

Wanderings from the Woods & Water
by Jay Bicknell
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Hay Field Lessons

On August 8, 1998, I married the love of my life! 19 years and 6 kids later I'm still madly in love with my wife! I thank God, every day for sending her my way! Happy Anniversary!

Yes, I am writing about hay again this week. The Lord is giving some lessons via a hay field. I got this field beside my house that used to be pasture that I converted to a hay field. God has used this field to teach me some good lessons.

The field is not real big. It had a lot of weeds in it. Even with the weeds I could see potential. It always seemed to have a good stand of clover no matter how hard the cows grazed it. So, this year I decided to fence it off and start cutting it for hay.

The first time I cut, it only made six rolls of hay. It wasn't the best because I didn't fence it 'till later in the spring. The second cutting I could tell it was a lot thicker. A whole lot of clover and mixed grasses. Not a lot of weeds in the field. It ended up making 400 square bales.

Now, just on the other side of the fence is a little half acre field that weeds are over the top of a tractor. I finally got a chance to bush hog this little field the other day. To get to the field I pulled the corner of electric fence up near a wood line. I cut a path through the woods to the field.

Well, instead of fixing the fence back I just left it down. Within hours the

cows come up from the bottoms and found the hole in the fence. It's like they knew the fence was down. I ran them out and back to the bottoms. In a hurry, I still didn't fix fence back and in the night they crept back in.

Now for the lesson I got. There are people out there that have a lot of weeds in their life, but they have a lot of potential. We should encourage their potential. We need to tell them about the Man who died on a cross that can get rid of all those weeds. Once we get Jesus in our life we can start producing good fruit.

God gave me two lessons about cows getting in the field. One is, if you have just a tiny hole in your fence, sin will creep in. Once it creeps in, it can be hard to get it out. So, keep your fences tight and maintained through prayer and reading of the Word!

The other lesson I got from the cows getting in my hay field is the cows wanted in to the good grass. The best grass on the entire farm is in this little field. The cows know it and want the good grass. If we let our light shine bright for the world to see. Then the world will see your light and want the light inside of them.

Matthew 5:16:
"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Until next week, get out and enjoy God's creation!

The Plight of Jeremiah
by BOB CASEY, preacher
Cornerstone Church of Christ
70 Bond Street at Camp Avenue in West Irvine

In I Corinthians 10:11-12, Paul wrote in regard to the disobedient history of the Jewish people, saying, "all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. ¹²Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."

Jeremiah was chosen as a young lad about the age of 14 or so, to preach a warning of impending doom upon Israel that would surely come if they continued on the same course of life that they were presently upon.

He was given the symbols, saying, what do you see? He said, "I see a rod of an almond tree." (Jeremiah 1:11) the first to bloom and bring forth early fruit. This is what the Jewish nation did in their early years in the Promised Land, but began to drift away from their service to God. I believe that our United States are presently leaving their duty to worship our Lord as they (the Jews) once did. Our churches are only partially filled on the Lord's Day, so men are ignoring the warning from God not to do this. **Just read Hebrews 10:23-27.** See for yourself what God says.

And the second vision was one of a seething pot, an emblem that this rebellious nation was about to boil over because of their sins.

Notice what God saw and said about Israel in Jeremiah 1:16, "And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, and worshipped the works of their own hands." This is just what Jesus saw of them also in Matthew 7:21-23 that tells us about the Great Day of Judgment to come.

So, just what is a true preacher to do in his preaching if he has a fire in his heart to please God?

Jeremiah was a noted prophet, but he could have compromised his allegiance to God by failing to preach the message and instead could have prophesied good things and made peace with his enemies. This could save his life and he could have made great gain by doing so, with plenty of wealth and ease.

But, he would not do so! He saw the sinful activity among them and chose to cry against it because he wanted to remain in favor with Almighty God.

And God reinforces his commitment with Jeremiah, saying in 1:17, "be not dismayed at their faces." Yes, our faces usually show our position with men, whether disgust or approval. All preachers of truth will willingly bear this responsibility to preach the truth at all cost. Then, the Lord promises him (Jeremiah) that he would protect him from all his enemies from the greatest to the smallest.

