

News and Notes:

Please remember the sick with appropriate visits and prayers. Carole Wyrick continues to battle health problems. Carmelita McCoy, the mother of Carol McCloud passed away at 9:15 A.M. Friday from injuries received in a fall. As a result the McClouds will be traveling this weekend and again during next week for the funeral. They will also be out of town the following weekend as they visit John and Stacy in Rolla. Ann Hurd currently has strep-throat and is unable to be out while Joe Hurd awaits the concluding diagnosis as to treatment of cancer that has returned to the thyroid area. Terry Czirr received good news from his CAT scan. The cancer has been reduced. Let us pray this continues with future treatments.

The good news is that we have so much going for us, we cannot allow the discouragements to come to the fore in our vision. We live in a county that is blessed with such modern advances that life is much easier than our brethren in third world countries. Our brethren in the Philippines have suffered from repeated typhoons and yet the preaching of the gospel continues. Let us be emboldened to follow their example.



November 8, 2009

CAREFUL TO ANSWER
Robert Turner

When Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were called before the king and faced charges of refusing to worship the golden image he had erected, Nebuchadnezzar asked, 'Who is that god that shall deliver you out of my hands?' Things looked pretty dark.

But they replied, 'We have no need to answer thee in this matter' (AS). The King James version reads, 'We are not careful to answer thee in this matter' (Dan. 3:15-16). The thought seems to be, we will not choose our words carefully -- concerned lest we offend; we will not try to 'talk our way out of' this situation. And they added, 'Our God is able to deliver us' (if it suits His purposes to do so) 'but if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.'

Several years back, a preacher said John (the Immerser) 'lost his head' because he 'lost his head' -- he was not tactful in his criticism of Herod. John had said, of Herod's marriage to his brother Philip's wife, 'It is not lawful for thee to have her' (Matt. 14).

John was not 'careful to answer,' someone might say. Well, he certainly was not trying to 'butter up' the king. On the other hand, John and the captive Jews of Daniel 3, were very careful to maintain their faith in God and to court His approval. John lost his head, and the three Hebrews were thrown into the fiery furnace, but each gained more than he lost. We 'have no need' for any man's approval as we have need for

Lenexa church of Christ
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Evangelist: Jim Stauffer
MEETING TIMES
Sunday - Bible Classes: 9:30AM
Worship Services 10:20AM & 6:00PM
Wednesday - Bible Classes 7:00PM
Send a Copy to a Friend
Map showing location near Cottonwood, Lackman, Mill Creek Elementary School, Pflum, 79th Street, 87th Street, 95th Street, 435, 35.

God's approval.

Jesus said, "Fear not those who kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him who is able to destroy both soul and body in Hell" (Matt. 10:28).

We are not advocating crudeness! Daniel's brethren were respectful to the king; and love for souls will forbid our becoming a bully with the truth. Shouting, stomping pronouncements of damnation are often signs of weakness, while genuine strength is accompanied by humility. But genuine strength speaks truthfully, directly and clearly, regardless of temporal consequences -- and because of inevitable eternal consequences.

### CONFIDENCE BREEDS COURAGE

Brother Turner relates to us the courage of Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego as well as that of John the Baptist in boldly speaking the truth of God's word.

But from where does such courage come? Even men of God have struggled at times to find the courage to stand up for God. Hezekiah was just such a man.

Assyria was a mighty nation in the time of Hezekiah before the nation of Babylon. In 722 AD Assyria led the ten northern tribes of Israel away captive and took over their land.

They planned the same for Judah and its leading city Jerusalem. They were so sure of themselves they sent a group of men led by Rabshakeh to speak to the people of Jerusalem advising them of their plans. After all, they had already overtaken 46 cities in Judea which should have been all the evidence of their overwhelming power that Hezekiah needed. They ridiculed the idea that Jehovah could deliver the city from their army.

Hezekiah was frightened and rent his clothes and covered himself with sackcloth and ashes. He then sent representatives to Isaiah with the bad news. Isaiah quickly sent them back with the message that God would turn the Assyrian King away.

The promise of God through the prophet restored fully the confidence of Hezekiah who turned to Jehovah in prayer. In 2 Kings 19:20 Isaiah sends a further message that God had heard the prayer of Hezekiah and would avenge the blasphemy of the representatives of the King of Assyria.

Later that night the angel of Jehovah went through the Assyrian camp and smote 185,000 of the soldiers of the King. Hezekiah and Jerusalem had been delivered by the powerful hand of God.

Peter assures us in 1 Pet. 3:12 that God will hear the prayer of the righteous man. He tells us we make our calling and election sure by faithfully pursuing the virtues mentioned in 2 Pet. 1:5-7. John tells us God grants those things we need when we keep his commandments. (1 Joh. 3:22) Jesus makes this promise over and over again in the Sermon on the Mount and in His personal ministry.

Our courage is a direct result of our confidence in our faithful relationship with God. He is the One who has overcome the world and we know His power is great. He tells us we can boldly come before His throne of grace and offer our petitions before Him. This is the benefit of a faithful relationship with an all powerful God. When this is true in our lives, we are fearless to stand up for His cause knowing He will care for us. (1 Pet. 5:7)

### WE KNOW SO LITTLE

The six year old boy who had succeeded in taking a simple toy apart and putting the pieces back together again as they were in the first place, declares with boyish enthusiasm, "Daddy, I know how to do everything!"

"If you want the real low-down on just any ol' thing, ask me!" confidently advises the youth of twenty.

"If it's in my line, maybe I can tell you. I know my business from A to Z", says the man of thirty five.

"The field of human knowledge is so vast that even a specialist can hardly have more a speaking acquaintance with the more important facts of his subject." admits the man of fifty.

"I have lived a good many years," confesses the man of seventy. "But I haven't learned much. What I know is so little; what I am ignorant of is so immense!"

***If a person thinks he knows all the answers, it is much more likely he knows very few of the questions!***

***The Roanridge Reader***

### NOTE OF THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO PARENTS

We really appreciate the difficulty parents face in having good judgment in the handling of babies and children in the worship. We know you are trying to teach proper conduct during worship. Stick with it. We are pulling and praying for you. It is good for their souls and that after all is our greatest interest.

We appreciate your consideration in using the facilities we have when they become fussy.

Thanks for what you are doing for the next generation.