

Rejoicing From the Hills

"The little hills rejoice on every side."

-Psalm 65:12b-

Vol. 28, No.1

A Publication of the North Hills Bible Church

January, February, March, 2020

2020 Theme

Quality Control In The Christian Life



The Bible tells us that the first thing we need to add to our faith in our Christians lives is virtue. 2 Peter 1:5 - *And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue...*

One way to define virtue is "a commitment to excellence". In other words, once we have professed our faith in Christ and established faith as the basis of our daily walk in the Spirit, we are to commit ourselves to choosing only excellent things to be a part of our Christian experience. However, maintaining excellence on a daily basis is a challenge. And so, God has outlined for us the principles of quality control necessary to live a virtuous life consistently.

This will be the substance of our study on Sunday mornings during 2020. It is interesting that the numbers 20-20 refer to perfect vision. What we want to develop in the year 2020 is 20-20

understanding of the principles of quality control so that we may live victorious Christian lives full of excellent things.

We will pursue this study from the book of 2 Corinthians. We might say that the theme of 2 Corinthians is, "The Qualities of True Servanthood", which makes our new study a perfect follow up to our theme for 2019: The Mind of a Servant. There are a couple of key verses in 2 Corinthians.

Chapter 1 verse 12: *For our rejoicing is this, the testimony of our conscience, that in simplicity and godly sincerity, not with fleshly wisdom, but by the grace of God, we have had our conversation in the world, and more abundantly to you-ward.* Chapter 10 verse 5: *Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.* Chapter 6 verses 3 and 4: *Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God....* And Chapter 13 verse 11: *Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.*

From beginning to end, the book of 2 Corinthians will serve as a manual for developing quality control in our Christian lives. Let's look forward to this new adventure in the study of God's Word. 📖

Please View Our Website

Please view some more pictures of our church activities on our website at www.northhillsbiblechurch.org and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue". On our website you can also see our current announcements, download literature and sermons, get our contact information and learn all about us.

Congregation Meeting January 26

The annual congregation meeting will be held Sunday, January 27 after the morning service. If the weather is bad it will be held the following Sunday.

The agenda will consist of accepting the budget for 2020.

Ladies Missionary Project

Our church ladies and teen girls will again do a project for our missionaries. We will meet in the fellowship hall.

The date for this winter project is Saturday, February 15 at 10:00. If the weather is bad we will meet the following Saturday.

Time will be spent in prayer for all of our missionaries and then we will have lunch together and continue our fellowship as we enjoy the dish each lady brings to share.

A GOSPEL MESSAGE FOR YOU

Have you asked Jesus Christ to save you? If not, will you accept Him as your Saviour now? The following will explain what you need to do.

1. **ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER.** The Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23
2. **KNOW THAT GOD HAS ALREADY PROVIDED FOR YOUR SALVATION.** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16
3. **KNOW THAT YOU CANNOT SAVE YOURSELF.** "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." Titus 3:5a
4. **REPENT OF YOUR SIN.** "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of." II Corinthians 7:10. "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3
5. **ASK JESUS CHRIST TO SAVE YOU.** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be **SAVED.**" Romans 10:13. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be **SAVED.**" Acts 16:31
6. **CONFESS JESUS BEFORE MEN.** "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead thou shalt be **SAVED.** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9-10

If you have any questions or would like further spiritual help, please contact us at the North Hills Bible Church. Our phone number is 757-1316.

Library News

by Brenda Hamme, Librarian

At the beginning of this new year, I thought it might be helpful to let those who are newer to our congregation know that the library, located in the lower level of the church across from the restrooms, is open each week between Sunday School and Morning Worship, 15 minutes after Morning Worship, and 15 minutes before the Evening Service. If none of these times works for you, just let me know and I'd be happy to assist you at a different time.

Look for several new series of CD albums from the **Jonathan Park Audio Adventures** in the coming weeks.

THE WHISPERING SPHINX SERIES

Egypt is in political turmoil. On the verge of the presidential elections, a mysterious tablet is found with a prophecy about the coming leader and his lineage to Pharaoh Ramses II. That's when the statue of the Great Sphinx begins to mysteriously "speak," confirming the message of the tablet. Meanwhile, the Creation Response Team has learned that the research of Egyptian Chronologist, Dr. Howard, will shake the foundations of modern archeology. Is the world ready for these shocking revelations?

THE DREAMER'S TOMB

From the moment they arrive in Cairo, Jonathan Park and his friends are presented with an opportunity of a lifetime – to take part in a captivating archaeological dig that uncovers jaw-dropping evidence of the biblical account of Joseph! A city under a city, an amazing palace, intriguing tombs, a spellbinding statue, missing bones, and a unique waterway next to the Nile – all key pieces of a puzzle that are too compelling to ignore! But with each new discovery, the sinister attempts to sabotage their plans intensifies!

Rejoicing From The Hills

A publication of
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Our Purpose

Soul winning at home and abroad
Bible teaching conducive
to Christian Living

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CHAOS ON EARTH - Part 1

Ezekiel 38

Introduction

When the Rapture occurs, there could be as many as 285 million people disappear from earth in 1/3 of a second. (That is four percent of the world's population.) What chaos will result in such an earth shaking event? How will the news organizations report on the event? How many people in government will disappear? Will the President and or Vice President of the United States disappear? Congressmen, Senators, Supreme Court Justices, Governors, State Legislators, judges, military personnel, policemen, school teachers, children? Cab drivers, car drivers, truck drivers, plane pilots, train conductors, etc.?

