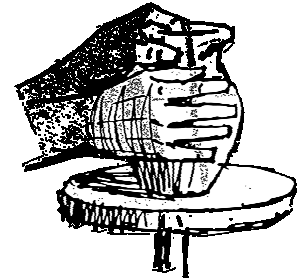


His Workmanship: Westside

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works."

—Ephesians 2:10



Vol. XXIV

March 29, 2015

No. 13

Isaiah 64:8

The Lord Is In Your Midst, by Rickie Jenkins

"The Lord your God is in the midst of you, a Mighty One, a Savior (Who saves)! He will rejoice over you with joy; He will rest (in satisfaction; delight in you) and He will quiet you with His love (make no mention of past sins or even recall them); He will exult (rejoice) over you with singing," Zeph 3:17, AMP.

Zephaniah and Jeremiah began in the same year. Both prophesied during the reign of Josiah. Hezekiah had been succeeded by his son Manasseh. What followed was fifty-five years of some of the darkest history of Judah, followed by two more years of dark history by Manasseh's son Ammon. After Ammon's death, Josiah took the throne at age eight. Things in Judah were not good when Zephaniah prophesied. Moral corruption was widespread; luxury and extravagance were everywhere. What was offered to Jehovah was little more than idolatry. In the midst of all the judgment that Zephaniah prophesies, he now comes to say how God feels about His people when they return.

Notice first: "The Lord God is in the midst of you, a mighty One Who saves." God now reigns as their king. Their salvation is assured. What a comfort! How encouraging. They had come from judgment to salvation. Zephaniah says the enemy has been

cast out, and judgment taken away, and the people rejoice, 3:14-17. Why did they rejoice? Because God saves us. Can we not see the great joy of our salvation? Can we not see that we,



formerly captive to the evil one, have been redeemed by a Mighty Savior? Can we not see that when He redeems us He is in our midst? He is with us! The evil one is cast out. He is defeated. By Whom? A Mighty One, a Savior! That should give us great faith and great courage.

Second, notice how God feels about His redeemed: "He will rejoice over you with joy; He will rest (in satisfaction) and in His love He will quiet you and make no mention (of past sins or even recall them)..."

God rejoices over you with joy! He rests in satisfaction. When we know we have done something well, we breathe a deep sigh of great satisfaction. Picture God looking at His redeemed with great joy, taking a deep breath, and giving a great sigh of satisfaction over you. He rests in His love and makes no mention of past

sins. He wants us to rest in that assurance as well. We might mention our sins, and others may never let us forget them, but He doesn't even mention them. He has forgiven them to the uttermost. How does that make you feel as His child?

Third: "He will exult over you with singing." Awesome! God rests (and wants us to rest) in His love, with deep satisfaction over us, and He exults with singing. The word "exult" means God jumps up and down with excitement and sings. This expresses the love, esteem, and value God has for His children. Think about it! You! Me! His children! God jumps up and down and sings because we are His. What a picture! The next time we think about how hard it is to live righteously, remember how God views us. Any time someone is saved it is by the "Mighty One, the Savior, the Lord with you (Immanuel, Mt 1:23)." When God saves us, He rests in satisfaction and joy. He makes no mention of the sins that led us away from Him; He jumps up and down with joy, singing about us, His children. That will lift us up and cause us to rejoice with Him! "For the LORD your God walks in the midst of your camp, to deliver you and give your enemies over to you; therefore your camp shall be holy, that He may see no unclean thing among you, and turn away from you," Deut 23:14.

How to Pray When Loved One in Sin, Erin Davis

When the people closest to us sin, it hurts. Sin is destructive. When we are standing close by, we often get hit with shrapnel. We must have a willingness to pray instead of simply assuming the position of duck and cover. But *how are we supposed to pray about this?*

The truth is, we all have a sin problem. That's why we need Jesus so much. If someone we love is trapped in a pattern of sin or refuses to repent, the stakes can seem sky high. When we don't know what to pray, we can pray God's Word. Here are ten ways to pray for those stuck in sin straight from Scripture:

1. Pray for them to see their sin as God sees it.

"But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you so that He will not hear," Is 59:2.

