



Lifeline

CHURCH of CHRIST
at Galena



Man After God: Sounds Like a Challenge

With Saul comfortably dead, the way for David to ascend to Israel's throne seemed to be paved with ease.

Except that Saul's son, Esh-Baal, or Ishbosheth as he became known also laid claim to the crown and began to reign over most of Israel while David gained power only in Hebron and over Judah (2 Samuel 2:1-11). A bloody conflict ensued, punctuated by the slaughter of both armies at Helkath Hazzurim, or Field of Swords, upon which the champions of both monarchs perished prior to an all-out battle won by the servants of David (12-17). Beyond the obvious conflict between Israel and Judah, and David and Ishboseth, the king's generals were also pulling a lot of strings. Abner had crowned Saul's son in Mahanaim and Joab was a tireless defender of David's rights. Eventually, Abner became disillusioned with Ishboseth and sought to defect to David, but for his trouble, all he received was Joab's jealous knife in his stomach (2 Samuel 3:1-39). "When Saul's son heard that Abner had died in Hebron, he lost heart, and all Israel was troubled" (4:1).

Ishboseth was soon assassinated, clearing the way for David to take command of the entire nation of God (2 Samuel 4:2-5:5). He instantly set his sights on Jerusalem, but the Jebusites who inhabited the land were unimpressed. "You shall not come in here; but the blind and the lame will repel you" (5:6). To David, who had

slain a giant and outlasted a psychotic king, the chortles of the Jebusites simply sounded like a challenge.

It seems unlikely that the Jebusites seriously tried to defend themselves by placing the blind and lame at the front of the battle, but the outcome was little different nonetheless. "David took the stronghold of Zion and went on and became great, and the Lord God of hosts was with him" (2 Samuel 5:7-10).

A man after God's heart is up to a good challenge and life is certainly filled with them. It is a challenge to accept the label of peculiar just for being a disciple of Christ, or having one's masculinity doubted because he abstains from beer and skirt-chasing (1 Peter 2:9-10, 4:1-5). It is a challenge to take the lead at home and bring up children in Christ's nurture and admonition when it is so easy to leave that to Mom or the Bible class teacher or no one in particular (Ephesians 6:1-4). It can be a challenge to remain meek, to restrain his might, to elevate his wife to a place of honor above his own (Ephesians 5:25-27). Yet he will because he is after God.

In the King James Bible, we find that Paul wrote, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong" (1 Corinthians 16:13). Oddly enough, the quit in that four-hundred year old rendering means the exact opposite – don't quit, but be always brave. Life is filled with challenges, but "If you faint in the day of adversity, Your strength is small" (Prov. 24:10). 🚫

-J.S. Smith

Fathers

I firmly believe that our earliest, and often most critical and lasting, notions about God, our heavenly Father, are formed by our earliest notions about our earthly fathers. The way we regard our earthly fathers dictates the respect, the obedience, the honor, and the love with which we regard their presence and directives — and so it is with our heavenly Father. Those notions begin very early and take shape slowly, expanding and being redefined with specific incidents, maturity, and perspective. I think of my father much differently now than I did when he died in 1963.

Mothers are most appreciated when you're small and when you're growing up. Often, father's don't get appreciated until much later. Sometimes you have to be fifty or sixty before you really understand what they did for you. Fathering never stops — and some of the most important fathering my dad ever did was when I was grown.

The challenge to today's fathers is to be worthy of the name. Our culture has eroded and demeaned both traditional and biblical concepts, leaving only frustration and confusion. Fathers who are half apologetic for bringing their children into the world; who are so concerned with their family's self image that they teach them nothing; so afraid of being a tyrant — or even worse, out of touch — that they fail to discipline them; who want to be a buddy more than they want to be a father; who bow to their children's every whim, rather than risk offending them; who leave parenting to their wives — these kinds of fathers are very misleading examples of divine fatherhood.

What is a father? Fathers have jobs — they bring home money. Fathers work — even when they are sick, when they hate their jobs, and when they see no hope.

