



Times Remembered **Betty A. Young** BYoung505@Windstream.Net

The other night when it was raining so hard and I heard the sounds of the rapid tattoo of rain on the roof brought country memories floating to my mind. I remember standing on the back porch of my childhood farmhouse listening to the tap-tap of the April rain on the tin roof. I could hear my mother say, "We need the rain; the tobacco beds and grass need it." For a child yearning to play outside; I always wanted the rain to stop. This past few days have been a repeat of years ago. Seems the rain just keeps coming, but April showers bring May flowers. Maybe all the rain will bring ing about the human uses of

Geeds of Hopa

Martin Luther once wrote to a friend, "Your thoughts of God are too human!" That certainly was not true of David.

David saw the greatness of God and the glory of His creation: "O Lord, our Lord the majesty of Your name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens!" Perhaps he was thinking about the time when there was nothing and no one but God. Perhaps he was allowing his mind to wander and entertain the idea that God chose to make Himself known to man. It may have been that David was "awe-struck" to think of the possibility that he could actually communicate with God or get His attention by calling on Him. And he continues his

plenty of morels for wild mushrooms.

Except for a cold snap when the nights can be chilly, April weather is usually always fine. We have our red bud and dogwood winters and in late May we usually more; medicinal plants such have blackberry winter that as yellow root and ginseng; brings a cold snap.

memories of what was quite Even non-timber trees such possibly the most enjoyable as dogwoods (for slingshots school task I ever undertook. My 10th grade biology teacher, Mr. Crace come up elderberry shoots (pop guns, with a major project for the blow guns, whistles, and spring semester to venture turkey calls), and Osage into the hills and hollows orange (bows, yokes) had of the high country and find as many different plants as possible. You were expected chirping of birds. The Carto "press" a leaf or flower, give the plant's common songbirds to start singing, and scientific names, and extra credit could be earned through describing any uses the plant had for humans. For a youngster who cherished every minute she was outdoors, the assignment was a godsend.

I don't remember how many plants I gathered, but the total ran to many scores of them. Even today, I recall the scientific names of a surprising number of them (and this was my one and only formal exposure to biology at any educational level). I particularly enjoyed learn-

thoughts about the greatness of God when he writes of His "majesty and glory" - the power that He has over the heavens, the earth and all that is in and on the earth. Nothing is beyond Him.

Notice two very important things: David begins with "O Lord" - describing his personal relationship with God. He knew that by "speaking" His name he would get God's attention. How impressive is that! This powerful God is present with him at that moment and is personally concerned about him and will respond to him if he calls upon him. And this is just the beginning.

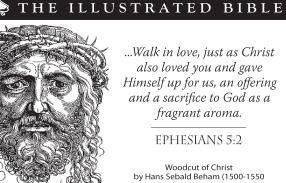
Notice that "O Lord

and Grandpa, both of whom two-note song sounds more were first-rate amateur naturalists, were of great help. There were foodstuffs aplenty—all the wild fruits, nuts, and berries; wild vegetables such as those mentioned above along with lamb's quarters, dandelions, wild lettuce and a bunch and every tree had one or April also brings back more practical applications. and a perfectly serviceable wedge for splitting wood),

their applications. April also brings all the dinals are usually the first and the "pretty, pretty" of the male is a signal that the time to start listening for a distant season is coming in a week

plants, and of course Daddy or two. Soon towhees (their like jo-ree to me, and that's what the mountain folks call them) join in; somewhere off in the distance one raucous crow voice sets a whole host of these black busybodies to conversing in their fussy, garrulous fashion; a hawk screams; robins sing; and a pileated woodpecker adds its strange voice People have called the sound so startling they once called it a "Lord Gawd Bird"-as in "Lord Gawd, what was that?").

All the while I'm listening so intently I hear the telltale rattling of a distant gobbler declaring dominion to all within earshot. This will make Bob happy and because he loves turkey hunting. They definitely aren't far away because we see evidence of them scratching and digging in the leaves for food. But when opening day comes.... they are nowhere to be found; its seems they turkey gobbler, as turkey know the dates they may be hunted.



What Does The Bible Teach About Gambling? by BOB CASEY, Preacher Church of Christ, 262 Broadway, Irvine, KY

Last week we opened this topic with two questions: #1. What is good about gambling? #2. If you gamble, what is the attraction which influences you to participate?

I mentioned that just recently a preacher of some note said unto me: "The Bible doesn't say anything about it." This alarmed me to the decision to research this subject. I have found that many gamble with a free conscience, simply I believe, because most preachers are not offering Bible based lessons concerning it. So today we will look at what some are saying.

Arguments offered to defend and justify gambling A. Some say: How can gambling be a sin if it is not mentioned in the Bible?

