

“For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 3:11, NKJV)



New England Christian Bulletin

Spring 2022 Edition, Published By Firm Foundation Christian Church, Woonsocket, RI, FREE

Assurance in a Nutshell (1 John 5:11-13) By Rick Meunier

If God promises eternal life to those who believe on his Son Jesus Christ, (John 3:15-16, 6:54, 10:28, 12:25, 17:2-3, Acts 13:48, Rom. 6:23), and we know that God doesn't lie (Titus 1:2), then why do some Christians doubt their salvation, and the ability of God to keep them saved? God gives us the “record” in 1 John 5:11-13, in some of the clearest theology you are going to find in the whole book. The word “record” is the Greek word “Martyria” which means, “evidence given”, (judicially or generally), as well as “Report, testimony, or witness”. That record, report, testimony, or witness, is better than, and can be compared to your birth record. For instance, if you were born in Woonsocket RI, then you can go to City Hall, and find a record of your birth. If you move away from Woonsocket RI, and go to Ocala Florida, that doesn't change the fact that you were still born in Woonsocket RI. Just like your physical birth, when you are born again, your name is put in the Book of Life (Phil. 4:3). Now, let's get back to moving away again. If you fall away from God, maybe even stop serving and acknowledging him, it will not take your name out of the book of life, anymore than moving away from Woonsocket, and denying you were ever there, will take your name out of the City Hall records. Once you are born again, it is eternal. No one, not even the devil, is able to get your name out of that book (John 10:28-29). If you have the Son, you have life, and if you don't have the Son, you don't have life (Vs. 12). The Holy Spirit, through the writer John, wrote this, so we would “know” that we have eternal life. Stop relying on your feelings, they will change. Start relying on the Book, it never changes.

The Day of Doom (Preached 3/13/2022) By James Moriello

(Photo By Chrissy Correia)



“Woe to you who put far off the day of doom,
Who cause the seat of violence to come near;
Who lie on beds of ivory,
Stretch out on your couches,
Eat lambs from the flock
And calves from the midst of the stall;
Who sing idly to the sound of stringed instruments,
And invent for yourselves musical instruments like David;
Who drink wine from bowls,
And anoint yourselves with the best ointments,
But are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.
Therefore they shall now go captive as the first of the captives,
And those who recline at banquets shall be removed.
The Lord GOD has sworn by Himself,
The LORD God of hosts says:
“I abhor the pride of Jacob,
And hate his palaces;
Therefore I will deliver up the city
And all that is in it.” (Amos 6:3-8)

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What is Saving Faith? - Romans 4:20-22 - Romans 10:1-3 By Steve Jackson

Many prospective Christians will ask the question, “What does it mean to have saving faith?” And it is a very good question; one of supreme importance. Without understanding what to believe and why, we would be left ignorant; stumbling in the dark. And with no direct object of our faith, we could do nothing but create idols of our own imagination. Such is why hearing the gospel is so important as God's word reveals the truth and why the apostle Paul says “it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes” (Romans 1:16).

In his letter to the Roman saints, Paul explains the essence of saving faith. Speaking of Abraham, the father of faith, Paul says “He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. And therefore “it was accounted to him for righteousness” (Romans 4:20-22).

In these verses we are given two reasons why Abraham was counted righteous. First, he did not waver at the promise of God, which gave glory to God. And second, he was fully convinced that God was able to perform that which He had promised.

In essence, he believed God was faithful and true. There is nothing different about saving faith today than when Abraham first believed. Our thoughts and hearts must believe in God and trust His promises. The only tangible difference is that today we know the name of Jesus whereas Abraham only knew God would provide a Savior.

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Be Still and Know that He is God By Tanya Hay

“Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10)

As I was reading my Bible, I came across Psalm 46:10, as I have so many times before. This time, the short verse made me stop and think about its meaning. I looked at the verse more closely and dissected it into three parts.

“Be still”, what does it mean? When we are still, we are not moving, we are quiet. Still is peaceful, motionless, an opportunity to get in tune with ourselves and with our God. Still is listening, not complaining, not debating. The TV is off, and the phone and other distractions are nowhere near us.

Then we read, “and know”. Knowing is an internal action word. To know is to have no doubt, to be aware, to have knowledge of and to be certain of something. Furthermore, it also means to be familiar or friendly with someone. In this case, it means to know God. To know God is to know Him and to trust Him. To have faith in Him.

