

Sign Post

Jan. - Feb. 2016

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Sign Post is online at www.iowaeastdeaf.org. It is the newsletter for:

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The Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing but the Truth

So Jesus said to those Jews who believed in him, “If you live by what I say, you are truly my disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:31-32

Recently I saw a sign at a “church” in Davenport that said, “Take Jesus and the Scriptures liberally, not literally.”

What does that mean? To take something liberally and not literally means don’t take it too seriously. You can change what they said and make it what you want it. Suppose you tell a child, “No cookies before supper.” The literal meaning is clear – don’t eat any cookies before supper. But the child might look for any way around it. He will decide to have a pretend supper at 2:00 p.m. and then eat cookies. Or he will think you didn’t really mean what you said, so he eats cookies whenever he wants. That is taking your words liberally. The child thinks he can twist and change your words. Not true! What you meant is what is important.

What does it mean to take Jesus and the Scriptures liberally? It means people will change what Jesus meant. People will say they don’t have to follow what the Bible says. They will interpret the Bible how they think it should be interpreted. People find excuses to ignore or change what the Bible says. Then people can do anything they want, and they ignore what God says about how we believe and live.

That is very popular in our culture. People don’t like what the Bible says. They don’t like God’s law (Ten Commandments). They don’t want God to tell us what we should do and not do. They don’t want to believe that Jesus is our only Savior. People twist and change God’s word to say what they want. That is wrong! God wants us to listen to what He says and what He means.

Psalm 86:11 says, “Teach me your way, O Lord, so I can live in your truth.” He is the Teacher and we are the students. The right Christian way is to learn God’s word and let His word change us. His law shows us our sin so we can repent. We give up our wrong ideas and stop wanting our way. His gospel forgives us and puts a new heart in us. That new heart and life wants to follow God and His truth.

Don’t believe the world’s lie. We can’t change God’s word to say what we want. Believe God’s truth in Jesus, and His truth will truly make you free.

Pastor Eckert

Dive Into God's Word

The book of Colossians is a book about Jesus. Yes, all the Bible is about Jesus (John 5:38), but some parts are more clearly about Him. Colossians is a book that shows very clearly who Jesus is and how we have life in Him. Paul wrote this letter to the church in the city named Colossae, in the country we call Turkey today.

January 3-9, Colossians 1

1. We can't see God the Father, because He is invisible. But who became man, that we can see? (1:15)
2. Can you find four things Paul says about Jesus and creation (the world)? Read carefully! (1:16-17)
3. Jesus is also the Lord (or Head) over what? (1:18)
4. What does 1:19 say about who Jesus is?
5. What was Jesus' most important work? (1:20)

January 10-16, Colossians 2

1. In chapter 2, Paul compares two religions. The true religion is Christ and His work. The other one is human ideas and tradition. First, Paul talks about Christ. He says that Christ took away your flesh (sins), buried you with Jesus, and raised you with Jesus. When did that happen? (2:11-12)
2. Our sins are like a debt we owe God. God forgave our sins and canceled the debt. He also stopped the law telling us what to do. How? What did He do with our sins and the law's demands? (2:13-14)
3. Which is more important – traditions and rules that look forward to Jesus, or Jesus Himself? (2:16-17)
4. What does Jesus (the Head) do for the church (His body)? (2:19)
5. Lent is starting soon and some people will say don't eat red meat, or don't eat chocolate, or other things like that. Some people say those rules will make you a better person and closer to God. Will they really help you sin less? (2:20-23)

January 17-23, Colossians 3:1-17

1. People try to change and improve themselves by starting new rules or habits. Paul reminds us here what truly changed us. What was it? (3:1-4)
2. God doesn't tell us to avoid certain foods or drinks. What does God tell us to avoid? (3:5-9)
3. God says He makes us new, making us to be like Him (verse 10). How do we show we are His people? (3:12-17)
4. What one word summarizes how Christians live? (3:14)

January 24-30, Colossians 3:18-4:18

1. What is a wife's responsibility to her husband? (3:18)
2. What is a husband's responsibility to his wife? (3:19)
3. What should children and parents do? (3:20-21)
4. Paul was in prison when he wrote this letter. But he was not alone. What Christians were with him to work with him and help him? (4:10-15)

February – Galatians

Paul wrote this letter to the churches in Galatia, an area in Turkey. The gospel is the good news that Jesus saves us freely. No matter how much we try to obey the law, that can't help save us. The churches in Galatia thought they must now obey the law. Paul wrote this letter to correct them.

February 1-6, Galatians 1

1. Who made Paul an apostle? (1:1)
2. Paul had preached the good news of salvation to the people in Galatia. Now someone else preached a different message. What did Paul say about that message and preacher? (1:6-9)
3. Was Paul trying to make people happy, or make God happy? Should we try to make people happy, or make God happy? (1:10)
4. Paul preached about Jesus. Where did he get this message? From God or from people? (1:11-17)

February 7-13, Galatians 2

1. Paul continued to explain that he taught the truth. Who met with Paul and accepted him and his teaching? (2:1-10)
2. The main issue was circumcision. Jews got circumcised. Gentiles (non-Jews) didn't. The question was when a non-Jew became a Christian, should he get circumcised? Did they force Titus to get circumcised? (2:3)
3. What did Cephas (Peter) do wrong in Antioch? (2:11-14)
4. If we obey God's law, does that save us? Or does faith in Jesus save us? (2:15-16)

