



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
Vol. XXXV November 23, 2008 No. 46

Confidence Corner

John F. Board

As we continue on our life long journey of building our faith, consider some thoughts regarding predictive and fulfilled prophecy. By its very nature, true predictive prophecy is supernatural—the only explanation for its fulfillment is

the omniscience and omnipotence of God. We will continue the article this week with some further thoughts from Charles C. Pugh III.

One of the individuals Charles Pugh references is Peter W. Stoner. I have a copy of Stoner's work entitled *Science Speaks*. This work is chocked full of information regarding the prophetic accuracy of the Scriptures. Pugh gives the following information from Stoner that he quotes from John Blanchard's work entitled *Does God Believe in Atheists*:

"Professor Peter Stoner, from the writings of four Old Testament prophets—Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Micah—identified eleven specific prophecies about Israel, and calculated the probability of all eleven prophecies being fulfilled to be one in 8×10^{63} . Stoner gave an illustration of what this means. 'If we were to scoop together a pile of coins equal in size to 100 billion stars in each of the two trillion galaxies in just one second, and then add to the pile at the same rate every second, day and night, for twenty one years, we would be ready for the test. If we then asked a blindfolded friend to pick out one marked coin for this incomprehensibly massive pile, his chances of doing so would be one in 8×10^{63} , the same as the likelihood that our four prophets could have got things right by guesswork.' As even these mind boggling figures tell nothing like the full story (they apply to just eleven prophecies out of several hundred) the Bible's prophetic element adds an impressive dimension to its integrity and presents an enormous problem to the sceptic."

Remember as we have indicated before, Mathematicians generally consider any event with a probability of less than 1 chance in 10^{50} (a 1 with 50 zeros after it) as having a zero probability (it is impossible). This is called the Law of Mathematical Probability. With God the impossible becomes possible through His supernatural power.

Ray's Ramblings

Ray Pack

As I write this week, it is a reminder that winter is upon us. Winter is a blessing that comes from the hand of God as he nurtures His creation. I have seen numerous flocks of geese flying south for the winter. Just another of the wonders of God.

I hope each of you will have a great Thanksgiving day. As you enjoy the food and family time pause and reflect how God has blessed you.

Thanksgiving day should not be the only day of thanks in our lives. We should live each day with lives of thankfulness.



Thanks to Craig and Monica Bartelt for opening their home to our young people for the monthly devotional. There were about 25 present last Sunday night. We enjoyed and were uplifted by Mike Parks' lesson about Role Models. The singing was capably led by our young men. We even sang *It Only Takes a Spark*, a real old song, according to some. I want to encourage all 6th –12th graders to take advantage of this special time each month. Parents need to encourage their children to be in attendance.



As announced last Sunday morning, the 6th – 12th graders will be offering a "young adults night out" on Saturday, December 13th. Young adults in this case are those who have children in 5th grade and under. We will be at the building from 4-10 PM. You can leave your children part of the time or all of the time. Any children left after 10 PM will be left to fend for themselves. (Old folks like me need their rest.) Just kidding about leaving the kids, but not about the rest.

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. - *Never Easy But Always Pay*
Romans 12:1-2

P.M. - *Questions & Answers*

Bad Times or Count Your Many Blessings

As I write this article, many Americans are extremely concerned about the state of the economy. I believe this is a good time to remember the extent of our blessings. If we do not think of our blessings, our thoughts turn negative and we are often led down the unprofitable path of worry. Jesus promised if we will seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness that all of the necessary items of this life will be provided (Matthew 6:33). Peter, through inspiration writes that we should trust God and cast our concerns upon Him (1 Peter 5:6-7). Peter indicates that a lack of humility (lack of trust in God) leads to the presence of anxiety—but a trust in God can lead to the absence of anxiety. Like the writer of Proverbs admonishes, we must trust in the LORD (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Many of us could probably quote Psalm 23. I am confident all at least know by heart the way the Psalm begins—the LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. If you are experiencing difficult times, I want you to claim the promises given to us by God through inspiration in this psalm and many others. I heard advice given to those experiencing excruciating emotional difficulties—to read the Psalms (or have a trusted friend read them to you while you listen) and listen to the promises that provide comfort. We as Christians can claim those promises for ourselves.

