

Tomah Baptist Chronicle

December, 2020

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Theme for 2020

FOCUS 20/20

Philippians 4:8

PASTOR'S PEN

A word from the heart

Pastor Ron Tobin

Christmas 2020: A Perspective

Twenty-Twenty has / is perhaps the weirdest most awful year the world has experienced for a while. None of us will look back on this year with fondness as each of us are eager to "Move on" into 2021 or 2022. Our nation seems to be split down the middle socially and politically, perilously close to the civil war era. Decisions are being made for Americans concerning the Corona virus by scientists who are learning as they are going and politicians who are often making fly by the "seats of their pants" decisions. Added to the confusion and fear are often conflicting advice or policies uttered by the experts.

are being pushed towards defiant civil disobedience. We at Tomah Baptist have been particularly hit hard by not only the ministry side; but by having to say good-bye to seven beloved saints so far. An experience none of us wish to repeat. So! What are we to think or do? First, let's put everything into perspective. There is and has been a world-wide pandemic far greater than Covid-19. There is no possibility of natural human antibodies to fight against it. The verdict for all who refuse to take the vaccine is guaranteed.

This pandemic of several thousand years that condemns all unvaccinated to absolute death is known by everyone. It is, of course, sin. But, thankfully, there is a ready vaccine. The vaccine is identified in the stated verses. It is the Messiah, not only for the Jewish people, but the world. It is Jesus, mankind's Savior. He has bought and paid the price of the vaccine. In fact, He is the vaccine. Believing and receiving Him, His vaccine is the only cure for this plague of sin. There is also an unlimited supply that by-passes all nations, politicians and policies for all time and ages. It is available for the Catholic, Baptist, Protestant, Buddhist, Hindu, Agnostic, Marxist and other Atheist etc. Frankly, there is no other way or cure for the plague of sin but by or through Him. He that exclusively claimed "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

So, will you choose Jesus as your eternal vaccine against the plague of sin? Will you let Him be your future King to straighten up this mess we are in. With that Christian, let's put things in perspective. Let's get our own message to a sin cured—plagued world in perspective. Let's focus on that ad not politicians and conspiracies. Let's look-up because He is coming!!

From the WORD OF GOD

Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Isaiah 9:6-7 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

We at Tomah Baptist, like all churches, are trying to figure out how to effectively minister the gospel of grace during this pandemic. Some churches in states where the politicians are heavy handed, bordering tyrannical

I have to smile during school chapels. When I ask our students for song requests, inevitably someone will request a Christmas song regardless of the month. Be it December, November, or even April, they want to sing the Christmas songs. Most of the time when we hear people singing Christmas songs “out of season” our first reaction is to tell them to wait until Christmas. We justify saying this by our fear that our children, or ourselves, often associate Christmas carols with the secularism and commercialism of modern Christmas in America. We don’t want them to ignore the spiritual lessons of Thanksgiving, Easter, or even the 4th of July. We grow discouraged when we see our society tossing out the concept of a Day of Thanks-Giving and replacing it with a day to find the best Black Friday deals. It seems like modern “Christmas” is at war with the concept of thanksgiving. But if we remember the real reason for celebrating Christmas and thanksgiving we will realize that there is no better way to celebrate Christmas than to Give Thanks to God for sending his Son to earth to be our Saviour. There is nothing greater to be thankful for than for Jesus.

The greatest thing that we can be thankful for is the verry message of Christmas, “Emmanuel, God with us.” (Mt. 1:23)

One of the greatest songs of thanksgiving ever written celebrates this. When God allowed him to bring the Arc of the Covenant to Jerusalem, David was overjoyed. He rejoiced because the Mercy Seat, God’s throne in the Holy of Holies was coming to be with him. He rejoiced because he could say “God is with us.” I Chronicles 16 records this event and gives us this Psalm that David wrote for the express purpose “To thank the LORD.” This psalm tells us how to Give -thanks to God and celebrate “God with Us.”