“That I am God” comes next. What does that mean? “That I am God” means God is our Father, our Healer, our Savior, our Friend, and also, as we read in Micah 5:5, He is our Peace. These eight words come full circle. “Be still” means to have peace and when we accept Him as our Lord and Savior. He resides in us and He is our Peace.

Read this verse again, and I think you’ll agree when I say that this verse has a much deeper meaning. God’s Word is a lamp to our feet, and this verse illuminates a message of embracing stillness and peace. When we have God in our lives, and we put Him first and foremost, things start to shift. In John 14:27 we read, “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you.” The Prince of Peace freely shares with us the wonderful gift of His peace when we accept Him.

Most of us have heard that we should stop, drop and roll if we are on fire. ‘Be still and know that He is God’ can and should be our emergency plan of action when times are tough. Feeling stressed out or overwhelmed? Be still and know that He is God. He is in control. He will provide you peace, and He will comfort you. In times that you need a moment of respite, be still and know that He is God. He will provide you with the strength to carry on.

Philippians 4:7 tells us that “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” So, take a moment to reflect, to be still, and to know that He is God. Be thankful and embrace His gift of stillness and peace which will calm your mind, your heart, your soul, and your spirit. I pray that you reside in His peace today, tomorrow, and always, Amen.

“God is our refuge and strength,

A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear,

Even though the earth be removed,

And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

Though its waters roar and be troubled,

Though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah

Be still, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!

The Lord of hosts is with us;

The God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah

(Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11)

***This Psalm was abbreviated here for space, and we encourage you to read the entire Psalm in your Bible.

Publication Information, Contact Information, and an Invitation to Firm Foundation Church

New England Christian Bulletin

Volume 11, Number 2

Firm Foundation Christian Church, Publisher

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Firm Foundation Christian Church meets at 84 Cumberland Street, Woonsocket, RI. We meet every Sunday for Worship Service at 10 am, and also every Friday for Bible Study and Prayer at 7 pm. We are a Soul Winning, Great Commission, Christian Bible Church. In addition to an active evangelistic ministry, we host tent revivals, do street evangelism, and offer beginner to advanced level independent study classes, all free of charge. All of our preaching and Bible Study is directly from the Word of God. We invite you to stop by and visit us.

We believe in the inspired Word of God which is without error in all that it affirms. Scripture (The Bible) provides the basis for our Christian faith (2 Timothy 3:16).

We believe in the Divine Nature of the Trinity: God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Deuteronomy 5:6; John 1:1-3; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11).

All men and women are sinners by nature in need of a Savior. We need God’s grace and mercy (Romans 3:10-23; Isaiah 45:22).

That Savior is Jesus Christ, who paid for all our sins at the cross (Hebrews 10:12).

Those who trust in Him in faith (believe upon His work and promises) attain to eternal life (John 3:16; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

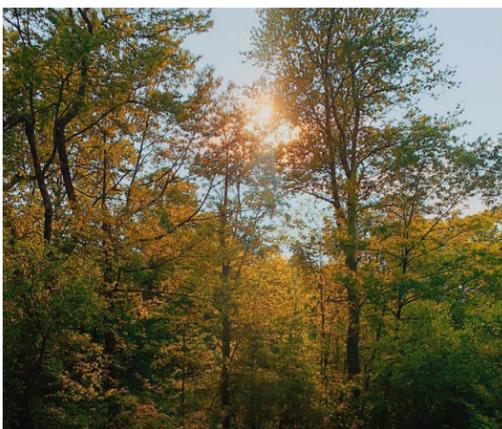
“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God” (John 3:16-18).

Wishing Will Not Cut It By Scott Lanctot

Recently, I listened to a devotional on the Apostle Peter, and his having two natures, one being of the flesh, and the other being of the spirit. It made me pause and take a look at my Christian walk. I have been reading my Bible consistently for many years now. A passage in the Gospel (Matthew 26:34-35) struck me. “Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times.” Peter said to Him, “Even if I have to die with You, I will not deny You!”” Jesus, being omniscient, knew Peter would deny Him, and he did. The question I asked myself was, ‘If I was in that same situation, would I stand or fall?’ I was once asked, “Would you die for your belief and faith in Jesus Christ?” “Yes”, I replied, with no hesitation. So the next thing spoken was, “Then live for Him. Grow in your faith, and walk in His likeness.” Scripture has all the answers to our questions, if we seek them. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6). According to this passage of Scripture, if your heart is rightly focused on Him, not wavering in the flesh, He will direct your paths. Our God doesn’t tempt us (James 1:13). But He will allow the testing of our faith. We have a guarantee from Him, a promise according to Scripture.