2. Pray for their hard heart to soften.

"And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh," Ezek 36:26.

3. Pray for them to recognize the kindness of God.

"Or do you presume on the riches of His kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?" Rm 2:4

4. Pray for them to have a desire for God's Word.

"But he answered, 'It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God,' " Mt 4:4.

5. Pray for God's Word to do surgery in their heart.

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart," Heb 4:12.

6. Pray for the consequences of their sin to become clear to them.

"For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment," Ps

51:3-4.

7. Pray for them to be surrounded by people who will speak truth into their life.

"My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins," Jas 5:19-20.

8. Pray for them to recognize that only God can satisfy their deepest needs.

"For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things," Ps 107:9.

9. Pray for them to know how much God loves them.

"So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God," Eph 3:17-19.

10. Pray for them to repent. *"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,"* Mt 3:2. *"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,"* Ax 3:19.

Two prayers not to pray.

A. Get 'em God prayers. Those prayers rooted in a desire for God to punish others are "get 'em God prayers." If someone we love has sinned against us, these kinds of prayers may be tempting. But remember that God has forgiven us of much, even though we don't deserve forgiveness. We must pray that He would do the same for others, even if they've hurt us.

B. Plank eye prayers. We all sin. We all desperately need God's forgiveness. This is important perspective when we are praying about sin in someone else's life. If someone we know is stuck in sin, pray like crazy! But let's keep our own sins in mind. Jesus put it this way, *"Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own*

eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? Hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye," Mt 7:3-5.

God is in the business of dealing with sin. There is no sin too big for Him to forgive and no sinner too far away for God to take back. As you wait for Him to do the redemptive work only He can do, keep praying with great expectation. Do you know someone stuck in a pattern of sin? Which of these prayers will you start praying on their behalf?

Greeter, from p.4 corporate-approved message or quitting his job. There are atheists and agnostics in the United States who are absolutely committed to using whatever power they have to force others, especially Christians, to act as if they are as devoid of belief as they are. We cannot shrink back when they push us around. And we have to let the corporations, which seemed so primed to assume that an atheist society should be the only permissible public society, understand that we are real and we are numerous. If atheists want to start a fight, we must stand up to them and teach them about love and freedom.

Islam, from p. 3 Islam is not a religion of peace. It is a religion of hatred, intolerance, and bloodshed. Muslims have vowed to change America into an Islamic nation, and they are well on their way with the Islamic-friendly policies of President Barack Hussein Obama. In time, they will succeed in making us a more violent, more hate-filled and intolerant nation just like their own. Our nation will become like Egypt under the rule of the Muslim Brotherhood where they were told to either convert or leave the country. Supposedly there was a third option of paying a high tax to live in Egypt, but the Muslim Brotherhood was too busy beating, raping, and murdering Christians to collect any of the taxes. This is a picture of any country under the "religion of peace."



God makes my heart clean in 2015 “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” —Ps 51:10

Violent Facts of Islam, by Dave Jolly

Muslims keep trying to convince us that they are a religion of peace. Those who make the claim fail to recognize a key doctrine of Islam, and they fail to admit the truth of what is happening in the world today. The core tenets of Islam teach that they are to convert every unbeliever. Whoever will not convert should be killed to eliminate apostasy. Those who die in a fight to cleanse the world of unbelievers are hailed as hero martyrs. It is not a religion of peace.

The Bible teaches us to go out and make disciples of Jesus throughout the world. But we are told to love and pray for those who refuse to believe. Nowhere does the Bible tell us to kill unbelievers. The Bible instructs us to be peacemakers, not murderers.

