

Let's Visit

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The Storm of Fear

As we bring this series of writings on "The Storms of Life" to a close for now, it seems appropriate to think of fear. It was the fear of the disciples that caused Jesus to calm the storm. Fear not. God says that more times than anything else in the Bible. From Genesis to Revelation we hear that command. From Abraham to John on Patmos we hear that exhortation. It is spoken by the mouth of prophets, apostles, martyrs and Jesus.

"Fear not" God said to Abraham, Israel, Moses and David. It was said to Daniel, to Jerusalem and to the disciples. It was told to the women at the sepulcher. Zacharias, Mary, Simon and Paul also heard those words. It was said under all kinds of conditions and circumstances. It is the word God speaks to believers, "Fear Not".

The frequency with which the Bible tells us not to fear tells us that fear is the great spoiler and enemy of our lives. Yet, so many of us are like little 5 year old Johnny. Little Johnny was in the kitchen as his mother was making supper. She asked him to go into the pantry and get her a can of tomato soup, but he didn't want to go in alone. "It's dark in there and I'm scared." She asked again, and he persisted. Finally she said, "It's OK, Jesus will be in there with you." Johnny walked hesitantly to the door and slowly opened it. He peeked inside, saw it was dark, and started to leave when all at once an idea came, and he said; "Jesus, if you're in there, would you hand me that can of tomato soup?"

Fear is our greatest adversary. There is an ancient legend of a man driving one day toward a certain city. He was stopped by an old woman asking for a ride. He took her up beside him and they drove down the road. As he looked at her he became frightened and asked, "Who are you?" The old woman replied that she was Cholera. He ordered the old woman to get out and walk. Yet, she persuaded

him to take her. She promised not to kill more than five people in the city. She even gave him a special dagger, the only weapon that could kill her and told him that she would meet him in 2 days and he could stab her if she broke her promise. In the city, 120 people died of cholera. The enraged man went to look for her, and meeting her raised his dagger to kill her. She stopped him saying she had kept her agreement, and killed only 5 people. Fear, she said, killed the others.

This ancient legend is a true parable of life. Disease kills its thousands, fear kills its tens of thousands. The greatest miseries of humanity come from the dread of trouble rather than from the presence of trouble. From the cradle to the grave fear casts its shadow. Fear betrays man's spirit and breaks down his defense. It disarms him in the battle and makes him unfit for the work of life. Fear is what adds terror to the dying bed of a man. Fear in the form of worry is the greatest, most harmful, most senseless, most useless and most universal of all sins.

When we think about it, what is sadder than fear? Here we are, created in the image of God, made for dominion over the world. Created with the intellect of an angel with an immortal soul. Yet, even with all of that, we are the victim and slave of a thousand fears.

Banishing fear from our lives would be the greatest blessing ever given to the human family.

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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

"Overripe Saints"

Sometimes we encounter people who are a little overripe. They are sour, and have a negative attitude. What does Jesus think about that?

For The Pantry. . . Pancake Mix

The Storm of Fear - continued from page 1

The great remedy for fear, the only remedy for fear, is what is offered to us in the Bible. That remedy is complete trust and confidence in God. The casting of all our care upon the Lord. That's the way Peter put it in I Peter 5:7 when he wrote, "casting all your care upon Him for he careth for you". You see, a large percentage of the things we dread never happen. If a man or woman kept a register of fears for 25 or more years, most of them do not come to pass. Yet, many people are miserable all of their lives, harassed and suffering, waiting for something disastrous and unpleasant to happen.

We must remember that fear and worry are useless. Whether the things we dread come to pass or not, our fear of them in advance can in no way hold them back or diminish their power. There is nothing so useless as fear. That is what Jesus emphasizes about the folly of worry. To be sure, I think there is almost a dry humor in what he says on the subject in the Sermon on the Mount. "Which of you, by worrying about it, can add one cubit to his stature?" He also said every day has enough troubles of its own without borrowing trouble from tomorrow. You cannot cross a bridge before you get to it.

When we are afraid, God hears our cries of distress and empowers and delivers us. He does not do so by removing the evil or danger. He does it by showing us His face. He does it by walking by our side. That was what he did with Paul and his thorn in the flesh. He told Paul "my grace is sufficient for you".