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PHOTOS BELOW: BY CHRISSY CORREIA



The Day of Doom (Amos 6:3) (Continued from Page 1)

Look at how quickly things have changed as of late. The Covid plague came upon us suddenly. Lives were lost. Freedoms were assaulted and lost. Those who burn, assault, vandalize, loot, steal, and kill in the name of social justice do so with impunity. Law abiding citizens must live in this world. Both in the United States and abroad, those who wish to live unmolested by tyrants must be wary of their own governments. Consider also the Russian invasion of Ukraine. “The day of doom” has come suddenly upon those poor civilian peoples. And meanwhile, all the while, though you may live in peace today, death marches on to your door. “Where the word of a king is, there is power; And who may say to him, “What are you doing?” He who keeps his command will experience nothing harmful; And a wise man’s heart discerns both time and judgment, Because for every matter there is a time and judgment, Though the misery of man increases greatly. For he does not know what will happen; So who can tell him when it will occur? No one has power over the spirit to retain the spirit, And no one has power in the day of death. There is no release from that war, And wickedness will not deliver those who are given to it” (Ecclesiastes 8:4-8). Friend, will you not hear Amos in our text, “Woe to you who put far off the day of doom”?

“Woe to you who put far off the day of doom” because of carnal security. A certain Christian may be thinking, ‘But I am a sinner saved by grace! What have I to do with the day of doom?’ Does it not frighten you what the end will be for the unsaved? Or are you too selfish a ‘spiritual person’ to care? Do you put far off the day, and live a spiritually profitless life? Have you taken the sobering challenge of Scripture, “Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified” (2 Corinthians 13:5).). Are you a young person, saying, ‘My whole life is ahead of me. This thought is for other people, especially the older people.’ Are you certain about that? Are you wiser than Solomon, who warns you, “Do not boast about tomorrow, For you do not know what a day may bring forth” (Proverbs 27:1)?

(Continued on Page 8)

Christ is Risen What Does that Mean to You? By Tony Bernier

“Oh death! Where is your sting?
Oh hell! Where is your victory?
Oh Church! Come stand in the light
The glory of God has defeated the night
Oh death! Where is your sting?
Oh hell! Where is your victory?
Oh Church! Come stand in the light
Our God is not dead, He’s alive, He’s alive”

These are lyrics to a song named, “Christ is Risen” written by Matt Mayer. Such powerful words written about Christ being the conqueror of death. Every year I find myself playing this song more often at Easter time. But this should be remembered and emphasized year round.

That Christ always had the power to lay down his life or not, completely by His own power and of His own choosing, is written in John 10:17 and 18, “Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again.”

And he submitted to death only as the perfect sacrifice to take away all the sins of all the world as is revealed to us in Hebrews 10 verses 12 to 14, “But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His foot stool. For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.”

But after His death, He would demonstrate His victory over death by His resurrection from the dead. And in the end, Christ will completely destroy Death by throwing it along with Hades into the lake of fire (Rev 20:14). As a matter of fact, the second to last mention of death is in Revelation 21:4 where it is written, “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes: there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” And the very last mention of death is in Revelation 21:8 where sinners collectively are given a final warning, “But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all the liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”

Which will you choose? Will you choose everlasting victory or the lake which burns with fire and brimstone?

SPRING TENT REVIVAL 2022!

Great Bible Preaching and Public Worship
Find Faith in God through Jesus Christ, or
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Rain or Shine-----Bring the Entire Family

Old Time Preaching Ministry

If you are looking for doctrinally sound Bible preaching and teaching, tune in to WNRI 1380am and 99.9fm on Tuesday at 7pm, and Saturday at 4pm. Where the “Old Book” is still used.

Psalm 138:2 (KJV): “I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy loving-kindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.”

What is Saving Faith?, Continued from Page 1, By Steve Jackson

But to be saved and counted righteous ourselves, we must go through the same process; believe the promises of God. Only today that promise is everlasting life and the forgiveness of sins to those who believe in His Son.