It doesn't take much imagination to think that the world will be in total chaos immediately after the Rapture. How long will it take for the world to reorganize and set up a new world order to "protect" against any future invasion? Could the world think that the Rapture is the result of an alien invasion from outer space? This could be just what the world needs to create a global oversight governing body divided into ten regions, each governed by a king. [The thinking for many years was that the 10 horns in Daniel's prophecy referred to a unification of 10 nations in Europe as a revival of the ancient Roman Empire. But Daniel tells us that these ten horns cover the whole earth:

Daniel 7:23-24

*Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, **and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom** [devouring the whole earth] **are ten kings that shall arise:** and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.]*

The world is mentally prepared today for the idea of an invasion from outer space. From an article entitled "Alien Invasion": "The alien invasion or space invasion is a usual part of science fiction stories and film, in which extraterrestrials invade the Earth either to exterminate and supplant human life, enslave it under an intense state, harvest peoplesteal the planet's resources, or destroy the planet altogether. There is a multitude of alien invasion movies that go back to the 1950's and probably beyond. In 2010, Amos Barshad wrote an article titled, A Flood of Alien-Invasion

Projects Is Approaching — But Why? Producers are betting that now, more than ever — with two troublesome wars, oil-spill disasters, racial and religious friction, and various giant, terrifying sinkholes popping up left and right — the country has the end days on the brain.these [movies] are either post-or-mid-apocalypse, with destruction and despair rampant. Hollywood is assuming that we've subconsciously accepted the world is ending, and are interested in having that general anxiety represented, in entertaining fashion, on the big screen."

Even Hollywood believes that people believe an apocalyptic catastrophe is on its way – sooner rather than later, consisting of an invasion from outer space.

The Bible, however, is not science fiction. It tells us the real story of what is going to happen in the world after Christians are "harvested" from the earth and taken to heaven. The Rapture will take the world by surprise, like a thief in the night. Mankind will set up a new world order.

But not everything is going to be back to normal. Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39 describe a catastrophic event in the middle east soon after the Rapture takes place, but before the Tribulation actually begins. This major event will be a multi-nation invasion of Israel. It will set the stage for the official beginning of the 70th week of Daniel, and for the revealing of the man of sin (2 Thessalonians 2:6-10).

I. THE PARTICIPANTS

- A. God instructed Ezekiel to prophecy against Gog.
Ezekiel 38:1-2
1 *And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,*
2 *Son of man, set thy face **against Gog**, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him,*

1. Gog and Magog.

Magog is the land. Gog is the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal.

Ezekiel 38:3

3 *And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O **Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:***

Meshech is the historical site of Moscow in Russia. Tubal is the historical site of Tobolsk, Russia, which in times past was the capital of Siberia.

2. Son of man, set thy face against Gog.

The son of man in this context is Ezekiel. "Son of man" is the way God consistently addresses Ezekiel in this book. For example:

Ezekiel 2:1-3

1 And **he said unto me, Son of man**, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.

2 And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.

3 And **he said unto me, Son of man**, I send thee to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that hath rebelled against me: they and their fathers have transgressed against me, even unto this very day.

In Ezekiel 38:2, God tells Ezekiel to set his face against Gog. "Set thy face against" is a commandment to prophecy against someone. "Set thy face against" or "set thy face toward" is used 11 times in Ezekiel. In eight of those times, God says, "Son of man, set thy face against". For example:

Ezekiel 25:2

2 **Son of man, set thy face against the Ammonites, and prophesy against them;**

Each time God uses this phrase, He is instructing Ezekiel to prophecy against some one. In this case, he is to prophecy against Gog.

B. God made a statement against Gog and Magog.

1. God told Ezekiel what to say to Gog.

Ezekiel 38:3

3 And say, **Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal:**

2. God will turn Gog back and bring him forth.

Ezekiel 38:4

4 And **I will turn thee back**, and put hooks into thy jaws, **and I will bring thee forth**, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:

Perhaps at first, Gog will agree to the world peace objective. But God will turn his heart back from that. In saying that He will put hooks into Gog's jaws, God is saying He will exercise His Sovereign will over Gog

and "bring thee forth", or persuade Gog to unwittingly accomplish God's purpose. (It is important to note that Gog is **NOT** the Antichrist.)

C. God identifies the participants with Gog.

Ezekiel 38:5-6

5 *Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet:*

6 *Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee.*

1. The nations involved in Ezekiel 38 and 39 **do not include** Israel's neighbors: Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, or Lebanon. None of these are participants in the attack on Israel.

2. These are the nations that will be involved: Persia (the Medes or present day Iran), Ethiopia (which includes both modern day Ethiopia and Sudan), Libya, Gomer and the house of Togarmah (Turkey), Magog (which includes Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgystan, Turkmenistan), Meshech (Moscow, Russia), and Tubal (Tobolsk, Russia, which was historically the capital of Siberia).

3. All the nations involved in this invasion have a large, or even, majority population of Moslems.

Iran	99.6 percent	(82 million)
Sudan	97 percent	(39 million)
Ethiopia	34 percent	(66 million)
Libya	96 percent	(6 million)
Turkey	99.8 percent	(81 million)
Kazakhstan	70 percent	(13 million)
Azerbaijan	97 percent	(10 million)
Uzbekistan	97 percent	(27 million)
Tajikistan	97 percent	(8 million)
Kyrgystan	89 percent	(5 million)
Turkmenistan	93 percent	(5 million)
<u>Russia</u>	<u>7 percent</u>	<u>(25 million)</u>
For a grand total of		367 million.