Remember that night Jesus was with the disciples in the boat in that storm. The storm raged and Jesus slept in the back of the boat. The disciples were afraid, they knew life was over, they knew the ship would sink. They woke Jesus and asked if he cared that they perished, Jesus stilled the tempest and calmed their fears.

He then gave them a sermon they never forgot. A sermon timely and practical for us. "Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith". Whatever storm is blowing in our life, Jesus can and will calm that storm if we are willing to surrender our stubborn will to His will and live His kind of life.

tp

On The Lighter Side. . .



Our growth has been impressive. It wasn't that long ago our small group was just an itty bitty group.

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

Miscellaneous



Those To Remember In Prayer

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - Sunday, December 4th will be our next covered dish luncheon. We will then celebrate birthdays and anniversaries for December, January and February. Circle the date on your calendar and make your plans to be here!

BIBLE STUDY - It is still our desire to have as many "Bodies in Benches" as possible for our Sunday Morning Bible Class at 9:45 and our mid-week Bible Study on Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. If you can be here please make your plans to do so.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL - This past Wednesday night we met in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. and had a meal together before our monthly prayer meeting. It was an enjoyable time of fellowship. We plan to do this the last Wednesday of each month so make your plans now to join us on Wednesday, October 26th. If you want to come for Wednesday night Bible Class before that however, you are welcome to do so!

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING - There will be a men's business meeting next Sunday, October 11th immediately following the morning worship in the church offices. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

SUNNY GLEN TRUCK - The truck from Sunny Glen Children's Home will be here the week of November 15th - 17th. They have requested Pancake Mix, Cup Noodles, Crackers and Orange Juice. These will be our pantry items for the next several weeks and will be listed on the back of the calendar.

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*Reading the find pring may give you an education.
Not reading it will give you experience.*

*How about making a new rule of life? Always try
to be a little kinder than is necessary.*

*Have you noticed that kind words take less breath
and effort than harsh ones?*

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden,
Geneva Graves, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, 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) Lamar McCormick
(friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Calvin Smith
(Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues;
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.

Doing and Not Doing!

A lad, approaching a ship's captain in Boston asked him, "Have you a berth on board for me? I want to earn something during the summer."

"What can you do, lad?" inquired the captain.

"Well, I can do my best at whatever I am asked to do," replied the boy.

The captain then asked, "What kind of work have you done?"

"Well", said the boy, "I have sawed and split all my mother's wood for nearly two years.."

"That's good," the captain said. "What have you not done?"

"Well sir," said the lad, after thinking, "I have not whispered in school for a whole year."

He was hired, for the captain knew that a boy who can master a woodpile and control his tongue must be made of good stuff.

-Just A Moment

*That man or woman who is bored when they are
completely alone, should be able to understand the
position of others when they are around.*



Across The Preacher's Desk

10 little Christians standing in line,
1 disliked the preacher, and then there were 9.
9 little Christians stayed up very late,
1 overslept Sunday, and then there were 8.
8 little Christians on their way Heaven,
1 took the low road and then there were 7.
7 little Christians chirping like chicks,
1 disliked the singing, and then there were 6.
6 little Christians seemed very much alive,
but 1 lost his interest and then there were 5.
5 little Christians pulling for Heaven's Shore,
but one stopped to rest; and then there were 4.
4 little Christians each busy as a bee,
1 got his feelings hurt, and then there were 3.
3 little Christians knew not what to do,
1 joined the sporty crowd, then there were 2.
2 little Christians, our rhyme is nearly done,
differed with each other, and then there was 1.
1 little Christian can't do much it's true;
Brought his friend to Bible study—and then there
were 2.
Earnest Christians, each won one more,
that doubled the number, and then there were 4.
4 sincere Christians worked early and late, each won
another, and then there were 8.
8 desirous Christians, if they doubled as before, in
just so many Sundays, we'd have 1,024.

In this little jingle, there is a lesson true;
You belong either to the building up or to the
wrecking crew.

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

The Lord's Plan For Evangelism –

Each one Bring one!
52 in '22!
53 in '23!