke 16:10 He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

Acts 24:16 And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men.

1 Corinthians 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

Philippians 2:30 Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.

Sunday Worship Service
21 April 2013
"The Man God Uses"

Passage: _____

introduction

what kind of man does God use?

- I. The Man God uses is _____ to what is _____ to God's heart.

- II. The Man God uses is willing to _____
 - A. It was an _____ task
 - B. It was a _____ task
 - C. It was an _____ task

- III. The Man God Uses _____ Of The Task

- IV. A Man God Uses Has A _____ Of His Life.

- V. Man GOD Uses Because Of His _____ , Will Be Called On To Do _____

FRIDAY CHURCH NEWS NOTES

ROB BELL GEARING HIS HERESIES TO TEENS

The following is excerpted from “Rob Bell to Teach Teens that Christian Beliefs about Hell Are ‘Misguided and Toxic,” *Christian News*, Feb. 25, 2013: “Author and speaker Rob Bell is set to release a teen version of his book *Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived* nationwide next month. In a promotional video, Bell explains that the book is designed to teach youth that God is the life of the party, rather than the one that spoils everyone’s fun. ‘What do you believe about God?’ he begins. ... ‘For a lot of people, when you mention God, the first thing they think of is, Oh yeah, God shuts the party down. But when Jesus talked about faith, when Jesus talked about God, one of the dominant images He uses again and again is that of a party. ... It’s not



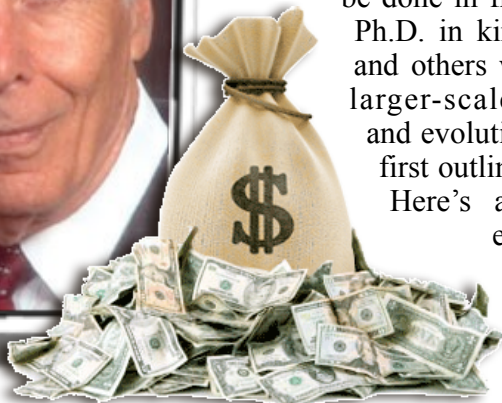
about long lists of regulations and things you can’t do. It’s about saying a giant ‘yes’ to the world. So what you believe God is like really, really matters. It shapes you and it forms you in a thousand different ways.’ While the promotional video does not necessarily underscore the book’s central theme of misconceptions about hell, Bell’s summary on Amazon reveals this aspect. ‘What if the idea of heaven and hell that we have been taught is not, in fact, what the Bible teaches?’ he writes. ‘What if Jesus meant something very different by the concepts of Heaven, Hell and salvation from how we’ve come to understand them?’” [In *Love Wins*, Bell asserts that the belief that only born-again Christians will go to heaven and unbelievers will spend eternity in hell is “misguided and toxic.”]

PH.D CREATIONIST OFFERS \$10,000 TO EVOLUTIONIST WHO CAN DISPROVE GENESIS



Dr. Joseph Mastropaolo

The following is excerpted from “Creationist offers \$10,000 to any evolutionist who can scientifically disprove Genesis in court,” *The Blaze*, Mar. 27, 2013 -- “A California-based creationist is so convinced that the Book of Genesis provides a literal recap of life’s beginnings that he’s willing to put \$10,000 on the line, offering the large sum of money to anyone who can successfully debunk the claims present in the book. But there’s a twist: The scientific take-down of the Biblical stories must be done in front of a judge. Dr. Joseph Mastropaolo, who holds a Ph.D. in kinesiology, is hoping that his challenge to non-theists and others who dismiss the Bible as mere allegory will spawn a larger-scale and healthier discussion about creationism and evolution. The contest, called the ‘Literal Genesis Trial,’ was first outlined by Mastropaolo in an interview with the *Guardian*. Here’s a description of how it would work, should an evolutionist rise to the occasion: ‘Dr. Joseph Mastropaolo ... has pledged to put \$10,000 of his own money into an escrow account before the debate. His competitor would be expected to do the same. The winner would take the \$20,000 balance.



