

May 10, 2020

CHURCH of CHRIST

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Public services are temporarily cancelled during the *Corona Virus* restrictions.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Jerry & Erma Endly, Cathy Jackson, Gary & Debbie Jones, Tina Keith, Rick Lambert, Kathy Mayo and Flavil Miller.

SHUT-INS: Audrey Burns, Jack Mitchell, and Shirley Patterson.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Nellie Richard, Weston Boulet, (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Dan Doudna (Wilma Roe's relative), Bob & Patty Eddy, Carmie Green (Flavil Miller's sister), Herb Hamilton (friend of the Starrett's), Bob & Donna Henthorn (Laura Jamiel's parents), Collene Keister, (Mo Smith's sister), Linda Potts (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), Erica Rich, Shirley Roe, Mona Stoffer (Flavil Miller's daughter), Mitch Vick, Bob & Marge Watson and remember to pray for **one another**.

Greetings, brethren and friends,

Happy Mother's Day to all the selfless ladies who always put God and family first as they honorably display, by their love and conduct, that most beautiful badge, "Mother".

For those of you have commented on the on-line lessons, I wish to thank you for your encouragement and for sharing the lessons. This present situation has launched a "web-full" of Gospel preaching and the Truth is going far and wide. I am reminded of the LORD said in Isaiah: "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (55:11).

If you have a Bible question or a particular subject you would like me to address in one of our on-line lessons, by all means, send me a message, call me, or mail me a note and I will get to work on it.

Brethren and friends, I urge you to continue in prayer and do lose hope as we are yet another day closer to being past this and remember the words of our brother, the apostle Paul: "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not" (Gal. 6:9).—JK

"THE REST IS JUST BRICKS AND WOOD"

At approximately 2:30 on the morning of May the fifth, our neighbors awoke to absolute horror as they realized their house was engulfed in an inferno. I spoke with the young father of two about 10 that morning and as he briefly described the scene, he said that they "were able to get up and run right out the front door. I got my wife, my two boys and our dogs out; the rest is just bricks and wood". All he expressed was gratitude—no anger, no real sadness—only thankfulness and optimism. We did not talk a long time as he was busy with the fire marshal, and so, I have no idea

about his religious convictions (yet), but I was impressed with his attitude on this initial meeting; he behaved like a Christian.

It is no secret that this man valued his family, and rightly so. That fact that he designated his possessions under the heading of, “just bricks and wood” suggests that he has a good grasp of priorities. You might think that it is without question that one would place a higher premium on family over things, but in today’s world, nothing is a given it seems. Family is a blessing from God (Gen. 2:18; Psa. 127:3) and as with anything we have we should appreciate it, even *things* God allows us to acquire (Jas. 1:17). When our priorities are right, we value people over things. After all, things have not an eternal soul. Most material things can be replaced with relative ease, but people cannot be replaced. After my car wreck as a teenager, my dad grabbed and hugged me and said (what many of you have heard or said to your own kids), “We can get you another car, but I can’t get another son”.

I wish to take this concept a step further; look with me into eternity. Will it matter how we have viewed or prioritized things in this life when we stand before the “Judge of all the earth” (Gen. 18:25)? It certainly will! What will be our fate if, in this life, we have placed things over people? What will be our fate if we have placed preeminence upon man over the Lord Jesus Christ (Col. 1:18)? Jesus said, “He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me” (Matt. 10:37). This verse does not mean we are not allowed to love our parents or our children. “More” [*hyper*; “above”] in this text is in the accusative and so, is a preposition of degree; it does not exclude love for parents or children but designates Christ as the One receiving the greater degree of love.

If you and I fail to make this distinction; if we fail to put enthroned Christ in our lives by our words and deeds, then we have jeopardized the most precious and valuable thing we have—our eternal soul. If we place anything above Christ, we have counted our souls as *just bricks and wood*~~—JK~~.

BIBLE PLACES

V E V L E H T E B Y N B M Y B
Z E R Y T P L P P K V E I T Y
U I A E G F Y W Z J A T Z H N
D H W C T Z N O R B E H P B O
M E L A S U R E J F F S A A I
D U A R A B I A K N E A H B Z
A Q Z G L K X G A O X I H Y N
M V U A N A C Z G C T D O L V
A E R A S E A C N N A A L O C
S I I C L R J I F K I N N N O
C S F O E E N R Q O W O A U R
U A S T X E A D S G Z D M A I
S Y H H V M X R A L G I O H N
M W H E W Q J F S V G S X A T
F B H S J U D A H I S W B U H

ARABIA
BABYLON
BETHEL
BETHSAIDA
CAESAREA
CANA
CANAAN
CORINTH
DAMASCUS
HEBRON
ISRAEL
JERUSALEM
JUDAH
MIZPAH
NAZARETH
NINEVEH
SIDON
TYRE
ZION