This represents 20 percent of the world's Muslims. This also includes some of the most powerful Muslim nations in the world today.

D. God calls them to the ready. That is, ready to invade Israel.

Ezekiel 38:7

7 *Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them.*

II. THE PLAN

A. This plan is for the latter years.

Ezekiel 38:8

8 *After many days thou shalt be visited: **in the latter years** [0319] thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them.*

God will visit them to fulfill this prophecy. "Latter years" is the same as "latter time in Daniel 8:23.

Daniel 8:23

23 *And in the **latter time** [0319] of their kingdom, **when the transgressors are come to the full**, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.*

When the transgressors are come to the full, refers to the fulness of the times of the Gentiles.

Luke 21:24 - (Jesus talking about the Tribulation)

24 *And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and **Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.***

The latter years here in Ezekiel 38 takes us chronologically to the end times, in the time period of the Tribulation. **But not yet in the Tribulation.**

B. This plan is in a time when Israel is gathered into the land in the far future.

Ezekiel 38:8

8 *After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years **thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people**, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: **but it is brought forth out of the nations**, and they shall dwell safely all of them.*

Ezekiel is writing this when Israel is in Babylon and displaced from the land. However, this chapter is a prediction of a regathering into the land of Israel in the far future and not the near future return from Babylon.

C. This plan is in a time when Israel will be dwelling safely.

1. Israel is not only restored to the land, but Israel has also restored the land.

Ezekiel 38:8

8 *After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: **but it is brought forth out of the nations**, and **they shall dwell safely all of them.***

2. At some point, the middle east Israeli/Palestinian conflict will be resolved. Israel will be in the land and dwelling safely

Ezekiel 38:8

8 *After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years **thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people**, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: **but it is brought forth out of the nations**, and **they shall dwell safely all of them.***

Compare Verse 11 – unwallled villages

11 *And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of **unwallled villages**; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates,*

D. God outlines the plan for the attack.

Ezekiel 38:9

9 *Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee.*

God and his associates are to ascend like a storm and cover the land like a cloud. The plan is for them to invade Israel with such an overwhelming force, that Israel will be totally helpless to resist. The present day active military by nation:

Iran	1,000,000
Sudan	210,000
Ethiopia	140,000
Libya	35,000
Turkey	900,000
Kazakhstan	71,000
Azerbaijan	400,000
Uzbekistan	68,000
Tajikistan	17,000
Kyrgystan	21,000
Turkmenistan	42,000
<u>Russia</u>	<u>3,500,000</u>
Total	6,404,000

This is three times the present force of the United States. United States has 2,200,000 active military.

This is ten times the present force of Israel. Israel has 650,000 active military. This is 10 percent of the military force of the entire world. It does not take into account the potential of mercenary forces hired from other Moslem nations or other nations hostile to Israel. The invading force could be 10 to 20 million, or 10 to 30 percent of the entire world's military.

E. If Israel is dwelling safely, why does Israel become the target of hostilities?

The church is gone. The world is in chaos. The new world order is brand new and fragile. (Remember, the Antichrist will be able to consume three of the 10 world regions – Daniel 7:23-24). Obviously, at this point **Israel has something these other nations need.**

1. An evil thought will come into Gog's head.

Ezekiel 38:10

*10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and **thou shalt think an evil thought:***

In verse 4, God puts hooks into Gog's jaws and brings him forth. In verse 10, Gog will have an evil thought in his own mind. **This is the way God works.** He directs the affairs of men, but never contrary to what men are willing and inclined to do themselves. Gog will be perfectly happy to have such an evil thought against Israel.

2. Gog's evil thought will be against Israel.

Ezekiel 38:11

11 And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates,

Israel is dwelling in unwalled villages. That is, Israel is at rest. Israel is dwelling safely. Everyone in Israel is dwelling without walls and without bars or gates.

This is not the way it is today. Here is a headline from June 28, 2018: Rockets Launched at Israel From Gaza Hit Record Number in 2018, By Yaniv Kubovich. "Palestinians have fired 289 rockets and mortar shells from the Gaza Strip into Israel since the beginning of the year...." In comparison, before the beginning of the fighting in Gaza that summer, only 205 rockets and mortar shells were fired at Israel from Gaza in 2014. There were 21 rockets in 2015, 15 rockets in 2016, and 35 rockets in 2017.

By the time of the events of Ezekiel chapter 38, all of this will have stopped. Since the days of Jimmy Carter, all presidents of the United States have sought to bring peace to the Middle East. At some point, it will finally happen. But it will be brought abruptly to an end with the invasion of these nations.

3. To take a spoil

Ezekiel 38:12-13

*12 **To take a spoil, and to take a prey;** to turn thine hand upon **the desolate places that are now inhabited,** and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, **which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land.***

*13 Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, **Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil?***

Spoil refers to the plunder of war.

Prey refers to people as prey. There are multiple examples of this in the Old Testament.

Silver and gold refers to money and currency.

Cattle refers to cows, sheep, goats, etc.

Goods refers to anything money will buy.

Great spoil refers to everything Israel has that doesn't fall under any of the above.

In verse 12, we are told that Israel has taken a land that consisted of desolate places and turned it into a place now inhabited. Israel has prospered in the land accumulating cattle and goods. And in spite of the chaos happening throughout the rest of the world as a result of the Rapture, Israel appears to be untouched by it in a similar fashion that they were spared the effects of the plagues in Egypt so many years before.