PH.D CREATIONIST OFFERS \$10,000 TO EVOLUTIONIST WHO CAN DISPROVE GENESIS

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The argument would not be made in a formal court, but under an alternative dispute resolution model known as a minitrial. Mastropaolo said he would present the argument in favor of a literal interpretation of the creation story once he had found a willing scientist to argue that a non-literal interpretation of Genesis is more scientific' ("Creationist stakes \$10,000 on context between Bible and evolution," *The Guardian*, Mar, 25, 2013). 'It turns out that there is nothing in the universe [that] is evolving, everything is devolving, everything is going in the opposite direction,' he told the *Guardian*."

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANS CALLED "NON-JIHADIST TERRORISTS"

The following is excerpted from "So Now Biblical Christians Are 'Non-Jihadist Terrorists,'" *Around the World with Ken Ham*, Apr. 8, 2013: "Biblical Christians are being actively maligned with deliberate attempts to marginalize us in this increasingly secularized culture. In recent times we have see an increase in secularists doing the following: (1) Accusing Christians/creationists of 'child abuse' (as Lawrence Krauss, Arizona State University professor, has been declaring in recent times). (2) Claiming Christianity is a virus (as atheist Richard Dawkins and others have done). (3) Accusing people with religious convictions of mental health issues--and causing children to have their own mental health problems (as we saw in 'Can Your Child Be Too Religious,'" *Time* magazine, Mar. 28, 2013). I want to suggest to you there is an increasing ploy by secularists to indoctrinate the public into thinking that biblical Christians are the enemy and dangerous to the culture. ... You may be

shocked to read what was written in a CNN opinion piece April 4 by Peter Bergen, CNN's national security analyst and the author of 'Manhunt: The Ten-Year Search for bin Laden.' In this opinion piece titled 'Growing threat of extreme right-wing violence,' Bergen states the following: 'But the New America data shows that **domestic terrorists motivated by non-jihadist ideologies now pose a similar or even greater threat than those who admire al Qaeda. We define non-jihadist terrorists** to be those who carry out or aspire to carry out acts of politically motivated violence, and who fall into the following categories: right-wing extremists who oppose the government, subscribe to a neo-Nazi ideology, **OR OPPOSE HOMOSEXUALITY OR ABORTION**; left-wing extremists; violent animal rights activists; and violent environmental activists. So according to CNN's national security analyst, those who oppose homosexual behavior or abortion (that is, biblical Christians) are 'non-jihadist terrorists' and a 'greater threat than those who admire al Qaeda'—a 'threat' to the culture. Christians and Christian leaders need to wake up their local churches to what is happening. Christian persecution for those who take God at His Word is underway in this nation. America has gone over the edge of a precipice and is on a catastrophic spiritual decline from a Christian perspective--with increasing attacks against biblical Christians."

"We define non-jihadist terrorists to be those who carry out or aspire to carry out acts of politically motivated violence, and who fall into the following categories: right-wing extremists who oppose the government, subscribe to a neo-Nazi ideology, **OR OPPOSE HOMOSEXUALITY OR ABORTION**;"

Peter Bergen,
CNN's national security analyst



IS FOX NEWS A FRIEND OF THE TRUTH?



FOX News is no friend of the truth, and its objective is more to entertain and make money than it is to provide substantive news. *FOX News* is owned by Rupert Murdoch, one of the biggest purveyors of filth entertainment and one of the biggest destroyers of biblical morality, on earth. True, *FOX News* is more “conservative” than CNN or MSNBC, but *FOX News* is not a friend of truth, because the proper definition of truth is Jesus Christ and the Bible (John 14:6; 17:17). Not even FOX’s most conservative people, such as Bill O’Reilly and Sean Hannity, are friends of God’s infallible Word. If you watch *FOX News* much you will hear every sort of sorry humanistic philosophy. With very few

