

Let's Visit

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Moses' Last Birthday

To a child, a birthday means cake, ice cream and presents. As we get a little older, it becomes a time for presents. We get older still, and we are just glad to have them. Sometimes, we do wish those around us would forget which one it is.

Birthdays go from a time of cake and ice cream and presents to an opportunity to reminisce about days that are past and gone. We recall the many pleasant memories of our lives. We come to the realization that time is indeed passing too swiftly. We also one day wake up and come to the realization that more of our birthdays are in the past than there are in the future. Each moment of passing time grows more and more precious.

In Deuteronomy chapter 31 and verses 1 and 2 we read of Moses' last birthday. Here is how it reads, *"And Moses went and spake these words unto all Israel. And he said unto them, I am an hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in, also the Lord hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan."* No doubt this memory led him over the long trail he had traveled. Moses eventful life was divided into three 40 year periods.

Remember the touching scene of a floating cradle and an Egyptian princess? The child of slave parents, he became the adopted child of royalty. He became the heir of a mighty throne. To coin a phrase, "he was born with a silver spoon in his mouth". He received all the privileges the power of Pharaoh could give. He was also the recipient of the treasures of the land of Egypt. Yet, none of these things contented him. His soul was restless and ill at ease with the pomp of the palace.

His people were groaning under the yoke of oppression. In his heart was a yearning to do

something for the downtrodden folks. At the tender age of 40 ye broke away from the entanglements of Pharaoh. He became a sojourner in the land of Midian.

Midian was a wild country in Southern Arabia. There in the valley of Horeb, he guarded the sheep of Jethro. However, at the age of 80, the quietness of the shepherd's life was broken. Moses received the call of God and was not disobedient to it. For the next 40 years he led his people to the Promised Land. It took an almost superhuman effort to get them to the border. That is where Moses stands on his last birthday. He is at the border of the Promised Land and Moses is going to die.

He has fulfilled the mission God had assigned him. Yet, he failed to realize his own hope. As he is about to drink the cup of delight, it is taken from his lips. Yet, Moses did not complain or murmur against his fate. When his final hour came, his thoughts were not of himself. His thoughts were of his people. He insisted a successor be appointed so they would not scatter. To be sure, Moses encouraged his people with these words we read in Deuteronomy 33:27, *"The eternal God is thy refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms; and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them."*

(Continued on page 2)

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 Wins!"

Our text comes from Revelation 19:6. Tuesday is election day. It remains to be seen which political party will come out the winner. However, regardless, in the end, God wins. That was John's hope and conclusion.

FOR THE PANTRY....

Liquid Laundry Detergent

Moses Last Birthday – continued from page 1

Moses then turned away and took a lonesome trail that led to Nebo and scripture tells us "*Moses went up*" Deuteronomy 34:1. Remember, this was not Moses first mountain-climbing experience. He had climbed the Mountain of Conflict in Exodus chapter 17. Rod in hand, he stood watching Israel prevail over Amalek. He had climbed the mountain of Communion in Exodus 20. He received the commandments written on tables of stone by the finger of God. He had climbed the mountain of bereavement in Numbers 20. There he had watched his brother die. Now, he has climbed the mountain of vision and death.

From his vantage point, Moses surveyed the land of ancient promise. His vision was clear, for he was above the mist of the lowlands. The leader of Israel is here gazing about in his last hours. There is not much of a view to the east and the south. That does not matter. From Where Moses is, the country on which Israel was to work out her destiny was north, west and wouthwest and for Moses it was a grand view.

Moses saw this lovely land with an eye of imagination. He way it settled with the descendants of the people for whom he had sone so much and suffered so much. He saw them grown to be a

happy, prosperous, devout and famous nation. With that satisfying vision before his eyes, he was ready to die.

The death of Moses was not due to weakening natural forces. It was the result of a particular sin. He died in loneliness, without the voice of a friend. This then, is the parable of the death of every man and every woman. In the final analysis, we must all die in solitude. We travel through life, hand in hand with devoted friends, but we are obliged to die alone. Yet, though no man was with Moses on the mountain, God was there. In that lonely hour, the presence of God was all assuring. The man who walks with God in life will know the blessedness of His presence in the hour of death.

We must remember that a good life may have its disappointments, but it also has its great rewards. It is infinitely pathetic to think that Moses never set his foot upon the land to which he had led his people. But God was with him at the end. He died with a fair vision before his eyes.