However, there are so many false teachers these days, speaking of things that are superficial and not actually written in the Bible, that it is quite easy to be disillusioned and turn your back to a shell of Christianity, that was never truly Christianity to begin with. Many of these teachers attempt to draw you in with promises of wealth and health, or ways to escape the drudgery of everyday life. These are wolves in sheep's clothing, waiting to take advantage of you. But there are also teachers who earnestly desire to share the false ideas that they have learned, that God loves you unconditionally exactly as you are, with no reason or need to change your actions. These are the blind leading the blind and all who believe their story without searching the Scriptures will follow them off the edge of the cliff and into a ditch.

The sad and frightening truth that is unfortunately absent from the modern "christian" message is that while God so loved the world He gave His only begotten Son, He did so understanding that not everyone will accept this sacrifice. And not only this, but of those who say they believe, not everyone truly does, and some will be left out of heaven when the day of judgment arrives because they have been misled or never truly understood what it is they believe in. Therefore their faith is misplaced and holds no value, for they have created an idea of "god" that is just not true.

Paul describes this exact situation later in the book of Romans as he speaks about the nation of Israel: "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God" (Romans 10:1-3).

It is so easy to get stuck in this trap when we are ignorant of Scripture and seek out what we want to hear. We also have a natural tendency to believe we are good. And though we desire the love of God, our sinful nature distorts everything, and we readily lie to ourselves. Thus we are prevented from seeing and hearing the truth. And the irony of the situation is that so many people will say they need to see something to believe it, yet they see evil everywhere and ignore it. They have become so accustomed to it that they do not know what goodness truly is.

Saving faith is such an easy concept. Believe in Jesus Christ, and you will be saved. But our sinful nature is at war with God, and we actively suppress the truth in unrighteousness. This is why we see so many people deceived. They have all the cards stacked against them. First, they are ignorant of God's righteousness and His word. Second, even if they hear God's word, they attempt to suppress the truth. And third, they are starting with improper motives, hoping for personal miracles in all the wrong areas.

If you know someone who is deceived, help them understand the gospel. We are all sinners in need of a Savior. There are none righteous, none good. Walk them through the commandments. Show them the sinfulness of their actions, for "godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation" (2 Corinthians 7:10), and it is this that people need to hear. Though they are sinners, God is willing to forgive them, for His Son has paid the penalty for sin once for all. He died, taking our sins to the grave, and rose again three days later, having defeated death. And if they believe this, they will be saved. Praise God, and Glory to His Son, Jesus Christ.

"The Little Foxes That Spoil The Vines", By James Moriello

"The little foxes that spoil the vines" (Song of Solomon 2:15)

This verse is a statement of fact about nature, and is here applied to the young maidens of Shulem, but it is also illustrative of a broader principle. It is not the great lion or the fierce bear that spoil the vines. Rather, it is "the little foxes." The brothers of the Shulamite bride affirm that the foxes must be caught in order to preserve the grapes on "the vines." Let us apply. It is the little things in life that can nag at us and rob us of our peace. We can get irritated at small things, insignificant things, and pet peeves. This can spoil our mood and negatively impact our relationships. Generally, those we live with will bear the brunt of our spoiled vines. And how can we pray in a peaceful close communion with God while "the little foxes" are allowed to nag at our vines? Let us resolve today to "catch us the foxes" before we continue on with our day. May the "little foxes" of life be handled if they have to be, but without profitless dwelling upon them and the resulting loss of peace. May our vines be vines of joy throughout the day, and may our countenance, homes, and everywhere we go be characterized by "the fruit of the spirit", "love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23). "Catch us the foxes, The little foxes that spoil the vines, For our vines have tender grapes" (Song of Solomon 2:15). May your day be blessed in Christ Jesus.

A Future and a Hope: Jeremiah 29:11-13

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart"

The Law, Civil Disobedience, and the Christian By James Moriello

As general principle, Christians should obey the law, because the government is God's agent to maintain authority in society (Romans 13:1). Earthly governments have power that is given to them by divine allowance (John 19:11). The degree to which a human government can expect God's blessings, and be a legitimate agent of God is the degree to which that government rewards good and punishes evil (Romans 13:4). But "woe to those who call evil good, and good evil" (Romans 5:20). America was founded on Judeo-Christian principles of law, and can therefore expect blessings and curses, in a similar way to that of ancient Israel, according to Deuteronomy Chapter 28. Is it any wonder that our nation is disintegrating in many ways before our eyes, and that American power is waning?

