

# Let's Visit

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## A Cry For Mercy

If you remember, last Lord's day, we took our text from Psalm 51 and talked about "The Prayer of a Murderer". To my mind, there is no poem or prayer which surpasses that 51<sup>st</sup> Psalm in depth of feeling or ardor of expression. It is a classic in the literature of penitence. During the long years of its life it has proved itself to be both a challenge and a solace to countless thousands of men and women who, having realized something of the enormity of their sins, have been filled with self-loathing and a longing for reconciliation with God. Even after 30 centuries, this Psalm is frequently found in the hands or upon the lips of those who fear God. The 130<sup>th</sup> Psalm is comparable to it, but it is less personal.

The Psalm actually presents one of the most pathetic scenes in human experience. It deals with a problem which is beyond human solution. Even though its subject is a king with armies and mighty men to do his bidding, and with multitudes of animals for sacrifice at his disposal, he is, nevertheless, a helpless sinner, naked and defenseless and without any possible means of escape or deliverance. But with all that, he is not without hope, for he can turn to God and that is exactly what he does. In deep penitence he confesses his sin and implores God for mercy.

In order to fully appreciate the Psalm, we must consider it in the light of the facts as they are set forth in II Samuel 11 and 12. It is there that we find David as he sins with Bathsheba and then in order to cover his sin, he has her husband Uriah murdered in battle. Nathan, God's prophet, comes to David and calls David's sin to his attention. The 51<sup>st</sup> Psalm is written as a result of David being reminded of his sin.

When we look at the passage in Psalm 51, we see David's cry for mercy is based on his contrite confession. Man's greatest need is for forgiveness,

but he must realize that it can be obtained only through the loving kindness and tender mercy of God. Yet, though a loving God delights to forgive the sins of his people, the sinner has no right to expect that blessing until he confesses his wrongdoing, turns away from it, and then does that which God requires of him.

David therefore, promptly turned his attention to his sin, and he emphasized the magnitude of it by using three words to picture the different aspects of sin. He refers to it as transgression, iniquity and sin. Transgression is to rebel against God, to set oneself against the will and law of God. Iniquity is a perversion or distortion. It its moral application is depravity of conduct. Then there is sin, which has a literal meaning of missing the mark, that is God's mark for us.

In his confession of wrong-doing, David bewailed his act of sin and the disposition which led to the act of sin. David prayed that he might be received into God's presence again and that he might be fit for his presence. In a pathetic tone, David begged God not to cast him away from his presence, as had been done to Adam and Eve. In the case of David, to be cast away from God's presence was the equivalent to being denied the privilege of worship and service according to the law.

We learn from the Psalm that no man can please God who ignores God's law for him. We must live God's kind of life, God's way.

*tp*

### In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry  
KSLA 12 – Shreveport -7:30 a.m. Sunday  
DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday  
DIRECT TV channel 307 -6:00 a.m. Sunday

# Gathered Here and There



## Today's Sermon

### "God's Back!"

Our text comes from I Samuel 3:21. It is a text that brings encouraging words. God has appeared back in Shiloh. God came back in the form of Samuel. In our day and time, others can see Jesus living in us – or can they?

have always recognized the value of the Bible and Bible study. Little men neglect the Bible. You draw your own conclusions about the leaders of our own day and time.

*tp*

## On The Lighter Side. . .



**"I felt like you were preaching right at me this morning ... especially after you pointed and said my name the third time."**

## For The Pantry. . . Jelly

## The Bible

"True religion affords government its surest support. The perpetuity of this nation depends upon the religious training of the young. It is impossible to govern the world without the Bible." Those words were spoken by our first president, George Washington.

Here is what Daniel Webster said about the Bible. "If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and continue to prosper, but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury our glory in profound obscurity."

The, president Theodore Roosevelt left us with these words. If we read the Bible aright, we read a book which teaches us to go forth and do the work of the Lord; to try to make things better in this world, even if only a little better, because we have lived in it. I enter a most earnest plea that in our hurried and rather bustling life of today we do not lose the hold our forefathers had on the Bible."