III. THE PURPOSE FOR THE ATTACK CONCERNING THE HEATHEN

A. The emphasis on Israel's condition.

Ezekiel 38:14

*14 Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; **In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely,** shalt thou not know it?*

This is the third time in the chapter God has made this point. Note the emphasis. Israel is dwelling safely. Israel is not the cause of this invasion. Israel has done nothing wrong. Israel will be totally innocent.

B. Information on Gog's condition.

Ezekiel 38:15

15 *And thou shalt come from thy place out of the **north parts**, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army:*

The north parts is not the same as the king of the North in Daniel's prophecies. Rather, according to the Theological Wordbook of The Old Testament: The term "north parts" refers to the farthest part of anything. The remotest parts, particularly the distant north. [In this case, compatible with the location of Russia.] The fact that his army will come riding upon horses is rather interesting and should be taken literally. Remember this important principle of Biblical interpretation: If the plain sense of the language structure makes common sense, seek no other sense, lest you have nonsense.

If this invading army is riding upon horses, what has happened to fuel powered vehicles? Is there an oil crisis? Is oil part of the spoil in Israel? Huge oil reserves are being found in Israel today. Billions of barrels of oil reserves have been found in the Golan Heights. It is certainly possible that this "many people" which make up this mighty army is seeking oil in Israel along with anything else they can take to enrich themselves, and that this is the reason they will ride upon horses, because their own supplies of oil have dried up.

C. God's objective.

1. That the heathen will know that God is God.

Ezekiel 38:16

16 *And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, **that the heathen may know me**, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes.*

Because of this event, when the Tribulation actually begins, the people of the world will know that the catastrophes happening around the world are judgements from God. A similar thing will happen at the end of the seal judgments.

Revelation 6:15-17

15 *And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;*

16 *And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from **the wrath** of the Lamb:*

17 *For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?*

At the end of the seal judgments in the Tribulation period, the world will know that what has already happened has come from God and they will anticipate even greater wrath to come. But they will know these things are coming from God even before the seal judgments begin as a result of the events of Ezekiel 38 and 39. This will be mankind's first indication that the catastrophes happening on earth are not coincidental or caused by man, but have a divine origin.

2. Fulfilled prophecy will give evidence that God is God.

Ezekiel 38:17

17 *Thus saith the Lord GOD; Art thou he **of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them?***

3. God will use this as an opportunity to cast His judgment on those who have hated Israel for a long time.

Ezekiel 38:18

18 *And **it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face.***

4. The world will know that God is God.


Ezekiel 38:23

23 *Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and **they shall know that I am the LORD.***

Conclusion

God is God. He is the only God there is. There is none like Him. But the world at present does not know this. Why does the world do the things it does? Because it does not know that God is God.

The Rapture will make the difference for many people who are left behind because they will finally realized that God is God. Multitudes of people will get saved, and be willing to die for their faith in Christ. But many will rather die than submit to God. How sad. Are we willing to die for our faith in Christ?

In the next issue: the attack and its results from Ezekiel chapters 38 and 39. 

Missionary News



From
Around
The World
and
Here at Home

Samuel & Nicole Moss

Iowa & Uganda

It was very difficult leaving Uganda even though we knew that it was God's will. It's just that there is so much to be done in foreign missions, and we are still burdened for that. But God has opened up another opportunity to be a help to foreign missions through a new ministry our mission board has launched. I, Sam, had the privilege of being a discussion leader for **'Table Talks'** with Pastors and other church workers concerning missions.

Our mission Director, Rodney Myers, had organized these meetings, and another pastor friend also joined us in this ministry. Although our first attempt was a "guinea pig" week having never done anything like this before, we believe it was a profitable and much needed discussion, and were encouraged by those who attended to continue pursuing this avenue of ministry. It was encouraging to me to be able to sit down with people genuinely interested in missions and to help them increase their understanding of it based on our experiences. God knows what He is doing, and it is wonderful to see all the good that He works out from what we view as difficult circumstances in life!

Then our church here in Iowa hosted a **PTSD Workshop** presented by Doug and Debbie Carragher. Nicole and I have attended two of these workshops and then invited him to come and have one here locally to help us reach the lost and hurting in our community. We reached nearly 2,000 people with our Facebook Ad campaign and in person as we invited people personally door-to-door.

We are asking God to give us connections to people that can turn into long-term relationships, and ultimately that God will receive glory from saved souls and changed lives! He is the one who has chosen and ordained us to bring forth fruit that remains, and we're trusting Him to do that work in and through us!

Moises & Rosa Campos

Castellar, Spain

Our little congregation is growing and it seems that very soon we will need to move to a larger location. A family who wants to be part of our church, that we have known for a couple of years have told us they will come regularly, and we are thrilled for their decision.

The Lord has brought into our lives another family that has been coming to some activities - **children's camps** and some **'coffee conversations'**. The father made a profession of faith in one of these occasions and now they want to do everything Christians "are supposed to do". We are still in awe as spectators of the work of our God in the hearts of people.

We have been working on a project of helping a little **church in Venezuela** that we know. Two more churches have helped us with this and finally 26 boxes of different needed items were sent there.

On Saturday, a group of **young people** gathered to have their monthly activity. Some of them come from other churches and it seems that the small group is increasing. Alfredo and Arantxa, the couple in charge, are doing an excellent job.

Rosa is teaching the book of Philippians to a **group of women** once a month and the ladies were very encouraged by the Word of God.

About 40 women had their annual **Women's Retreat** with the theme "Equipped for the Battle of Life".