Peaceful opposition to unbiblical concepts that arise in society is always the Christian's first and best option. "If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men" (Romans 12:18). Civic remedies include voting and exercising the right to free speech. Legal remedies include challenging court rulings lawfully by appealing to constitutional and prior case law. Religious remedies are the best method for the Christian to combat the celebration of sin in the culture. People are changed from the inside out, not the outside in. So let's participate in the Great Commission, since we have much freedom to do so (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15). There is currently no civil law in our country that restricts gospel content on our websites and in our newspapers. Nor are we prohibited from personal and public evangelism. So let's get busy! The day may come when we won't have all of these options.

There are times in human history when Christians must choose to either obey a government which actively opposes divine precepts, or choose to obey God. When the Hebrew midwives were commanded to murder male Hebrew babies, they refused to do so, and are commended in the Scripture for it (Exodus 1:15-17). When Daniel's friends in Babylon were commanded to engage in idolatrous worship, the Lord Himself vindicated them (Daniel 3). When the Apostles were commanded by men to disobey the Great Commission, they rightly chose to obey God's command (Acts 5:28-29). In all three cases, faithful people of God chose to obey Him, whatever the cost may be.

What remedies might there be for the church, and its people? The local church is wise not to accept government monies or grants, to have a clearly written Statement of Christian Faith, to practice biblical separation from those whose liberal brand of Christianity affirms sin (Romans 16:17), and to put safeguards in place with regard to the local governance of the church and protection of biblical doctrine. The individual Christian must stand his or her ground with Shiphrah, Puah, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Peter, John, and James. If we are in a position to help others stand their ground, let us help them. As Christians, we are not to be intimidated by the "thought police", who brand those of us who affirm the truth of Romans 1:26-27 as "haters" and "bigots". It is good to support conservative advocacy groups, but let us remember that our first mission is the propagation of the gospel, and that other items are secondary to that. Bible believing Christians will always be a small minority. Jesus said so (Matthew 7:13-14).

Why is God allowing this? Perhaps the Lord is purifying the church by separating the true believers from the "make-believers" (Matthew 13:24-30). If the church will not be like Philadelphia, then Laodicean Christians will join the world, and God's true church will be like Smyrna (Revelation 2-3). From an earthly standpoint, this may involve the persecution of true believers on account of their faith in Christ. But the positive outcome will be that the Bible-believing remnant will be strengthened, and much hypocrisy and false teaching will be removed from the professing church. Christian friend, remember to keep your focus. Jesus Christ Himself is interceding for you now, even as He has sent you into the world. Keep the focus on your heavenly hope and your heavenly home, and do not be overcome by earthy circumstances (John 17:13-19). Stay faithful! Keep fighting the good fight! And to God be the Glory! Amen.



Wishing Will Not Cut It, Continued from Page 3

“For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” So we may boldly say: “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?” (Hebrews 13:5-6). The world could never make that promise, nor could it keep it. There’s always a motive or hidden agenda with the world. We must rely on God daily for guidance and protection from the evil one, Satan. A Christian is fighting a daily spiritual battle between the spirit and the flesh, according to Scripture. This must be true in your soul. Believe it to be true. “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5). A Christian must make his “call and election sure” (2 Peter 1:10), not wavering in the faith. Our foundation must be built upon Jesus Christ. We must be willing to pay the price, whatever the cost, to walk as a worthy repentant sinner, bearing fruit, so that the battles of temptation in any form can be combated by God’s power and through God’s power alone. “Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up” (James 4:7-10). We must be contrite and of a humble spirit. It is important to be in right communion with our Savior, for the effectiveness of Him to work in us and through us. Wishing won’t cut it. Action is required. We must put in the work to follow Jesus.

Tune into Firm Foundation in Christ Television for some In Depth Verse by Verse Teaching through the Books of the Bible!

In Northern Rhode Island-Cox Channel 18/Verizon Channel 23, Tuesdays at 10 am and Saturdays at 10 am

Statewide in Rhode Island-Cox Channel 14/Verizon Channel 33, Wednesdays at 3:30 pm and Sundays at 4 pm

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”
(2 Timothy 2:15)

Learn the Scriptures Word Challenge

Directions: Fill in the blanks from the list of these words to complete Psalm 23 (NKJV). Compare with your Bible.

Word List:

table
shepherd
righteousness
Forever
waters
rod
shadow
soul
want
evil
dwell
days
comfort
makes
cup

The Lord is my _____;
I shall not _____.
He _____ me to lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside the still _____.
He restores my _____;
He leads me in the paths of _____
For His name’s sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the _____ of death,
I will fear no _____;
For You are with me;
Your _____ and Your staff, they _____ me.
You prepare a _____ before me in the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My _____ runs over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
All the _____ of my life;
And I will _____ in the house of the Lord
_____.