Before getting yourself down, why not consider the thoughts of the psalmist. Take just one phrase—my cup runs over—and ponder the following thoughts written by Wayne Jackson regarding this great phrase. I pray they will help.

“Of special interest is the phrase, “my cup runs over.” The Hebrew term suggests the idea of “saturation.” What a marvelous expression! A “cup” is a drinking vessel, but in Scripture the term frequently is employed figuratively—either for an abundance of blessings, or else the pouring forth of intense wrath (cf. Revelation 14:10).

The former use surely is the significance of “cup” in this psalm. Elsewhere a psalmist asks: “What shall I render unto the LORD for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the LORD” (116:12-13).

The words of the cherished song, “count your blessings; name them one by one,” are sweet indeed, but it underestimates our blessings. The Christian could not completely compute his blessings in an entire lifetime!

Divine prosperity can be measured in at least three ways—physically, materially, and spiritually.

*(a) Even those with severe health problems can thank God for the host of maladies they **might** have, but **do not**. Under a mountain of suffering, Job still could say: “Though he slay me, yet will I trust him” (13:15).*

(b) Contrasted to others, both ancient and modern, Americans are “filthy” rich. In Jesus’ time, the average wage for a laboring man was about 1.5 cents per hour—for a six-day, seventy-two hour workweek; thus a weekly salary of about \$1.08 (see Matthew 20:2, 6). In 2005, the annual per capita income in the United States was \$41,399, while in Malawi, Africa it was \$596.

*(c) How could the Christian possibly calculate the value of his **spiritual** blessings? One’s soul (“life” eternal) alone is worth more than all the world’s real estate combined (Matthew 16:26); yet in billions of instances it is treated as trash.”*

Bad times or count your many blessings—as is always the case—some perspective from God makes all the difference.

John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY

News and Notes

ELONDA CRAFTON suffered a stroke last week and has been moved from Hardin Memorial to HealthSouth, Room 205, for therapy. **ROY JOHNSON** underwent tests this week at Mayo Clinic in Minnesota. **JOYCE PACK** will be having surgery in the near future. **CARLOS SMITH**, Sue Pence's nephew, has been diagnosed with cancer of the tongue.

MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	J Martin
Neil Burden	Carl Mercer
Dana Fox	Tom Morgan
Howard Gardner	Grace Speer
Bernard Gillim	Gene Stough
Faye Guess	Barbara Underwood
Nellie Hart	Lonnie Underwood
David & Ruby Keister	Payton Walker
Kent Lane	Lawrence Wells
Diane Lewis	Dyrena White

Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers: Dave Fulbright, Robert E. Wooten, Justin Gardner, Kelly Leverett, George Edwards, Joe Betterton, Myles Brothers, Dale Martin, Terry Turner, Cameron Ponder, Brett Fleming, Mike Chandler, Nathan McClain, Willie Mitchell, Ronald O'Bryant, Roni Reed, Hector Meza, Aaron Wellman, Michael Morrow, Israel Fox, Barry Barclay, Brian Wilkins

We Rejoice

One of our young men, Kyle Clack, was immersed for the remission of his sins last Sunday night! We rejoice with Kyle and his family in this important decision.

Also, Sunday evening, John & Dorothea Weaver came forward requesting prayers for strength and forgiveness of past actions.

Let each of us offer words of encouragement to Kyle and the Weavers.

Thank You

Thank you so much for your kind words, cards and the beautiful plant. A special thanks to those able to attend Dad's funeral.