With much joy and expectation we serve the Lord. Thanks for your support, prayers and words of encouragement.

Bobby & Imee Livioco

Philippines

We praise the Lord for more encouraging responses from our Sta., Cruz, Laguna outreach. Aside from the continued display of interest on the things of God from the children, we had a handful of adults who, though not first-time attenders, showed their appreciation by requesting us not to get tired of coming back to teach the Bible. We are trying to be sensitive to the Spirit to see more concrete evidences of spiritual fruit. Pray with us as we continue to seek the Lord's direction on when to officially commence Sunday services on this mission field.

We praise the Lord for adding three new members to our church and for them obeying the Lord in believers' baptism. It is always a joy to hear the salvation testimonies of brethren and see how the Spirit of God transforms lives from depravity to usability. One of them has been a believer since her teens, having been exposed to the Gospel in a Christian home. Her testimony was more related to how the Lord dealt with her, and chastened her in various ways just to get her back to Himself - from her teen years, to being a battered wife, to being a single mom, to being temporarily hooked on drugs - and yet, the Lord delivered her from them all. She has now come to realize the folly of yielding to the flesh. Her roller coaster spiritual ride has made her see that, as she said, "depression is real, but God is also real". So, she now desires to be used of the Lord to help and *"comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith [she herself was] comforted of God."* II Corinthians 1:4. Praise the Lord!

I am quite relieved to announce that the meticulous and tedious task of reviewing the Tagalog translations of the New Testament to Tagalog is virtually done. This has occupied much of our time many months that the Sponsorship Committee, the committee I serve to chair, continued meeting weekly through an online portal even while I was out of town to get the project moving. We are now at the phase of simply addressing a few more questions from the Bibles International Chief Consultant. Pray with us that this much-awaited project would be ready for distribution by the first quarter of 2020.

Military Evangelism

Jacksonville, NC

I am happy to report that we signed a contract with our builder on November 1, 2019 and held our groundbreaking ceremony on November 12. In the next few weeks we saw the foundation work and frame walls go up. By January we plan to be dried-in and ready to finish out the inside of the new addition. With the Lord's help, we plan to be in the new building by March 1. Continue to pray for the "sidewalk situation". Sometime in January the City Council will take up a piece of legislation that will exempt us from building the back sidewalk. If passed, this will save us over \$10,000. We will still need to pay \$5,000 into the city "sidewalk fund" though. We are looking to the Lord to fund however much we end up having to spend.

Cleanup from the 4,500 gallons of water that spilled into our Activity Hall continues. Moisture abatement has finished, walls have been painted, HVAC lines under the building that were flooded from the floor registers have been replaced and carpet installed. We are just waiting on the bathrooms to be completed. We are so excited to resume our late nights playing pool, singing around the piano, playing corn hole and just hanging out.

I had the opportunity to preach and present the ministry at two local churches. Centerview Baptist here in Jacksonville had me preach the men's prayer breakfast one week and the next week present the ministry to the entire congregation. Memorial Baptist in Maysville (our newest supporting church, just 20 minutes away) had us in for their Homecoming service. We thank God for local churches getting involved and catching the vision with us.

We had several new Marines at the Center including my first pickups at Camp Johnson since Hurricane Florence. It felt great to pick up students there once again. Please pray that we can continue to re-establish our ministry there. One of the Camp Johnson Marines gained assurance of salvation and a Marine wife was led to Christ by Callie, the wife of our Assistant Director, Luke!

CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Church Banquet

We did it a little differently this year and everyone contributed to the meal as they signed up to bring meat, a side dish or a dessert.

It was so enjoyable to sit around the table with the festive decorations. Gerald Cook made angels with his 3D printer with a light inside that changed colors. Darcy Cook and Laura Morrow arranged centerpieces and decorated the tables. Fellowship was sweet as we celebrated Christ's birth. Each place setting had a candy cane and a Christmas crossword puzzle. The children could choose a coloring book and crayons.

We had the privilege of special music by the Wertz family children playing small hand bells, and Laura Morrow playing the flute.

The speaker was Pastor Wes Gunther with TAP Ministries. He noted that the shepherds were invited by the angel to go find the Christ Child, and that the star was inviting the Wisemen to follow it to find the Christ Child. In this special season let us be inviting others to find the Christ Child too.

Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins

The homeschool group brought joy and Christmas cheer to some of our church shut-ins as they dropped in and sang Christmas carol favorites to those who can't get out and enjoy the season as we can. They visited some nursing homes. In the nursing homes there are other people who can hear the carols being sung, and it is a blessing to them as well. The older people especially love to see the children. There were 44 little bags with a Christmas tract in it that were handed out to residents in the nursing homes as well as to some of the staff. Everyone was very receptive.

The homeschool children made lots of homemade Christmas cards to send to the shut-ins they didn't get to carol to, and hand to those they did. The children signed their names to the cards. They were a blessing indeed, and were encouraged to come again - anytime!

Sunday School Classes Christmas Program

For our children's program, the children present things they have been learning in class since September. Some of the verses and songs presented had to do with Christmas, and some did not.

It is always a pleasure to see and hear what they have been learning in class. Each department participated separately, and then for the conclusion of the program all the departments sang together the first

and last verse and chorus of, "*We three Kings*". The three middle verses were solos sung by those in the Junior Class. The children all had crowns on their heads for this song.

