



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
Vol. XXXV February 1, 2009 No. 4

Confidence Corner

John F. Board

This year in *Confidence Corner* we are examining how the inspired New Testament writers applied the passages from the inspired Old Testament writers so that our knowledge, faith, and therefore our confidence, will grow (Romans 10:17).

In Genesis 5:24 we find some of the limited knowledge that we have of a biblical character named Enoch. "Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away." Although the Bible does not reveal a wealth of information about this Enoch, men have provided a great deal of speculation.

According to Jewish tradition recorded in the book of *Jubilees* (2nd century BC) Enoch shared a special confidential relationship with God. According to this tradition all sorts of secrets were revealed to Enoch. He learned writing and all about astronomy. Through the angels, it is written, that he was informed about everything on earth and in heaven (*Jubilees* 4:17-21). An additional source from the 2nd century BC, the *Book of Enoch* records that Enoch was informed of God's global flood as well as the entire history of Israel up until the coming of the Messiah.

The Jewish expositor Rasji and the apocryphal *Book of Wisdom* further speculate that Enoch was pious but at the same time easily tempted. For this reason God took Enoch away early so that evil would not overtake his heart and temptation deceive him.

According to the passage in Genesis, we are given important but limited information. We are told that Enoch walked with God, and in contrast to the others listed, the phrase "and he died" does not appear; rather the phrase "he was no more, because God took him away" describes the "end of Enoch's earthly walk."

The Hebrew text itself seems to refute these novel ideas of men. The translation is often "God took him away" but it is just as likely that the translation could be "God took him to Himself. The language implies the object being taken is separated from its prior environment and that it is brought near to the subject doing the taking. The passage indicates that Enoch was removed from the earth and brought into the presence of God.

We will continue our thoughts on this passage in next weeks bulletin as we examine the NT's inspired reference to Genesis 5:24. In this way we can find God's meaning behind the passage. I like Doc Woods comments in his commentary. Until next week I will leave you with his thoughts on the passage from Genesis. "Righteous Enoch lived in close fellowship with God...He who loved God's fellowship was translated to enjoy more perfect communion" (p.16).

JFB

Ray's Ramblings

Ray Pack

Evangelism University 2009 Wrap Up

For those who have not heard about EU and what its purpose is, let me summarize it for you. EU is a weekend focused on teaching young people how to share the Gospel message with their friends and peers. This year we had seven young folks from Etown, two young folks from Lehman Ave, and five adults attend EU.

The theme for the weekend was His Story. His Story evangelism was covered in three separate parts: *My Story, Their Story and His Story*. We all have a story to tell about salvation. Those stories may include heroes or villains. Our lives are filled with moments of greatness as well as moments of darkness. There are moments when we are laughing and suddenly we are enduring moments of tears.

My Story - In part one we must focus and realize what Jesus has done for me. What has been the most difficult experience in my life? When have I felt the closest to God? What event was the major turning point in my life? What has been the spiritual high point in my life? Questions such as these cause you to reflect on my story.

Their Story - It is important that we learn the story of those we are reaching out to. We need to know what they are experiencing in life. We can accomplish this learning through dialogue: by listening and asking questions. More often than not evangelism is more about listening than talking.

HIS Story - Once we know the needs of those we are evangelizing, we can begin to show them the need they have for Christ. We must be able to share the concept that God is the answer to every problem that anyone can possibly have. We need to tell them the loving story of Jesus and what He accomplished for us on Calvary.

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. - *Walking in the Shadow of God*
Psalm 17:1-8

P.M. - *This is Your Life*
Romans 6:23
Joe Brothers to speak.

God's Love, His Presence, and the Church

God's love for man is shown in His creation of man. God created man in His image (Genesis 1:27). God created man for the purpose of man following Him (Ecclesiastes 12:13) The wording of this passage in the NKJV especially conveys the concept intended "Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all. " Most amazing to me is God's love for man despite his foreknowledge of sin (Acts 2:23; Ephesians 1:3-6). It was while we were helpless in sin, that God chose to send His Son to die for our sins (Romans 3:23; 6:23; 5:6-8; 1 Peter 2:24).