exceptions, *FOX News* pundits push the same moral relativism that CNN pushes. Do they oppose the homosexual agenda on biblical moral grounds? No, in fact, Bill O’Reilly recently mocked such people as “Bible thumpers.” Do they expose the godless lies of Darwinism? Those are two of the greatest secular enemies that Bible believers face today, but *FOX News* is essentially mute in the face of this vicious onslaught. If you watch *FOX News* you will also be bombarded with the filthy pop culture. On that line they worship Hollywood and Nashville as fervently as CNN or MSNBC. One of my readers wrote, “It was only on deputation when we had more access to TV’s and found when we turned them on, hours would easily be wasted, even just watching *FOX News*. Not to mention having to continually turn the commercials off. It got so annoying you either wanted to just leave it alone and not turn it off or miss something if you did turn it off. Unfortunately, leaving it on would win, and being aware of this we solidified in our minds we would not have a TV in our home, or cable for that matter. Both the programming and the commercials are written by non-Christians who are trying to influence others with their pagan humanistic philosophies and lifestyles. Cheating, illicit sex, drugs, homosexuality, teens in adult situations, Darwinism, cussing, and all kinds of things Christians shouldn’t be setting before their eyes. Numerous times, even on ‘conservative’ *FOX News*, they had a story on prostitutes and actually showed a video of pole dancers.” That reader has it right.

HMONG PASTOR BEATEN TO DEATH BY VIETNAM POLICE

The following is excerpted from “Hmong Christian Leader Beaten to Death,” *Morning Star News*, Mar. 28, 2013: “A Hmong church leader in Vietnam has been beaten to death in police custody, area sources said. Police beat Vam Ngaij Vaj around his neck and shoulders and likely used electric shock on him, resulting in his death on March 17, said a church leader who spoke with those who viewed the battered corpse. ‘They think he could have been electrocuted as well as beaten,’ said a Hmong Christian leader in Vietnam. Vaj, of Cu Jut District, Dak Nong Province in Vietnam’s Central Highlands, and his wife were clearing brush from their field in nearby Dak Ha Commune of Dak Glong District when they were arrested for ‘illegally destroying the forest’ on March 16. Hmong churches in the Central Highlands often report harassment by a communist regime that views Christianity as a threat, and the spurious charge of ‘destroying forest’ on their own property was consistent with such harassment. The husband and wife were transported to a police station in Gia Nghia Town and placed in separate cells, Christian sources said. That night Vaj was savagely beaten and tortured by police, the sources said, and the next day local authorities informed his younger brother that he had died. This news came as a shock as Vaj, in his late 30s, was in excellent health, the sources said. They added that the killing terrorized the Hmong Christian community.”



ISRAEL'S PROJECT "CRYSTAL BALL"

The Israel Defense Forces' (IDF) project "Crystal Ball" attempts to predict dangers and thwart them or at least be ready to face them. IDF Chief of Staff Benny Gantz says: "The IDF's 'crystal ball,' like the skies of the Middle East, is covered in clouds of uncertainty. Storm winds are blowing from north and south, near and far. These winds, as usual, threaten to reach us as well. There is one answer to this fogginess--keeping the IDF strong, and maintaining initiative and deterrence. We don't know what tomorrow will bring, but we know on what, and on who, any possible 'tomorrow' will rely" ("Gantz: Israel's Future Shrouded in Mystery," *Israel National News*, March 6, 2013). As much as we respect Israel's military and as much as we could only wish that the U.S. military were as wisely operated, this is still a sad statement. First, it is sad because Israel *could* know what is coming if she

simply believed her own Scripture. Second, it is sad because Israel *could* trust in One who is far mightier than the IDF, the one who is called *the Highest* in the Hebrew Scripture. "The LORD also thundered in the heavens, and the Highest gave his voice; hail *stones* and coals of fire" (Psalm 18:13).