Preschool

These little 3 to 5 year olds (Justin and Jennifer Morrow, and Abigail Wertz) amazingly had memorized and quoted all of Psalm 1. There are some pretty big words and concepts in this chapter, but we worked on understanding as they learned it. They also quoted John 3:16 and sang it to the tune of *Silent Night*. The Christmas verse they learned was Matthew 1:23. They also sang a happy birthday song about Jesus to the tune of *Jesus Loves Me*. The songs they sang not related to Christmas were, "*I'll Do it All for Jesus*" and "*Always Take Time to Pray*".

Primaries

The 1st - 3rd graders had memorized The Romans Road. Starting with Romans 3:23 which tells us that we all have sinned, and going on to Romans 5:8, 6:23, 10:9 and 10:13 they explained the Gospel. Each child had a 'car' that the Smiths made out of a box and painted, for the child to stand in to 'drive', and they used suspenders from the front to the back of the 'car' that went over the child's shoulders to hold it up. The children 'drove' their 'cars' on the Romans road. Please see pictures on page 18 on the internet version.

Juniors

The 4th - 6th graders quoted from memory the story of the announcement of Jesus birth to the shepherds in Luke 2:1-16. Their part of the program was called CHRISTMAS. They did something with each letter in the word, CHRISTMAS. C is for coming. H is for humility. For these two they talked about Christmas. R is for rejoicing. They sang a song called, "*Now It's Time for Christmas*". I is for Inquisitive. They talked about Nicodemus. S is for Scripture. They quoted Luke 2:1-16. T is for traveling. They talked about the traveling Mary, Joseph, and the Wisemen did. They sang, "*Journey to the Manger*". M is for miracles. They talked about miracles and did an object lesson on Jesus turning the water to wine. A is for alive. They talked about the woman at the well and the living water. S is for singing. They sang a song, "*Rejoice, Rejoice*".

Adult Christmas Program

There was some congregational singing and then the narration started with the story of how Jesus left the splendor of heaven to come to earth. The choir sang about this joyful event. The men explained in song that this was the greatest gift ever given. The story and songs went on to tell of the angel greeting Mary and how she would have the Son of Man. A soloist sang how He was *Born to Die*, but oh what rejoicing as the angels proclaimed *Halleluhah, Glory Hallelujah* (sung by the women) and, *Glory to God in the Highest* (sung by the choir). The men sang the *Shepherd's Song*. What a time to rejoice with the choir as they sang *Glory to the Newborn King*. They finished with the *Celebrate Medley*.

It is a joyous time to remember and celebrate Jesus birth, coming to bring salvation to all who will receive Him.

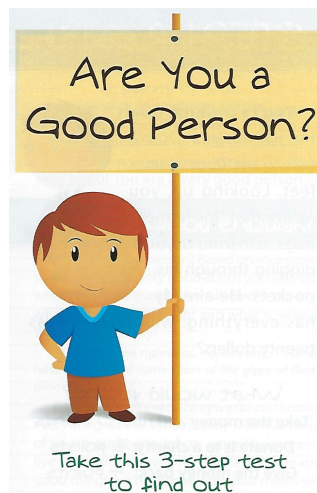
Pastor Moss then gave a short message entitled "One For All, and All For Each One". Christ is the One who gave Himself for all people. Yes, He was often involved with the multitudes, but His focus was on individual people within the multitude. Even with throngs of people around Him He heard the cry of the blind man, He stopped to give healing to the woman, He took time to raise a child from the dead. He came to give His life for all, but He was still sensitive to individuals with his healings, compassion, and comfort. He came to give all of Himself for each one of us individually.

Christmas Eve Service

There was lots of music on this special night. There was a solo, duet, trio, and Junior Choir for the vocal selections; and flute, cello and violins for instrumentals; and of course congregational singing. Three short messages were interspersed between the music. The first one by Pastor Hilt was titled "She Brought Forth Her First Born Son", then Nate Wertz titled "Glory to God in the Highest", and Pastor Moss titled "Let Us Now Go...And See This Thing Which is Come to Pass". It was a lovely service giving praise to our God for the wonderful gift of salvation He sent to us at Christmas.

The evening ended with the room darkened and one by one the candles were lit as each person held one. May we each go out this year and be a light to the world around us, spreading the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Spotlight on Tracts



Take this 3-step test to find out.

You're walking down the hall when a \$20 bill falls to the floor...from "Mr. Money Bags" in front of you... What would you do?

You forgot about today's math test...you sit beside "Miss Know-It-All"... What would you do?

The school bully is walking through the cafeteria with his tray and is about to trip over a backpack...What would you do?

Total your score.

This is a great tract for kids or teens in your life.



"May I offer you a ticket to heaven? You don't have to pay for it, and that's a good thing, because you could never afford to buy it! It's free, but only because someone has already paid the ultimate price for it.

But there is a problem with getting that free ticket.

Who paid for it?

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to earth to be born and to live His life without sin.

Do you want it?

It is no accident you were given this offer of a ticket to heaven."

This would be a great tract to hand people standing in line for a ride at the park



Preschoolers

taught by Mrs. Joyce Moss

Naturally we had the Christmas story in the month of December. The children enjoyed packing up and traveling to Bethlehem. The barn where they stayed didn't smell very good and the children had fun guessing what animals were in the barn. How scary and exciting it was when the brightness of the angels appeared to the shepherds one dark night. They were thrilled to go and tell others that the Savior was born.

The Preschoolers learned the whole chapter of Psalm 1 last quarter, and then to go along with Christmas they also learned John 3:16, and Matthew 1:23. They quoted all of these verses for the Christmas program.