Fathers are fixers. They can fix anything — plumbing, bicycles, lawnmowers, and toy trucks. And when they can't fix it — they say they don't have the right tools or that we needed a new one anyway or that they don't make them like they used to. They even

fix cuts, bruises, and disappointments — or make them unimportant.

Fathers are not afraid of the dark, the neighbor's dog, or the boogie man.

Fathers should be storytellers. Almost everything that happens should remind them of another time, and when they tell those stories, they must stop being businessmen, plumbers, electricians, computer programmers, and salesmen — and become the boys they once were — and never will be again — but they should never stop longing or trying.

Fathers need to be decision makers. They need to know where they're going, and they need to accept responsibility when they go wrong. Fathers need to defy a culture that seeks to emasculate and feminize them and turn them into junior partners on the family board of directors.

Fathers need to provide spiritual leadership for their families. They should not be ashamed to be seen praying or reading their Bibles. They must be careful to act and talk in harmony with scriptural injunctions and precedents — and when they go wrong — they admit their error, ask forgiveness, pray about it, and leave it behind them.

The Bible portrays four major characteristics of God that every father should emulate. First, God is dependable and consistent. God keeps his word — either yes or no or not now. Second, God is understanding. When we tell God, "It wasn't my fault," he may say, "Yes, it was," or "I know it wasn't" or "It really doesn't matter, now does it?" Third, God is forgiving, which means that sometimes I don't get what I deserve and sometimes I do. Fourth, God is loving, and that means that he always acts in my best interests.

What kind of a father are you? What notions about God do your children have from you? 🔄

From the book
"My Mother Played the Piano"
by John William Smith



A Few Good Men

(Ezekiel 22:30)

Introduction: Today is "Father's Day." It is a day in which we remember fathers for all that they have done, do and mean to their families. Unfortunately in our society there are fewer and fewer men who are willing to be fathers who lean on the Lord, lead their families and love God and their neighbors.

There was a time in Israel's history in which God was looking for a few good men, even one who would stand up for him.

Today we need a few good men. They are good men who are...

LORD'S SUPPER MEDITATION



Why Did Jesus Come to Die? ...To Become the Eternal High Priest

"The former priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing, but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting for us to have such a high priest, holy, innocent, undefiled, separated from sinners and exalted above the heavens; who does not need daily, like those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the sins of the people, because this He did once for all when He offered up Himself." (Hebrews 7:23-27)

I. Men Who Have Learned to _____... (Proverbs 3:5)

- A) For _____ (Eph. 2:8, 9, Matthew 18:3)
- B) For _____ (Isaiah 40:30, 31, Psalm 147:10)
- C) For _____ (Philippians 4:19)
- D) For _____ (James 1:5)

II. Men Who Have Learned to _____...

- A) Their _____ (Gal 5:16, 17; 2:20)
- B) Their _____ (Ephesians 5:23, 1 Kings 1:5,6)
- C) The _____ (Hosea 6:7, Rom. 5:12, 18-19, 1 Cor. 15:22)

III. Men Who Have Learned to _____...

- A) The _____ (1 Cor. 13:1-3; 16:22)
- B) Their _____
- C) The _____ (the Church)

(Eph. 5:25, Rev. 3:9, Isaiah 43:4, 1 Thes. 4:9, Matthew 12:50, John 15:5, Acts 2:41; 2:47)

Conclusion: Today and every day we need a few good men to "stand in the gap" for their children.

What the Bible Says About the Rapture

Introduction: The “rapture” is a popular teaching among “Christian” denominations. The word “rapture” is not used in the Bible, but the term is derived from a word that is. We need to understand the “rapture” in a way that is in harmony with the Bible, not the way the religious world generally uses the term. Let’s contrast what the religious world says and what the Bible says about the “rapture.”

I. What Does “Rapture” _____?

- A) Concept begins with Paul’s letter to Thessalonica – “caught up” (4:17)
- B) Some other times this word is used in the NT – to take by force (Matt. 11:12; John 6:15; Acts 23:10); to catch/catch away (Matt. 13:19; John 10:12; Acts 8:39); to be caught up (2 Cor. 12:2, 4)
- C) This is what we look forward to as Christians (1 Thessalonians 4:14, 17).