Workers may fall, but the work goes on forever. Every man may lend a helping hand, but no man is indispensable. God's great purpose marches steadily on. Age after age, new workers with new hearts are raised up to accomplish it. We muyst make certain we are walking with God in life so that we will know the blessedness of his presence in the hour of death.

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On The Lighter Side.....



Miscellaneous

SUNNY GLEN CHILDREN'S HOME -The truck from Sunny Glen Children's home will be here the week of November 19, 2020. They have specifically requested Liquid laundry Detergent specifically along with the other items we have in our pantry.

Special Announcement

Remember, that even though we are not requiring the wearing of masks in our assembly, we do still want to do everything we can to be safe both for ourselves and for others. We would therefore ask that we all remain aware of social distancing and being respectful of other's personal space.

-thank you



Those To Remember In Prayer

Pat Tate – Jana O'Brien's mother has been released from the hospital and is having therapy at home.

Gene Bradshaw is scheduled to see a surgeon November 9th.

Myrtle Turner (Norma Perkins' mother) is recovering from her broken arm.

Charles Williams (Janice Williams' brother-in-law) is in Mother Francis Hospital in Tyler with COVID 19.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Nina Hughes** who passed away on Wednesday. Her services are this afternoon at 2:00 at Mangum Funeral Home.

THOSE WITH ONGOING NEEDS:

Roxie Bostick (back issues); **Wayne Sims** (cancer); **Cody Butler** (Debra Pate's grandson) **Gracie Elam** (2 month old baby born with heart defect)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE :

**Amanda Bradshaw, Andrew Bradshaw,
Leland Bradshaw, Lucas Tate**

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

Preach The Gospel!

Paul urged Timothy to preach the word because "the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine", (II Timothy 4:3) "Sound Doctrine" is literally "healthful teaching".

A soul may be healthy as well as a body (III John 2). It is made and kept healthy by healthful teaching. But, there seems to be a tendency to often equate sound doctrine with attacks on other religious groups, sermons on baptism, etc.

G. C. Brewer, a giant among preachers in another day related an incident early in his career that illustrates this point. He began a meeting with a series of sermons on the love and mercy of God, the sacrifice of Christ, and followed these lessons with one on baptism for the remission of sins. After that sermon, a brother said to him, "Well, I knew if we waited long enough you would finally get around to preaching the gospel." After lessons on God's love and mercy, and the saving blood of Christ he finally got around to the gospel!

And so it is. A sermon on why we baptize for the remission of sins is a "good old fashioned gospel sermon". A lesson on selfishness or kindness is endured but little appreciated.

At times a lesson on baptism or instrumental music is needed. But so is one that shows we may be baptized for the remission of sins and sing without the instrument and still not worship acceptable. A sermon about eating the Lord's supper each Sunday is a gospel sermon, and so is one that shows that we may eat it each Sunday, every Sunday, and never really commune with Christ because of the condition of our heart.

There will always be the danger among churches of Christ that some might desire to use the instrument in worship or eat the Lord's Supper on some day of the week other than the Lord's day. However, this is not the real danger. The real danger is that we will do all of the right things in the wrong way or for the wrong purpose. Beloved, we need "healthful teaching in every field."

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One man wrote this: "The Bible is the most Wonderful book I never read."

*It isn't the things in the Bible I don't understand
That worry me, it's the things I do understand.*



Across The Preacher's Desk

Words are wonderful things. They have a beauty all their own. They have associations in our minds that give them reputation. Some are bores and some shine brilliantly.

Yet, there is an eloquence without words. "Silence is golden" someone has said. Silence can be eloquent also. Jesus was a master at using the eloquence of silence. He used it many times.

Remember when a woman was brought to Him who had been caught in the act of adultery. The law said such a person must be put to death. What must Jesus say? He was silent. He stooped down and wrote in the sand and said, "Let the sinless one throw the first stone". When he looked up, His words and His wise silence had done their work. All the accusers were gone and a penitent woman stood there alone.

He told Peter of the sins he would commit in denial. Peter argued. The day of trial came. Peter sinned. At the right time, Jesus turned and looked at Peter. That was all. He just looked. Yet, that was enough to make Peter go out and weep bitterly.

Truly, silence can be golden. Silence can be as eloquent as words. Knowing when to speak and when to be silent is one mark of real wisdom.

it's something to think about. . . .tlp

**Great Churches are built with
Commitment!**