In closing, here once again, Jeremiah is writing of the relapsing of the Jews, saying, they "shall be consumed by the sword and by the famine, until there be an end of them." (Jeremiah 44:27) And, it happened just a few years later with only a remnant surviving. Thereby, the Jews who were once highly favored of God became more desperately ungrateful and were significantly punished.

What a history lesson this is! Can it happen to America... and to Estill County? Yes, in deed, for there is much evidence all around us that sin seems to have the upper hand for awhile, but when our Lord returns, he will bring about a permanent change.

So, again, when history is ignored, especially Biblical history, we are doomed to repeat it.

So, awake, Friends, and return to the Lord. He will pardon us only if we return to him.

Call 1-859-369-4165, anytime.

Sincerely, Bob Casey

Seeds of Hope

they do not deserve "it" or cannot get "it" themselves. It also implies being "gracious" - that is, grace in action.

Showing God's grace is what Christians are to do after they accept God's grace. And unless we show it we might question whether or not we really have it!

For example, when we are saved by grace we are to become gracious and act differently. Cruelty is to be replaced with kindness, anger with acceptance, rejection with reconciliation and giving instead of always getting.

Grace is certainly a comprehensive word. It is as wide as the world. Remember what Jesus said: "God loved the world so much that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes on Him shall be saved."

Our indebtedness to God for His grace is beyond us. Our indebtedness to show His grace to others is not optional.

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BIBLE WORD SEARCH
by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

PSALM 4:1

Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

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M A E C Y F Y F I S
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S W U O Y D G O D H

Find the **bolded/underlined** words in the diagram. They run in all directions — forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

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CHURCH NEWS
Church News is published as a free service of The Estill County Tribune. Call your announcement to (606) 723-5012; fax it to (606) 723-2743; or E-mail it to <News@EstillTribune.Com> or mail to 6135 Winchester Road, Irvine, KY 40336

Saturday, August 12th @ 7:00pm

Old Time Baptist Gospel Singing

Old Time Baptist Church, 680 Little Doe Creek Road, Irvine, will be having a Gospel Singing this coming Saturday, August 12, 2017, starting at 7:00 p.m. We invite everyone to bring a musical instrument and play or just come to listen and enjoy the music.

Saturday, August 12th @ 6:00pm

Gospel Singing at House of Prayer

There will be a Gospel Singing at House of Prayer, 535 Dark Hollow Road in Irvine, on Saturday, August 12, 2017, starting at 6:00 p.m. Featured singers will be Rhythm Rain from Danville, along with the local Praise Singers. Everyone is welcome to attend. There will be refreshments afterwards.

Sunday, August 13th @ 11:00am

Gideons Speaker at Ivory Hill

Bro. Donnie Watson will be speaking about the work of the Gideons at Ivory Hill Baptist Church on Sunday, August 13, 2017, at 11:00 a.m. Sunday school begins at 10:00 a.m. for all ages. Bro. Mike Hetrick, pastor, and congregation invite everyone to attend.

Sunday, August 20th @ 11:00am

Calvary Baptist Homecoming

Calvary Baptist Church, 21 Glory Street in West Irvine, will be celebrating its 96th year homecoming on Sunday, August 20, 2017, starting at 11:00 a.m. Dr. William Means will be the guest speaker with special music by The Calvary Heirs and Glory Road, followed by a fellowship meal. Look for our event on Facebook or visit <cbcirvine.com>.

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Oh, that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at Your presence, as fire kindles the brushwood, as fire causes water to boil, to make Your name known to Your adversaries, that the nations may tremble at Your presence!

Isaiah 64: 1,2

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Peter Speaks in Solomon's Colonnade (Acts 3:22-24)

For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. 23 And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people. 24 Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days.

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BIBLE TRIVIA
by Wilson Casey

Dove

4. From 2 Kings 9, what creatures ate the carcass of Jezebel? She-bears, Dogs, Frogs, Worms

5. Of these, who worked seven years to earn a wife? Isaiah, Abraham, Jacob, Joshua

6. From Joel 3, what was the mountain of the Lord? Sinai, Zion, Nebo, Moriah

Answers on bottom of Page 11

Now available by Wilson Casey! 2017 Bible Trivia box calendar loaded with daily teasers from TouchPointPress.com

1. Is the book of Titus in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Joshua 2, who hid two spies on a roof? Hosea, Ezra, Satan, Rahab
3. What was the first bird released from the Ark? Raven, Pigeon, Sparrow,

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