Grading:

0-5, Rome wasn’t built in a day.

6-10, Rome wasn’t built in a year.

11-15, Praise the Lord, Rome was built, but you have a firm foundation in Jesus Christ!

Photos Below: Left, Chrissy Correia; Right, NECB Staff



The Day of Doom, By James Moriello, Continued from Page 3

“Woe to you who put far off the day of doom” (Amos 6:3)

“Come now, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit’; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. Instead you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.’ But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil” (James 4:13-16). Perhaps you are doing well. You are comfortable in your home. You have a nest egg. The Lord has blessed you. But have you forgotten your Maker and Source? It is possible that God must take further measures to gain your attention. Inflation may take all of your earthly things away, but it cannot take away your salvation. Trust in that. Consider the Lord’s judgment upon the carnal prideful man. “All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar. At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. The king spoke, saying, ‘Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?’ While the word was still in the king’s mouth, a voice fell from heaven: ‘King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you! And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.’” (Daniel 4:28-32).

“Woe to you who put far off the day of doom” because of presumption. “‘Son of man, what is this proverb that you people have about the land of Israel, which says, ‘The days are prolonged, and every vision fails’? Tell them therefore, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘I will lay this proverb to rest, and they shall no more use it as a proverb in Israel.’ But say to them, ‘The days are at hand, and the fulfillment of every vision. For no more shall there be any false vision or flattering divination within the house of Israel. For I am the LORD. I speak, and the word which I speak will come to pass; it will no more be postponed; for in your days, O rebellious house, I will say the word and perform it,’ says the Lord GOD.’” Again the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Son of man, look, the house of Israel is saying, ‘The vision that he sees is for many days from now, and he prophesies of times far off.’ Therefore say to them, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD: ‘None of My words will be postponed any more, but the word which I speak will be done,’ says the Lord GOD.’” (Ezekiel 12:22-28). Will the Just One fail to judge us because we live in America, when He even did so to His people Israel, because of their sin? Do you think that because you are in a godly family or are in a church that you are automatically ‘in’? Do you not know that judgment begins with the house of God? “For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? Now ‘If the righteous one is scarcely saved, Where will the ungodly and the sinner appear?’ (1 Peter 4:17-18). “‘Yet you say, ‘Why should the son not bear the guilt of the father?’ Because the son has done what is lawful and right, and has kept all My statutes and observed them, he shall surely live. The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself. ‘But if a wicked man turns from all his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die. None of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live. Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?’ says the Lord GOD, ‘and not that he should turn from his ways and live?’” (Ezekiel 18:19-23).

“Woe to you put far off the day of doom” because of procrastination and laziness. “Now it happened as they journeyed on the road, that someone said to Him, ‘Lord, I will follow You wherever You go.’ And Jesus said to him, ‘Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.’ Then He said to another, ‘Follow Me.’ But he said, ‘Lord, let me first go and bury my father.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God.’ And another also said, ‘Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house.’ But Jesus said to him, ‘No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.’” (Luke 9:57-62). These would-be disciples said, ‘Just a little more world,’ just as the drunkard says, ‘Just a little more drink,’ and the drug addict says, ‘One more fix and then I shall be clean.’ They thought that there would be more time, another opportunity, another day. You are hearing the gospel today, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). “For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Friend, “Today if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts” (Hebrews 4:7). Do not say to the harm of your own soul as Felix said to Paul “concerning the faith in Christ...Go away for now; when I have a convenient time I will call for you” (Acts 24:24-25).

“Woe to you who put far off the day of doom” of your family, friends, and co-workers. I speak to you, Christian, having first spoken to myself. Are you too often a Christian who comes to “Jesus by night”, under cover of darkness, when no one can see you? (John 3:2). “Do you not say, ‘There are still four months and then comes the harvest’? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.’” (John 4:35-38). Only four months! The time is short. Did your Savior, given only three or four years of time, take leave of the Father and men’s souls to seek the world and check His social media accounts? Do you live as though the ‘Day of the Lord’, the Second Coming of Christ, is “far off”? “The great day of the LORD is near; it is near and hastens quickly” (Zephaniah 1:14).

Christian friend, get busy today working for the Lord, however you can! Unbeliever, I make a final plea to you. Make your peace with God through Jesus Christ today!