First of all, not all sinful conduct is mentioned in the Bible, such as suicide, larceny, bootlegging, drug dealing, slavery, pimping, and a host of other things, are they wrong?

Secondly, yes we can discern any action to be evil good by Bible principles! (I Thessalonians 5:2,

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Thursday - Sunday, April 10th-13th Revival At Ravenna CofG

Ravenna Church of God will be having Revival, April Brian Montgomery. 10th - 13th, with different guest speakers each night.

Thursday - 7 PM - Pastor Dale Campbell

Youth Director: Yaun,

Saturday - 7 PM - Pastor

Sunday - 10:45 & 6 pm - Rev Ronald Gene Johns

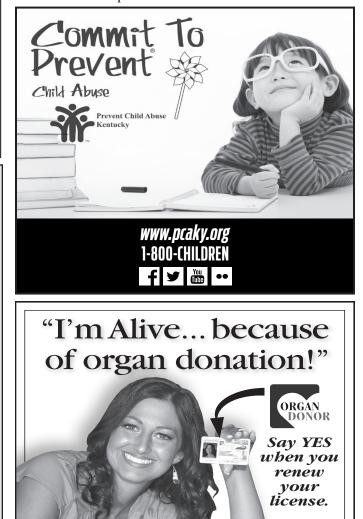
There will be special singing nightly. Everyone is Friday - 7 PM - State invited. For further informa-Brian tion, contact Pastor Willie Hargus Gordon, 723-2898.

Sunday-Thursday, April 13th-17th **Revival At Mount Carmel**

tian Church will be having come to attend! Call 606a revival with Bro. Randall Johnson, Sunday through Monday through Thursday. There will be special mu-

Mount Carmel Chris- sic each night! All are Wel-726-9342 if any questions

Also, please attend our Thursday, April 13-17. Ser- Easter sunrise service at 7:00 vice begins at 6:00 p.m. on a.m. on Sunday, April 20th Sunday and at 7:00 p.m., followed by our Resurrection Sunday service at 11:00 a.m.



is followed by "Our Lord" which includes all of us. God, speaking through David, wants us to know that He. this "maiestic" God, is always thinking of us, watching over us and concerned about us.

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1. Is the book of Iscariot in the Old or New Testament or neither?

2. What's the only book of the Bible (KJV) that mentions Christ's tomb being sealed? Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

3. When Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" came upon the risen Jesus, whom did He ask them to inform?

Priests, Disciples, No One, Villagers 4. Which disciple doubted Jesus had risen unless he

could see the wounds? Peter, Andrew, Thomas, Thaddeus

5. From Acts 1, how long did Jesus remain after His resurrection before He ascended into heaven? Instantaneously, 1 hour, 7 days, 40 days

6. As found in Matthew 27:5, what happened to Judas, the betrayer of Jesus? Fled into night, Stoned to death, Jumped from cliff, Hanged himself

Bible Trivia answers are at the bottom of Page 12



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Hebrews 5:14). Again, what does the Bible say is the motivation for gambling? Greed.

B. Life is a gamble. Life insurance, IRA accounts, stocks, driving on the highways, playing sports, etc.

(1) What has been confused here is **<u>Risk</u>** and <u>**Chance**</u>. There is a certain risk in all of life's activities. But the mere presence of a risk does not mean the activity is gambling. Even a farmer takes a risk when he spends his money for seed. Hoping for a good season of produce. But he is not taking the the risk at the expense of someone else. This is honest labor approved by God. So when there is a good season both the farmer and the consumer benefit. Gambling is very much different. Some one is going to lose, so a chance is trying to get something for nothing.

C. Some say: "In the Bible they cast lots, and that was gambling." In John 19:23, 26 the soldiers cast lots for the property of Jesus. This was God's plan of fulfilling prophecy (<u>Psalms 22:16</u>). Would anyone attempt to justify gambling by the actions of those who crucified our Lord?

In <u>Acts 1:14, 26</u>, the selection of Mattias to take the place of Judas was not gambling. God made the choice!

D. Some say: "We spend money on hunting, fishing, bowling, golf. Is this gambling?" Again many play the slot machine, bet on horse racing, purchase tickets of the lottery, and these are gambling. One might say: "I just do it for entertainment." Well, if you won something, would you give it back? In gambling, someone has to be a loser of their hard earned money for a winner to enjoy himself. It is the principal teachings of the book of God who says to love thy neighbor as thyself (Matthew 22:39). Sadly, there are many confessing church members who play the lottery. At the same time we may condemn the Catholic Church for their bingo nights. Are we any different when we purchase a lottery ticket? Next week we will be dealing with all the Bible passages that condemns the acts of gambling. If you are adding these and have a comment in question, just call me at this number: 1-(859) 369-4165 anytime.

Sincerely, Bob Casey