*In Christian love,
Bernard & Charlotte Gillim and
Dennis, Peggy & Brittany Hogan*

Pantry Item of the Week

Week of 11/23/08

Canned Soup

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **YOUTH LOCK-IN**, Friday night, **November 21**, in the South Wing for 6th-12th graders.
- **DIRECTORY PICTURES** of new members and family retakes will be taken Sunday morning, **November 23**, in John's office.
- **5TH GRADE & UNDER**— Meet at Blazers Fun Center in Radcliff Sunday, **November 23**, from 12:30-2:30. **ALL** children in this age group are invited to attend with their families. Blazers does serve food if you wish to eat lunch there. The price for each child ranges between \$7-\$17 depending on the activity your child wants to do. Following Blazers will be the Singing at Atria at 3:00 p.m. Children and families are encouraged to participate in the singing.
- **SINGING AT ATRIA**, Sunday afternoon, **November 23**, at 3:00 p.m.
- **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY GET-TOGETHER**, Sunday night, **November 30**, in the South Wing. CSG #3 & #4 will host. Please bring finger foods.
- **ADULT HOLIDAY PARTY**, Saturday night, **December 6**, 6:00 p.m. in the South Wing. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for food items to bring. The meat will be provided. Cost is \$3 per person and this can be given to Mary Woodring. CSG #1 will be in charge of activities for the evening; CSG #2 will have set up and decorating duties; and CSG's #3 & #4 will have clean up duty following the meal.
- **5TH GRADE & UNDER HOLIDAY GET-TOGETHER**, Sunday, **December 14**, in the South Wing after morning services. This will be a potluck lunch. More details in next week's bulletin or see Ken or Monica Bybee.
- **YOUTH (6th-12th grade) HOLIDAY PARTY**, Saturday night, **December 20**, hosted by the Hogan family.

OUR RECORD FOR

November 16, 2008

Sunday Bible Study	146
Sunday Morning Assembly	204
Sunday Evening Assembly	154
Wednesday Bible Study	130
Ladies Bible Class	16
Contribution (Budget -- \$6,309)	\$6,725

**Elder/Coordinator for November
Ron Carter**

Bible Question

This Week's Bible Question: Who killed a lion in a pit on a snowy day?

Last Week's Bible Question: What passage of scripture contains a request for a blessing (from each member of the Godhead) upon the readers? The correct answer is 2 Corinthians 13:14. Joyce Pack correctly answered the question.

Please write down your answer and give it to Ray, put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to ray.pack@kvnet.org by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Classes	9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class	10:30 A.M.
--------------------	------------

Wednesday

Evening Bible Class	7:00 P.M.
---------------------	-----------

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
1211 N. Dixie Ave.
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Church Office: 765-6446
Fax # 737-0491

Elders:

Ron Carter	358-5792
Henry McAlister	765-7386
Mike Pence	737-8123
Rick Whobrey	769-9267

Ministers:

John Board	763-1677
Ray Pack	982-3460
	cell # 723-7564

Secretary:

Kim Whobrey	769-9267
-------------	----------

Email: churchofchrist@kvnet.org

Visit us on the World Wide Web:
www.etowncofc.org

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

Nov. 21 — Youth Lock-in
Nov. 23 — Directory Pictures
Nov. 23 — 5th Grade & Under, Blazer's Fun Center
Nov. 23 — Singing at Atria
Nov. 30 — Birthday/Anniversary Get-together
Dec. 6 — Adult Holiday Party
Dec. 14 — 5th Grade & Under Holiday Party
Dec. 20 — Youth Holiday Party
1. Acts 19-20
2. Acts 21:1-23:25
3. Acts 23:26-27:8
4. Acts 27:9-28:31; Romans 1:1-15
5. Romans 1:16-5:11
6. Romans 5:12-8:25
7. Romans 8:26-11:24

PARTICIPATION

Are You Part of the

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
Elizabethtown, KY 42702

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #118
Elizabethtown, KY 42701