Beginning in January our focus turns to creation. In preparation for this the class did a project. We planted Paperwhite flower bulbs in colored stones and are watching God make them grow. Hopefully they will be blooming by the time we get to day 3 of creation when God made dry land and plants.

Primaries

taught by Buck & Cindy Smith

In our class we have continued to learn about the life of David. We have seen how David needed to trust in the Lord in every aspect of his life. Even when his life was in danger, Saul sought to kill him. David remained faithful to the Lord. Not only did he trust the Lord but he was obedient to the Lord.

Daniel and Elisabeth Wertz successfully memorized a passage of verses from the book of James.

Our class has also been working on memorizing several verses from the Book of Romans. We will share these verses as we make our way down the Roman Road during the children's program. The children will be witnesses as to the way of salvation through songs and verses.

Juniors

taught by Gerald & Darcy. Cook

Our recent lessons have been on the early ministry of Jesus on the earth. We've studied several miracles, including the wedding at Cana, the man who was let down through a roof, blind Bartimaeus, and the nobleman's son.

These miracles not only show Jesus' power, but also His love and compassion for people. We really see His love as he talked to the Samaritan woman, offering her the living water of salvation, which only He can provide. Nicodemus came to Jesus by night and learned that he needed to be born again.

Along with Jesus compassion, we also saw His zeal for righteousness, as He cleansed the temple.

We are pleased that Hope, David, and Esther memorized Luke 2:1-16.

Master Clubs

Director - Nathaniel Wertz

The Ambassadors were surprised with a quiz the first week of class. As they attempted to place Old Testament events in chronological order, they realized how unfamiliar they were of the time line of events in the Old Testament. We then began creating a time line from brief studies on genealogies prior to the Exodus, time of wanderings and Judges, reigns of the Kings of Judah, concluding with prophecies regarding captivity and the coming Messiah. Since completing the basic time line, we have begun studying familiar people and events while referencing the time line.

John states, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." The primary class has been studying obedience. Obeying those in authority that we can see, prepares us to obey our Heavenly Father whom we cannot see. Jesus, a wonderful example, prayed in John 17 that He had fulfilled the work that God the Father had given Him to do.



Please see pictures of our church activities on our website at www.northhillsbiblechurch.org and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue".

QUIZZING

by Quiz Coach, Mrs. Joyce Moss

The teen quizzers have worked their way through the middle of I Peter chapter 3 doing five verses each week since the beginning of September. We have learned that we have an inheritance in heaven that is "*incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away*", that the trial of our faith is "*more precious than gold*", that we were redeemed with the "*precious blood of Christ*" and not with corruptible things as silver or gold, that we are to be obedient children in Christ and also submit to earthly authorities. Our learning has included so much more, for I Peter is a rich book to study and memorize.

Our competitions are starting this month, but before they do, we are going to have a practice demonstration in our evening service on January 5th. Here is our schedule of competitions:

January 19 on chapters 1 & 2 at New Bloomfield,
 February 23 on chapters 3 & 4 in Quarryville,
 March 22 on chapters 1- 5 here at our church,
 April 18 will be the final competition for the year on all of I Peter in Mt. Joy

Our church has two teams this year. Last year I believe there were 19 teams competing from various churches. It is encouraging to get to know teens from other churches that also do quizzing in their churches.

HOMESCHOOL NEWS

Led by Dawn Balcom

The children in the youngest class made Christmas cards for all of our shut-ins.

The beginner's class talked about shapes in October. Then they made pinecone birds. Since several of the children were sick that month, the craft kits were sent home with the older siblings. Mrs. Smith always has great gym ideas. That time it was balloons. In November, they discussed mirrors. The children learned about transparent and reflexive surfaces. They looked through a piece of tissue paper. So you can imagine that was pretty cute.

Mrs. Balcom's class is grades 2- 6. They have been learning about the quality of water and how it affects the grounds and streams around us. They also learned about erosion and substances that enter the water such as herbicides, fertilizer, and even soil. They discussed how God designed wetlands to clean and hold water to prevent flooding. The students were encouraged to look for erosion controls and retention ponds at construction sites. These methods of erosion control were spotted at the construction site on North Hills Road.

The Middle class is learning how science verifies God's amazing creation as perfect in design and function.

The teen class is lead by Mrs. Darcy Cook. In October, the teens talked about different poetry types such as haiku, acrostic, diamante, and shape poems. They were assigned to do some of these before class in November. In November they talked about similes, metaphors, and rhyming schemes. Mrs. Cook is pleased with how creative the teens have been.

The whole group went Christmas Caroling to a couple of our shut-ins in December.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January



5	Bible Quiz Demonstration	6:30 PM
9	Homeschool Classes	9:00 AM
10	Teen Activity	
12	Pleasant Acres Service	1:45 PM
19	Bible Quiz Competition at New Bloomfield	2:00 PM
23	Homeschool Roller Skating	
26	Business Meeting	12:10 PM



February

13	Homeschool Classes	9:00 AM
15	Ladies Missionary Project	10:00 AM
16	Manor Care Service	1:45 PM
23	Bible Quizzing- Quarryville	2:00 PM
27	Homeschool Field Trip	



March

8	Pleasant Acres Service	1:45 PM
12	Homeschool Classes	9:00 AM
21	Joyful Heart Conference	9:30 AM
22	Bible Quizzing - North Hills	2:00 PM
26	Homeschool Field Trip	