II. What the _____ Says About the “Rapture”

- A) Rooted in the theory of premillennialism – different forms of premillennialism
- B) Most in the religious world believe in pre-tribulation premillennialism – period of tribulation before the reign of Christ (millennium)
- C) All theories have the rapture before the millennium – Christians caught up sometime before the reign of Christ
- D) Fanciful interpretations of the events of Matthew 24, often relating them to current events (Matthew 24:6-7, 15-21, 24) – Jesus was primarily discussing the destruction of Jerusalem (Matthew 24:1-3, 34)

III. What the _____ Says About the “Rapture”

- A) First, we need to address the common misconception about the reign of Christ (millennium) – we are not waiting for a future kingdom, Christ is reigning now (Acts 2:29-36); His kingdom (church) was established on the day of Pentecost (Mark 9:1; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4, 47; Colossians 1:13)
- B) Christians will be “raptured” in the sense that they will be taken up with Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:17) – not temporarily; “we shall always be with the Lord”
- C) The Lord will return with His angels, not with Christians (2 Thessalonians 1:7)
The dead in Christ will rise first (1 Thessalonians 4:16) – 2nd coming
- D) We will not be leaving the world that will then continue without us – the world itself will be destroyed (2 Peter 3:10, 12)

Conclusion: While there will be a “rapture” someday, it will not be like most envision it – we need to be careful not to give others the wrong impression about what will happen in the end; we should also not go so far as to say there will not be a “rapture” (being caught up to be with Christ)

It all depends on how we define our terms – in discussions with others, we may not want to say there will be no “rapture”; instead, we can say that the “rapture” is not going to be how most people think it will be

The only way we will be “raptured” (caught up) to be with the Lord is to be in the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:14, 16; Romans 6:3)



In Shakespeare’s play Macbeth, the title character sums up the emptiness of his evil life in this eulogy for his wife.

“Life’s but a walking shadow,
a poor player
That struts and frets his hour
upon the stage
And then is heard no more.
It is a tale
Told by an idiot,
full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.”

Sounds a lot like Solomon’s “life-under-the-sun” philosophy, doesn’t it? Where “all is vanity” and “all things are wearisome” (Eccl. 1:2, 8, 14).

In John’s drama, however, life is not summed up in a philosophy but in a Person: “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men” (John 1:4).

If you’re looking for the essence of life in a philosophy, you’ll go away empty-handed. But if you come to the Person of Christ, you will find that He is life (14:6), and you’ll walk away with your arms full of His abundance (10:10b).

-Selected



Praying for...

Shut In Members:

Marjorie Dodge &
Grace Singleton

Jerry Maudlin
Stacie Rothrock
Allison Unruh

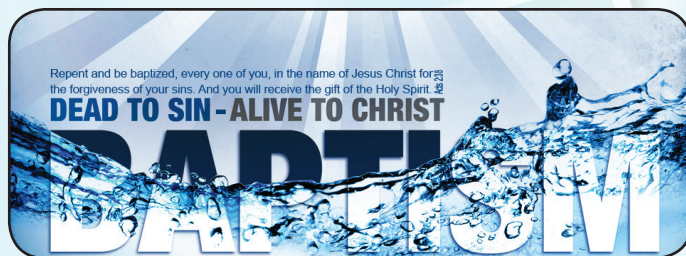
Friends & Family:

Beatrice Buchanan
Stewart Dodge
Eric Foushee
Kay Gegenheimer
Ray Gilbert
Wilma Hudson
Jan King
Anne Loughmiller
Joyce Manning

Philippine Evangelists:

Leonido
Balballoza
Vicente Cay
Edwin de Pedro
David N. Varona

**Let Shannon Know of
Additions or Changes
on this List**



Please rejoice because on Friday, June 16th **Donald (Trey) Sieg** was baptized into Christ's death for the remission of his sins!!!