Look at the evidence and determine if Islam is a religion of peace or one of hatred and bloodshed:

- The Shoe Bomber was a Muslim
- The Beltway Snipers were Muslims
- The Fort Hood Shooter was a Muslim
- The Underwear Bomber was Muslim
- The U.S.S. Cole Bombers were Muslims
- The Madrid Train Bombers were Muslims
- The Bafi Nightclub Bombers—Muslims
- The London Subway Bombers—Muslims
- The Moscow Theatre Attackers—Muslims
- The Boston Marathon Bombers—Muslims
- The Pan-Am flight #93 Bombers—Muslims
- The Air France Entebbe Hijackers
- The Iranian Embassy Takeover—Muslims
- The Beirut U.S. Embassy Bombers
- The Libyan U.S. Embassy Attack—Muslims
- The Buenos Aires Suicide Bombers
- The Israeli Olympic Team Attackers
- The Kenyan U.S. Embassy Bombers

Discipleship Here At Home

The Saudi Khobar Towers Bombers--Muslims
 The Beirut Marine Barracks Bombers-Muslim
 The Besian Russian School Attackers Muslim
 The 1st World Trade Center Bombers-Muslim
 The Bombay & Mumbai India Attackers
 The Achille Lauro Cruise Ship Hijackers
 The September 11th 2001 Airline Hijackers

Can anyone put together a similar list for any other religion today? Are Buddhists, Hindus, Shintos, Baha'is, Sikhs, Christians, Jews, or even atheists carrying out similar attacks on the same scale as Muslims? For the most part, Buddhists, Hindus, Shintos, Baha'is, Sikhs, Christians, and Jews live together in peace. There are always some wars and issues, but not like those we see involving Muslims. But Muslims don't seem to be able to get along with Sikhs, Buddhists, Hindus, or any others. Most ironic about this "religion of peace" is the fact that Muslims can't seem to get along with other Muslims.

Another ironic twist to Islam is that there is more unrest and violence in their own countries that are governed by Muslims and run under Islamic law. Muslims seem to live more happily in countries that are not Muslim—such as Australia, England, Belgium, France, Italy, India, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Canada, and the United States. Yet these are the very countries that they blame for all of their problems. Their solution is to change the countries where they are happy into countries like those where they are unhappy—and they are doing it so they can supposedly be happier.

How many non-Muslim terrorist organizations can you name? How many Muslim terrorist organizations can you name? Here's a list of Muslim terrorist groups operating in the world today: Islamic Jihad, ISIS, Al-Qaeda, Taliban, Hamas, Hezbollah, Boko Haram, Al-Nusra, Abu Sayyaf, Al-Badr, Muslim Brotherhood, Palestinian Liberation Front, Ansaru, Jemaah Islamiyah, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and Abdullah Azzam Brigades. There are others, but I trust you get the point. continued on p. 2

PRAY FOR healing, protection, help

- Rod Green**—recovering from severed thumb
- Nell Free**—rehab recovery for broken hip; Arvada Care & Rehab, 6121 W. 60th Ave, Arvada 80003, rm 7, bed A
- Ed Fink**—prostate cancer; treatment for brain tumors
- Pat Wilkes**—surgery recovery for torn shoulder tendon
- Bill Dennis**—went home yesterday following rehab on infected knee drainage; pseudo-gout
- Sandra Perry**—possible kidney failure, may need dialysis or transplant; heart valve issues recently diagnosed; neuropathy from diabetes
- Kaylee Chavez**—age 10, at St. Jude's in Memphis for brain cancer treatment; donate at www.youcaring.com, type her name at top
- Judy Strand**—heart valve surgery scheduled in April in prep for liver transplant; hep C
- Chris Bennett**, former member—all tools for biz stolen; recovering from fall, fractured pelvis
- Buford Wrather, Cheryl Reames's** dad—stroke, complicated by Parkinson's; in CO Springs
- Sylvia Chapman, Brett's** grandmother—third stage pancreatic cancer; chemo
- Judy Sartin**—cold; rotator cuff injury; spinal stenosis; arthritis
- Brittany Tope's** mother—breast cancer in spine; pain in broken ribs which tumor has injured; grandmother—on dialysis
- Kim Howell's** niece **Tonya Robison**—delivered 32-week, 2 lb, 5 oz **Malachi Taylor Robison** 2 wks ago; in NICU in Louisville, KY, at least a month
- Patty Barber**, friend of Sandra Perry—hematoma
- Kenny Boyd's** coworker **Kim Phillips**—asks our prayers for heart problems
- Rick Robbins**, friend of Howells—brain surgery