In the Old Testament we see God's presence among men. God walked with man in the garden. Although God's general presence was with all men at all times (Psalm 139) He also chose through certain means to dwell specially with man. Even though man continued to sin, God called on Moses to build a tabernacle that He might dwell specially among his chosen people. Later God would choose Solomon for this same purpose—this time to build the Temple that he might dwell among His people. Remember the purpose of the pillar of fire tied to both structures? It signified the abiding presence of God among the people.

In the fullness of time and according to God's plan (Galatians 4:4) God came to Earth to tabernacle (dwell) with man in the flesh. The Word, who always was God (John 1:1) became flesh and dwelt among man (John 1:14). Man beheld His glory and in Him "dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily" (Colossians 2:9). No longer was it only the symbolic representation of God's presence like before; Jesus came to personally show a representation of the entire Godhead to man. God's great love for man resulted in a great benefit to man—the ability to see God in the flesh or as His name would suggest, "God with us." God's love culminated in a holy God's death for sinful man. His presence remained and His power was confirmed in His resurrection from the dead. He abode with man a number of days, and then ascended to reign at the right hand of the Father.

Although Jesus ascended to be with God in heaven, His presence has not left His people. Jesus ascended to heaven but he left behind another body. The body he left behind is the Church (Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22-23). He gave to the Church the responsibility of reaching the lost and promised that if we would continue to "make disciples of all nations" He "would be with us always, even to the end of the world (age/Christian dispensation)" (Matthew 28:18-20). As we continue faithful to Him, His presence remains with us.

Through the Church making known the manifold wisdom to the angels and to men (Ephesians 3:10 & 1 Corinthians 4:9) the Lord's presence remains not only with His people but His presence remains in the world as well through the influence of the church. You see the Church does not exist for its own sake; it exists as an extension of God's eternal plan (Ephesians 3:11) that God's presence, through the Church, would still be upon the Earth.

The Church then also exists for the sake of others—the lost. God would have all men to be saved, through Christ, the Savior of the body. In one sense, God still "dwells upon the earth" through His agent the Church. As the Church reaches out to the lost, the lost world comes to know God. Through the Church others come to know that the blessings of heaven are available to them as well.

God has always loved mankind. He created man with the knowledge man would sin. He sent Jesus with the knowledge that many men would not believe and the majority of men would continue to sin. God's love for mankind continues to be shown today in as much as God has a plan to show Himself to those who are against Him through his "body" that remains with us today—the Church. God still loves all mankind. The question is do we as the Church love mankind enough to show them God? Like we once were, those who are lost need to be shown God's love.

John F. Board
Elizabethtown, Ky.

News and Notes

ROSA LEE NORMAN was released Monday from Hardin Memorial. **DYRENA WHITE** was released Monday from Norton's Hospital. **HOWARD GARDNER** remains in Hardin Memorial, Room 416. **CHARLINE RICH** is recuperating after falling and breaking a rib. **WILLIE PENCE**, Zola Pence's nephew, has been diagnosed with throat and lung cancer. **ELONDA CRAFTON** is now at Allegro at Helmwood. **ROY JOHNSON** was admitted to VA Hospital in Louisville Wednesday night.

MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	Carl Mercer
Neil Burden	Tom Morgan
Dana Fox	Nathan Nash
Howard Gardner	Joyce Pack
Chris Goodin	Grace Speer
Faye Guess	Gene Stough
Roy Johnson	Barbara Underwood
Ruby Keister	Lonnie Underwood
Kent Lane	Payton Walker
Diane Lewis	Lawrence Wells
J Martin	Jim 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, Ronald O'Bryant, Roni Reed, Hector Meza, Aaron Wellman, Michael Morrow, Israel Fox, Barry Barclay, Brian Wilkins, Phillip Moore

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is expressed to the family of David Keister. Bro. Keister passed away Monday afternoon while at his son's home in Texas. His funeral was held in Huntington, West Virginia yesterday. Please remember Ruby and the rest of the Keister family in your prayers.