You, know, what these men in days of old in our nation said about the Bible would not be tolerated in the progressive political climate of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It would not be "politically correct". Great men

## New Address. . .

It still seems strange to walk into the auditorium on a Sunday Morning and not see Ted and Joyce Holt in their accustomed place. Ted has moved to Caldwell to be where Robbie and Carla are and is now living in Burleson Saint Joseph Manor Nursing Home. If you would like to send him a card, you may send it at the following address:

**Ted Holt  
Burleson St. Joseph Manor  
1022 Presidential Corridor East  
Caldwell, Texas 77836**

I know he would love to hear from you. Robbie has also informed us that as soon as he gets Ted a new cell phone, he will provide us with the number so we can publish it and you can call him if you wish.

## Miscellaneous



## Those To Remember In Prayer

**Remember This Date!**  
**September 11, 2022**



Be praying for this to be a great day, make your plans to be here and invite your friends and neighbors to come and join us!

**Special  
Announcement**

**PLEASE!**

We desperately need your presence on Wednesday nights at our Mid-Week Bible Study!

**Each One Bring One!**  
**52 in '22**  
**Invite Someone Each Week!**

### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, Ted Holt, Tiffanee Klein, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

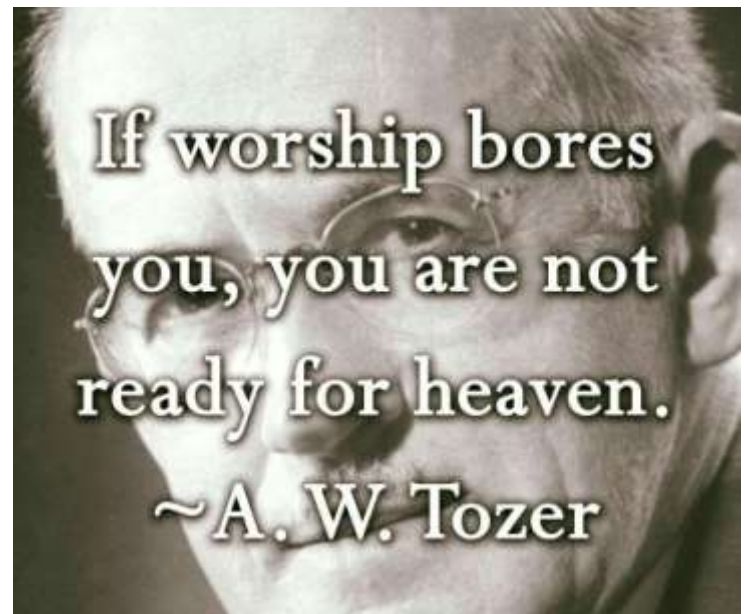
### "EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother) Ana Blair (friend of Debra Pate) Sandra Hogan (friend of Roxie Bostick) Suzie Hogan (Roxie Bostick's sister) Laurie King (Co-worker of Mike O'Brien,) cancer; Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; Marc Tate (Jana O'Brien's brother) Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's mother) Tina Vaughn - cancer

### THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw Jeremiah Soape, Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill out a card and put it in the offering plate.



*Have you ever noticed, the older we get the farther we had to walk to school in our youth?*

*A clean conscience was invented long before tranquilizers.*



## Across The Preacher's Desk

Satchel Paige was a professional baseball player noted both for his longevity and his numerous "witticisms" that are often quoted. One of those was, "don't look back, something may be gaining on you". You know, that is pretty sound advice, something that the Bible also calls for.

Looking back hinders forward progress, it can cause us to be depressed and it may be bringing defeat into our lives.

We must not look back at sins that have been forgiven. God really does put our sins away, and when in obedient faith we give our lives to Jesus Christ, we become new creatures. Neither do we need to look back at defeats we have suffered in life. All of us have defeats in our past but that does not make us failures.

Yet, we do not want to look at the past and see it better than it was. Often, distance lends enchantment to the past and yet, nostalgia is never quite honest with us. It was Vance Havner who said, "the present is never as good as it used to be".

Rather than looking back, we need to look to Jesus. Here are the words of the Hebrew writer, Hebrews 12:1-2, "let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith".

*it's something to think about. . . . .tbp*

**The Lord's Plan  
For Evangelism –  
Each one Bring one!  
52 in '22!**