Remember to Pray

for Your Missionaries



Up-coming Events for

Our Missionaries

January

Blackwell, Marc & Judie - Capetown, South Africa
Church planting in Durbanville,
Paarl Valley, Malmesbury, and Tygerberg

Child Evangelism Fellowship - York, PA
Good News Clubs for kids in public school

Friends of Israel
Annual 'Day in the Prophetic Word' Conference

Kilmer, Don & Karen - South Africa, Zulus
School Ministries, preaching in assemblies

Military Evangelism - Camp LeJune, NC
Bible Studies on base

Perrott, Roger & Nola - Hong Kong
Church Planting & Leadership Training

Pinyol, Peter & Rosa - Castillebisbal, Spain
Community Helps
Conferences on Cancer

February

Campos, Moises & Rosa - Castellar, Spain
Youth Camp

Friends of Israel
Two Prophecy Conferences

Livioco, Bob & Imee - Philippines
Heart's Banquet with seven other churches

Moss, Sam & Nicole - Uganda, East Africa
Bible Translation Project

Perrott, Roger & Nola - Hong Kong
Community Tutoring Center helps kids with
homework and teach a Bible story

TAP Ministry- Harrisburg, PA
Sending Bibles, Commentaries, and Christian
literature overseas.

March

Blackwell, Marc & Judie - Capetown, South Africa
Herald of Hope Seminars & Literature

Campos, Moises & Rosa - Castellar, Spain
Breakfast Fellowship for Men

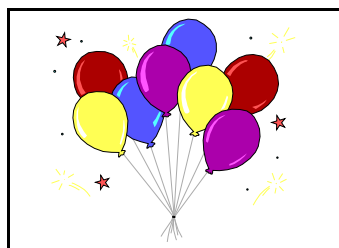
Child Evangelism Fellowship - York, PA
Good News Clubs for kids in public school

Friends of Israel
Speaking at Purim Celebration

Livioco, Bob & Imee - Philippines
Bible Translation Project

Pinyol, Peter & Rosa - Castillebisbal, Spain
Two day Mini-Camp

Church Family News



Happy Birthday

January

- 9 - Jim Beath
- 9 - Josiah Krape
- 15 - Cindy Smith
- 17 - Lorraine Beath
- 26 - Shigeko Hall
- 29 - Jim Hall

February

- 4 - Matthew Krape
- 5 - **Andrew Perrott**
- 5 - Tanisha Smith
- 6 - Paul Grove
- 7 - Pat Rudisill
- 9 - Earl Morrow
- 13 - Joan Fink
- 13 - Vernon Shields
- 15 - Nathaniel Wertz

March

- 9 - Rachel Hollingshead
- 9 - **Nicole Moss**
- 9 - **Samuel Moss**
- 10 - Pamela Grove
- 11 - Barry Shelly
- 14 - Richard Fetrow Jr.
- 14 - Jonathan Kanost
- 15 - Sonja Breneman
- 15 - Roy Morrow
- 16 - Jennifer Morrow
- 17 - Ruth Warner
- 18 - Pastor Moss
- 18 - Gary Zimmerman
- 19 - **Peter Pinyol**
- 20 - **Jonathan Perrott**
- 23 - Lydia Fetrow
- 24 - Amy Kanost



Happy Anniversary

January

- 11 - Greg & Shirley Beard

February

- 3 - **Marc & Judie Blackwell**
- 12 - Ervin & Sue Kornbau
- 16 - Gene & Sherry Beam

March

- 19 - Bill & Doris Knudsen

Please Note!

The purpose of printing these lists is to give the church family an opportunity to congratulate one another on these special days. The **bold print** indicates a member of our missionary family.



Please see pictures of our church activities on our website at www.northhillsbiblechurch.org and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue".



Special Attention to our Sunday School Teachers

- Preschoolers - Joyce Moss
- Primaries - Buck & Cindy Smith
- Juniors - Gerald & Darcy Cook
- Teens - John Kanost
- Adults - Pastor Moss & Glenn Hilt

Address Changes



OUR MISSIONARY

Roger and Nola Perrott
 No. 509, G/F, House 17,
 The Home Resort
 Sha Kong Wai, Yuen Long, NT
 HONG KONG

(Please note: "The Home Resort" should be on the first line behind House 17)

Congratulations



Julia Noelle, was born to Matt and Rachelle Krape on December 7. She was 6 lb 6.5 oz and was 19 inches long. She joins her 3 brothers Josiah, Joel, and Jeremiah.



Remember Our Shut-ins

Lorraine Beath, Bob Frey, Jeannie Geesey, Millie Geisler, Pam Grove, Shigeko Hall, Gloria Hevner, Susan Peters, Vernon Shields, Reg & Ina Stelfox

Homeschoolers Christmas Caroling



in the Nursing Homes



CHRISTMAS BANQUET 2019



Children's Christmas Program



The Preschoolers quoted all of Psalm 1, John 3:16, and Matthew 1:23 and sang several songs.



The Primaries had memorized the Romans Road witnessing verses. They 'drove' their 'cars' down the 'road' and at times stopped to show a card of explanation or sing a song that went along with the verse.



The Juniors told what each letter in the word 'Christmas' represented. They have been learning about Jesus' miracles and did a demonstration of His first miracle.



The program concluded with the children in all the departments singing together, "We Three Kings" while each wore a crown on their head.

Christmas Music



There were instrumental specials.

The choir sang a variety of songs with solos interspersed.



The men's quartet sang.

The choirchimes played
"What Child Is This?"



Junior Choir sang *"The Birthday of A King"*.