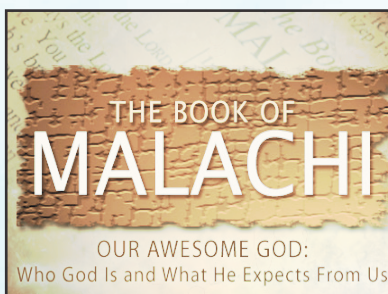
We've had at least 5 young people baptized in the last few months. Rejoice over and encourage all these babes in Christ!

FRIDAY, JUNE 23RD 7:00 PM

Shaffer House

Grades 3 - 8 and H.S. / College

YOUTH STUDIES & SINGINGS



W PROPHETABLE LIFE MAJOR LESSONS | from the MINOR PROPHETS

READ MALACHI FOR WEDNESDAY!

THIS WEEK

Barker May 21 st	Dowling May 28 th	Loughmiller June 4 th	Mitchell June 11 th	Scott June 18 th	Stout June 25 th
Farmer Keehn Loughmiller, B. Woolbright, Randol	Barker, Ashlyn Keehn Michell Sieg, Don	Dooley Schoenbaechler Shaffer Woolbright, Ryan	Buchanan Hudson Sieg-Swank	Bailey Miller Sieg, Donny Culver	Loughmiller, N. Maudlin McKinney Woolbright, D.

JUNE SERVANTS

Building Cleaning & Communion:
D. Woolbrigt & Ryan Woolbright

Benevolence Organizers:
Mitchell & Sieg

Meal Organizers:
Tina Mitchell & Lou Sieg



JUNE

2 - Helen Bailey B'day

4 - Mike & Belinda

Loughmiller

8 - Jonas Loughmiller

10 - Evelyn Loughmiller

11 - Madelynn Dowling

13 - Mary Beth Maudlin

16 - Ruth McKinney

21 - Nick & Carla

Loughmiller

24 - Shanon & Desirae

Miller

25 - Gus & Carmen

Schoenbaechler

28 - Belinda Loughmiller

29 - Amy Loughmiller

29 - Jessica Scott

**BIRTHDAYS
ANNIVERSARIES**

CHURCH of CHRIST
at Galena

SERVING IN WORSHIP

NEXT WEEK

Sunday Morning (06/18)

Announcements: Bill Buchanan

1st Prayer: Keith Keehn

Song Leader: Jeff Farmer

Lord's Table: Don Sieg (Lead)
D. Barker

Sermon: Shannon Shaffer

Closing Prayer: Luke Dooley

Sunday PM (06/18)

Announcements: Bill Buchanan

1st Prayer: Keith Keehn

Song Leader: Jeff Farmer

Lord's Table: Don Sieg (Lead)
D. Barker

Sermon: Shannon Shaffer

Closing Prayer: Luke Dooley

Wednesday (06/21)

Announcements: Benny Loughmiller

1st Prayer: Gus Schoenbaechler

Song Leader: Jonathan Maudlin

Invitation: Dylan Culver

Closing Prayer: Randy Scott

NEXT WEEK

Sunday Morning (06/25)

Announcements: Dale Woolbright

1st Prayer: Kyle Dowling

Song Leader: Seth Shaffer

Lord's Table: Tim Maudlin (Lead)
R. Woolbright, S. Miller, D. Culver

Sermon: Shannon Shaffer

Closing Prayer: Michael Stout

Sunday PM (06/25)

Announcements: Dale Woolbright

1st Prayer: Mike Loughmiller

Song Leader: Don Sieg

Lord's Table: Tim Maudlin (Lead)
R. Woolbright

Sermon: Shannon Shaffer

Closing Prayer: Scott Mitchell

Wednesday (06/28)

Announcements: Shanon Miller

1st Prayer: Jim Hudson

Song Leader: Jeff Farmer

Invitation: Luke Dooley

Closing Prayer: Randol Woolbright

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CHURCH of CHRIST at Galena

Lifeline

Meeting at

5466 Featheringill Road
Greenville, IN 47124

Sunday

Worship: 9:00 AM

Bible Classes: 10:00 AM

Worship: 3:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Classes: 7:30 PM

Website

[http://churchofChrist
inGalena.com](http://churchofChristinGalena.com)