Here are some ways we should celebrate Christmas “God with Us” from I Chronicles 16. In verse 8 we are to Give thanks, Call upon His Name, and Make known his deeds among the people. The greatest way that you can give thanks to God is by accepting his Gift of salvation. Romans 10:13 *“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”* After that, the best way is to fulfill the great commission and tell others. In verse 9 we are to sing unto Him and talk about his wonderous works. In verse 10 thank God by glorying in His holy name. Our claim to fame is in his name, not in any thing we have done. When we thank God others who love God will be encouraged and we will “let them rejoice.” In verse 11 we thank God by seeking his strength not our own and by seeking his “Face”, fellowship with him. In verse 12-13 we thank God by remembering his works, his wonders, and his judgments. In verse 15 we are to be always mindful, meditating, on his promises. In verse 23 we thank Him not only by talking of his salvation but by showing it in our lives, living for Him. In verse 24 we show His Glory to the heathen, those who know nothing about him, by showing his works in all nations. We also give this glory in verses 28-29 by giving Him Glory (praise), giving our strength, and giving our offerings. In verse 29 we also glorify and thank the Lord through Worshiping Him. In verse 30 we thank the Lord by fearing the Lord. We should always be aware of his power and the fact that we will have to give account of our thoughts and actions to Him. In verse 31 We thank the Lord by being Glad and Rejoicing in the fact that He is King. And finally in verse 35 we thank the Lord by saying “Save us, O God”. Even though we have been saved from sin we need him to save us from earthly trials, such COVID or any other trial we face. We are to pray *“Save us, O God, and gather us together, and deliver us from the heathen, than we may give thanks to thy holy name, and glory in thy praise.”* This is my prayer this Thanksgiving and Christmas that God would save us, and gather us together...that we may give thanks to Him.

Pastor Robert Meyer



December 2020

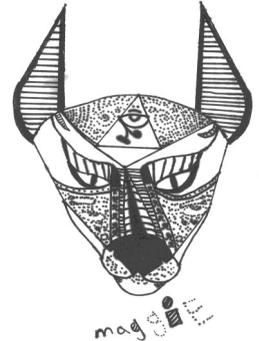
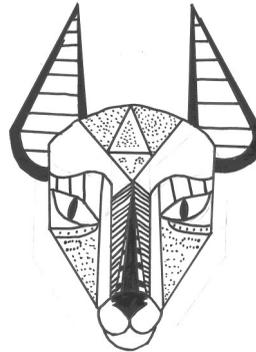
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			No School			
27	28	29	30	31		
			No School			



Mrs. Pries'
Middle Learning Center



By:
Kelly



mag



Gene



Word Search - The Story of Jesus' Birth

Circle the words in red.



a	n	a	z	a	r	e	t	h	b
g	a	l	i	l	e	e	c	a	m
o	d	a	n	g	e	l	e	i	a
d	f	h	d	a	v	i	d	l	n
j	e	w	s	b	m	a	r	y	g
e	s	l	o	r	d	t	u	v	e
s	w	b	n	i	a	n	n	a	r
u	j	o	s	e	p	h	n	m	b
s	u	n	b	l	e	s	s	e	d
v	i	r	g	i	n	t	b	l	e
s	h	e	p	h	e	r	d	s	m

Luke 1:26-28

“And in the sixth month the **angel Gabriel** was sent from **God** unto a city of **Galilee**, named **Nazareth**,

To a **virgin** espoused to a man whose name was **Joseph**, of the house of **David**; and the virgin's name was **Mary**.

And the angel came in unto her, and said, **Hail**, thou that art highly favoured, the **Lord** is with thee: „**blessed** art thou among women.

Luke 2:7

Mary "brought forth her firstborn **son**, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a **manger**;"

Luke 2:15

"the **shepherds** said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass,"

Luke 2:36-38

Anna was a prophetess who recognized that the infant **Jesus** was the Messiah.

Matt 2:1,2

“...there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

Saying, Where is he that is born King of the **Jews**? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.”

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

At nearly 6' 6" tall and weighing 300 lbs., Phillip Brooks cast a long shadow. He was a native Bostonian, the 9th generation of distinguished Puritan stock, who entered the Episcopalian ministry and pastored with great power in Philadelphia and in Boston. His sermons were topical rather than expositional, and he's been criticized for thinness of doctrine. Nonetheless he's considered one of America's greatest preachers. His delivery came in lightening bursts; he felt he had more to say than time in which to say it.