THE CONSERVATIVE "TALKING HEAD" SAVIORS OF AMERICA

Since the early 1990s, Rush Limbaugh has led the way for an entire troop of conservative commentators on radio and television, and though it is refreshing to hear voices that are not as "liberal" as the mainstream media such as CNN and NBC and MSNBC, God's people must not forget that we are pilgrims in a strange world and that these conservatives are not friends at a spiritual level. Though "conservative" in some ways, they are part of the world system and they don't understand the fundamental spiritual issues at work in the world. Bill O'Reilly, Sean Hannity, Laura Ingraham, Hugh Hewitt, Carson Daly, Stephen Colbert, Morton Downey Jr., Dennis Miller, Tim Russert are Roman Catholics. John Ziegler is a "recovering Roman Catholic" who labels himself an agnostic. Ann Coulter speaks at homosexual conferences and lashes out viciously at those who have the audacity to reprove her for this. Michael Medved, Mark Levin, Dennis Prager, Michael Savage, Laura Schlesinger are Jews who deny that Jesus is the Christ. Fox News is a cable news channel owned by a pornography distributor that promotes "conservative" politics in the midst of a massive dose of the fleshly pop culture, doubtless with the motive of amassing more riches. Glenn Beck is a New Age Mormon who believes man can be the divine "I Am" and says homosexual marriage is not a problem for America.

CONCLUSION:

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 obviously does not imply an endorsement. We trust that our readers will not be discouraged. 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. The News Notes remind us that the hour is very late, and we need to be ready for the Lord's coming. Are you sure that you are born again? Are you living for Christ? "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 mailing list. To SUBSCRIBE, go to <http://www.wayoflife.org/wayoflife/subscribe.html>. TO UNSUBSCRIBE OR CHANGE ADDRESSES, go to the very bottom of any email received from us and click "Manage My Subscription." Way of Life Literature, P.O. Box 610368, Port Huron, MI 48061, 866-295-4143, fbns@wayoflife.org.

VI. Man God uses will ensure that is ALL things done by himself or his team will _____
_____ the life, _____ and _____ of the assembly

VII. The Man God uses will work hard to be _____ before God and before man

VIII. A man God uses is _____ in his business.

A. What does it mean to be _____ ?

B. Learning to be _____ to your word even when it is difficult to carry out what you
promised to do.

1. Lifting pressures from those you serve by _____ _____ the project
they assign to you

2. _____ in our hearts to do the will of God whatever the _____

3. Fulfilling what I consented to do, even if it means _____

personal reflection and application

WELCOME TO AMBASSADOR

Ambassador Baptist Church welcomes you! We are thankful for that the Lord Jesus has brought you and we believe He has something wonderful for you. May our spiritual life reach new heights of growth this year for Christ's name sake.

IN BRIEF

Faith Bible Institute



Students of Faith Bible Institute are reminded that the New Testament (Life of Christ) will be on 29 April 2013. Please make due diligence in preparation.

New facility



Be in prayer for the new facility as the church works to satisfy the Urban Redevelopment Authority's requirements.

THE VISION AND MISSION OF AMBASSADOR

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



issues of the HEART

Why do people behave the way they do?
 Why do I behave the way I do?
 How do I **overcome** bad behaviour?
 What does the Bible say?

Find out in Sunday Bible Hour

21 - 27 APRIL 2013

ambassador **baptist** church



"Be reconciled to God"
1 Corinthians 5:20

monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	sunday
Faith Bible Institute	Outreach Efforts (SEM)	Outreach Efforts (YIS)		Rivers in a Dry Place	ABC Youth	Sunday Worship Service Mandarin Service

"All activities running normally"

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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Twitter: @abc_singapore

weekly activities

Sunday Services

Children's Bible Hour 09:30AM
Sunday Bible Hour 09:30AM
Mandarin Service 03:30PM
English Worship Service 11:00AM

Routine Weekly Activities

Faith Bible Institute
Mondays, 07:45PM

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

Ambassador Youth
Saturdays, 10:30AM

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

Outreach Efforts

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

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

prayer requests

- **For wisdom as we prepare to move to our new facility**
- The various ministries
- For God's leadership in the transition of Ambassador Baptist Church to a Discipleship church
- Souls to be saved, baptized and added to the church in 2013
- Bro. Terry's palliative care.
- **Sis Kym's parents**
- **Sis Lydia's parents**

the new testament in 4 months

- APR 21** Acts 13-14
- APR 22** Acts 15-16
- APR 23** Acts 17-19
- APR 24** Acts 20-21
- APR 25** Acts 22-23
- APR 26** Acts 24-26
- APR 27** Acts 27-28