CHRONIC CONDITIONS

- Logan Corray; Addison Tope; Christian Harrod; Rocco Jr; Tim Huelsman**—asthma
- Nell Free**—pacemaker, heart; back pain
- Autumn Hadders**—epilepsy; celiac disease
- Jonathan Hadders**—RA
- Danielle Huelsman**—vertigo, CV syndrome
- Hannah Huelsman**—polycythemia, thickening of blood; heart murmur, acid reflux, chest pain
- Kirk Johnson**—MS
- Menards**—aging; **Lloyd**, diabetes, weak;
- Virginia**, macular degeneration; high BP
- Cheryl Reames**—diverticulitis; fibromyalgia
- Lynda Szymanski**—COPD, lung weakness
- Travel Reingrovers, Howells** in CA; **Topes** in AZ 3/27-4/3; **Brett Witherington** in FL.

“Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.”
 —Mother Teresa



Exposing current thoughts & trends *religious speech*

Walmart Greeter Allowed to Bless Again, by Mark Home

It only took one complaint for Walmart to ban an employee from greeting customers with “have a blessed day,” though James Phillips had been doing so for years without any objection.

“Have a blessed day” might be considered religious expression, but that should not bother atheists. They don’t have any problem “feeling grateful” on Thanksgiving despite having no one to thank. Why should a “blessed day” be any different? A person can be blessed by other people, or by any number of hypothetical gods, so no atheist can claim that Phillips was saying anything about God. “The Lord bless you” would be a religious greeting. But “Have a blessed day” is secular. What made it feel “religious” is that Phillips is religious and some freethinker is extra sensitive on the issue.

What power for one person to be able to get a corporation to censor a man who had never done you any harm and only wanted good things for you! Yet somehow Walmart decided that this one complaint was reason enough to intervene in the kindly expressions of one employee and dictate what his speech could be within narrower confines. That one complainer, in the corporate mind, represented Walmart customers more than everyone else. The corporation took for granted that this one person was “normal.”

What was the result of the order to not use a “religious” greeting? It was that Phillips must alter his behavior in order to sound even more like an atheist. Even though the greeting was completely innocuous, Walmart declared that all employees must go to extra lengths to sound like a person who does not accept the existence of God (or any god). Why would anyone expect all religious believers to talk like atheists just because one customer happens to be an atheist? Such people are intolerant bullies and cultural imperialists.

The only thing that made a difference was the community uprising against Walmart on behalf of Phillips. When Phillips was told that as a Walmart employee he could not greet people with the phrase, the community became his mouthpiece. “I wasn’t trying to start a movement, but I [appreciate] that people thought enough of me to stand up for me this way,” said Phillips. “I want to be one of the best greeters I know how to be.” Thousands of people used the greeting “have a blessed day” to the greeter when they entered the Blue Ridge Walmart. They also initiated a letter campaign and a social media campaign.

If these people hadn’t been willing to stand up and be counted, Phillips would still be forced to choose between droning his secular,

continued on p. 2



meets at
13789 W. 8th Avenue
Golden, Colorado 80401
720-295-4530

Pastors

Larry Campbell (303) 246-8810
DeWayne Howell (303) 973-7283

Preacher

Jim Reingrover (303) 973-5102

info@thechurchingolden.com

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Westside-Church-of-Christ/276475819148309>

Assembly Schedule

Sunday

Bible classes	9:00 am
Morning assembly	10:00 am
Afternoon assembly	1:30 pm

Wednesday

Bible classes	7:30 pm
---------------	---------

Sunday morning

- **adult Bible class**, Lesson 6, “I Have Become A Christian! Now What?” Brian Shreve

- **Sermon**, “Nothing New Under the Sun,” Larry Campbell

Sunday afternoon

- Lessons from the Life of Christ, “How Jesus Dealt with His Enemies—John 18:1-11,” Berney Charo

Wednesday night adult class: Islam—Night and Day

Feeding on His Word Reading

Everyone is invited to an open Bible reading of Genesis 1-25 Friday evening, April 3, at 6:30 pm, starting with light supper, at the Wilkeses’ house. See Joel Walker for schedule.