While at Philadelphia's Holy Trinity Church, Phillips, 30, visited the Holy Land. On December 24th, 1865, he traveled by horseback from Jerusalem, he attended a 5 hour Christmas Eve service at the Church of the Nativity on Bethlehem. He was deeply moved. "I Remember standing in the old church in Bethlehem," he later said, "Close to the spot where Jesus was born, when the whole church was ringing hour after hour with splendid hymns of praise to God, how again and again it seemed as if I could hear voices I knew well, telling each other of the *Wonderful Night* of the Savior's birth." Three years later, as he prepared for the Christmas season of 1867, he wanted to compose an original Christmas hymn for the

children to sing during their annual program. Recalling his magical night in Bethlehem, he wrote a little hymn of 5 stanzas and handed the words to his organist, Lewis Redner, saying, "Lewis, why not write a new tune for my poem. If it is a good tune, I will name it *St. Lewis* after you."

Lewis struggled with his assignment, complaining of no inspiration. Finally, on the night before the Christmas program, he awoke with the music ringing in his soul. He jotted down the melody, then went back to sleep. The next day, a group of 6 Sunday School teachers and 36 children sang "O Little Town of Bethlehem."

Brooks was so pleased with the tune that he did indeed name it for his organist, changing the spelling to ST. Louis, so as not to embarrass him. The 4th stanza, usually omitted from our hymnbooks says:

*Where children pure and happy
pray to the blessed Child,
Where misery cried out to Thee,
Son of the mother mild;
Where charity stands watching
and faith holds wide the door,
The dark night wakes the glory breaks,
and Christmas comes once more.*



December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
			Print Ministry 10-2			Deacons Mtg
		Print Ministry 3-6	6:30pm Weekly Clubs & Mtgs	Noon Prayer	RU 7 pm	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Building Fund Offering			Print Ministry 10-2			
Singspiration		Print Ministry 3-6	6:30pm Weekly Clubs & Mtgs	Noon Prayer	RU 7 pm	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
			Print Ministry 10-2			
Cantata		Print Ministry 3-6	SFC Christmas Store, Teen Christmas Party	Noon Prayer	RU 7 pm	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			Print Ministry 10-2			
SS Christmas Program		Print Ministry 3-6	6:30pm Weekly Clubs & Mtgs	Offices Closed		
					RU 7 pm	
27	28	29	30	31	Sunday School– 9:30 Morning Service-10:30 Evening Service-6:00 TBA Calendar on Page 4	
Missionary Lang e Nigeria PM			Print Ministry 10-2			
The Lord's Supper		Print Ministry 3-6	6:30pm Weekly Clubs & Mtgs	Noon Prayer		



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Independent Fundamental Church Ministries:
Tomah Baptist Academy K-12 ~ Tomah Baptist Institute
Live streaming Sunday Services ~ Christian Counseling
Mid-Week Children & Youth Ministries
Light-Bearing Print Ministry ~ Discipleship Program
Victorious Overcomers Addiction Ministry



“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world,
and preach the gospel to every creature.”

Mark 16:15

December Missionaries

John & Joyce Rael—are missionaries in Brazil. In west central Brazil it reaches 105° daily.

Prayer Requests:

- Daughter & family to raise support to join them
- Train new workers
- Jardim Florianopolis Church

Victorious Overcomers-is a ministry to those with addictions of various kinds. It meets weekly on Friday nights @ 7pm. It points each situation to the Word of God and how He wants us to conduct our lives.

Prayer Requests:

- People to minister to
- Outreach
- Leaders

Birthdays

1st Rick Beebe

3rd Momolou Sonie

3rd Coryanne Weber

7th Diane Gilbert

10th Danille Eldridge

11th Carol James

14th Jennilee Weber

15th Jeremiah Pries

16th Micah Buehner

17th Nancy Felker

21st Cameron Christensen

21st Judah Pries

26th Steve Falk

26th Leo Zickefoose

28th Kathy Stockwell

Anniversaries

15th David & Colleen

Springman

28th Kevin & Charlene Rabe

31st Lowell & Linda Hanson