Congratulations

Holly Walker, teacher at Elizabethtown High School, has been named the 2008-2009 ExCEL winner sponsored by WHAS-TV and E.ON U.S. Congratulations, Holly!

Joe Brothers retired from Gates Corporation on January 15 after 37 years of employment!

Welcome

Cody, Jenny & Jacob Hutson have indicated their desire to place membership with our congregation. Their address is 9029 E Estrada Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121. The Hutsons have been assigned to CSG #4. Welcome Cody, Jenny & Jacob!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

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|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. John Weaver | 11. Stephanie Pack |
| Monica Bybee | 12. Brandon Carter |
| 2. Mayford Spear | 17. Kim Whobrey |
| 3. Katy Nash | Jacob McKinney |
| 4. Fred Pence | 18. Mary Walker |
| 7. Caitlynn Parks | 19. Joey Muncy |
| 8. Lani Moss | 24. John Board |
| 10. Dorothy Brothers | 25. Richard Lawson |
| Jaclyn McKinney | 26. Janice Hardin |

Anniversaries

Nathan & Shirley Nash February 16

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **FHU BIBLE LECTURESHIP, February 1-6**, in Henderson, TN.
- **NOTE:** The **Baby Shower** for Jaclyn McKinney has been postponed and will be rescheduled at a later date. Jaclyn is expecting a baby girl in March and is registered at Wal-Mart.
- **SUPER BOWL PARTY**, Sunday night, **February 1**, at the Nowland home. Sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.
- **5TH GRADE & UNDER FAMILY GAME NIGHT**, Saturday, **February 7**, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the South Wing. Please bring your favorite board games and finger foods. See Ken or Monica Bybee if any questions.
- **CHURCH WORKERS WORKSHOP**, Monday, **February 9**, at 10:30 a.m.
- **CONGREGATIONAL SKATING PARTY**, Sunday night, **February 15**, at Hardin County Roller Rink in Radcliff.
- **SWEETHEART DINNER**, Saturday, **February 21**, in the South Wing.
- **E-TOWN LADIES DAY**, Saturday, **March 21**, with Janie Gallagher from Fairmont, WV

Pantry Item of the Week

Week of 2/1/09

Canned pork'n'beans

OUR RECORD FOR

January 25, 2009

Sunday Bible Study	151
Sunday Morning Assembly	220
Sunday Evening Assembly	130
Wednesday Bible Study	120
Ladies Bible Class	No Class (weather)
Contribution (Budget -- \$6,783)	\$6,623

Elder/Coordinator for February
Rick Whobrey

Bible Question

This Week's Bible Question: *What person cooked his bread on cow dung?*

Last Week's Bible Question: *I am the woman who taunted another woman about not being able to bear a child. Who am I? The correct answer is Peninnah, 1 Samuel 1:2, 4-6.*

Those who correctly answered the Bible Question are Kay Thomason, Edna Ashlock, Joyce Pack, Mary Walker, Betty Bray, Katy Watson, Samantha Tackett, Claudia Woodring and Bloria Taylor.

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.
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Wednesday

Evening Bible Class	7:00 P.M.
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Elizabethtown Church of Christ
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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
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Daily Bible Reading Schedule

1. Exodus 1-3; Matthew 15:21-39
2. Exodus 4-6; Matthew 16
3. Exodus 7-8; Matthew 17
4. Exodus 9-10; Matthew 18:1-20
5. Exodus 11-12; Matthew 18:21-35
6. Exodus 13-15; Matthew 19:1-15
7. Exodus 16-18; Matthew 19:16-30

Feb. 1-6 — FHU Lectures
Feb. 1 — POSTPONED: McKinney Baby Shower
Feb. 1 — Super Bowl Party, Nowlands
Feb. 7 — 5th Grade & Under Family Game Night
Feb. 9 — Church Workers Workshop
Feb. 15 — Congregational Skating Party
Feb. 21 — Sweetheart Dinner
Mar. 21 — Ladies Day

PARTICIPATION

Are You Part of the

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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