February 14-20, Galatians 3

1. What does the Bible say about people who trust the law? (3:10)
2. What does the Bible say about people who have faith in God? (3:11)
3. Why did God give people His law? (3:19)
4. Before Jesus came, what guarded people or kept them in prison? (3:23-24)
5. How did you become clothed with Christ? (3:27-29)

February 21-27, Galatians 4

1. Paul uses a comparison here. Before Jesus came, the law ruled us. Paul says that we were like what? (4:1-3)
2. What does it mean that God adopts us as sons? (4:4-7)
3. If a slave becomes free, he should not want to be a slave again. What happens if Christians think they must obey the law? (4:8-11)

January

- 3 Dalton Anderson
- 7 Curtis Ketelsen
- 14 Janelle Legg
Susan Sacco
- 15 Diane Yotter
- 16 Joanne Postel
- 24 Larry Plumb
- 30 Rosie Glime



February

- 3 Neita Dommer
Gerald Mitchell
- 5 Rebecca Daggett
Evelyn Powell
- 12 Curtis Bethurum
- 14 Roselyn Schultz
- 15 Ruth Mettler
- 19 Lorne Schultz
Sarah Eckert
- 29 Melody Eiben

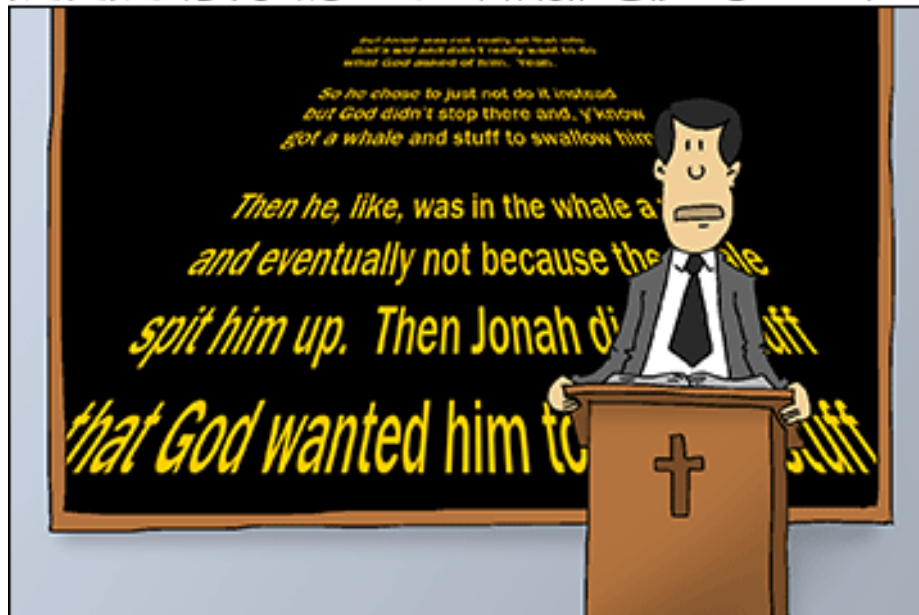
Prayers

Please remember these people in your prayers:

- ✦ Mollie Schmitz, Ron Schmitz, Evelyn Powell's mother, Lorri Green, Shirley Green, Bill and Barbara Zimmerman, Mae Hanson, Joan Mass, Rosie Glime, Kathy Anderson's friend Donna, Darlene Twatchtmann, Curtis Ketelsen, Paula Slavin, Harold Kinkade, Jeanette Kern, Tracey Shepard, Henry and Rebecca Daggett, and Ricky Moore with their ongoing physical difficulties.
- ✦ Pray for people in Missouri, Texas, California, and other places who have lost much because of flooding or tornadoes.
- ✦ Pray that all people will love and protect life, especially people who are older, people with disabilities, the sick, and babies not yet born. Ask God to make our country protect these people again, and give us leaders who will protect them.
- ✦ Ask God to bless His church with members who are excited to follow Him and serve Him every day, and to give us pastors and missionaries to preach and spread His word to more people.
- ✦ All shut-ins to keep strong faith in Christ Jesus.
- ✦ Ask God to bless us in 2016. That means we ask God to make our lives easy and happy with no troubles? No. Life is always a mix of good and bad. God does give us many good things, and God said we will always have trouble in this world. We do ask God to give us good things, and He does give many good things. But our prayer also means we thank God that He is always with us in good times and bad, and we pray He will help us grow and trust Him more in every situation.



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KNOWING THAT HIS MESSAGE WAS ON THE WEAK SIDE, HE MAXIMIZED THE VISUALS FOR IMPACT

Old Testament Books Word Search Game

This Bible word search game has 27 answers. The Old Testament has 39 books, so many of the books are in here, but not all of them.

G U P Y P S A L M S E G D U J
D E U T E R O N O M Y O G O O
E H N J E R E M I A H M B A S
Z A E E X O D U S O M I P T H
E B H M S I S A I A H C S P U
K A E W L I S W A R A A W M A
I K M S M I S K A P I H I S S
E K I S T H N H Z S S X A U B
L U A K A H C U E Q O A G C R
L K H N E Z E L X U M M G I E
E H O Z W O C R M R A P A T V
U J O E L C A E S O H R H I O
M A N O E D A N I E L A Z V R
A C H R O N I C L E S N F E P
S R E B M U N K I N G S E L O

Genesis - Exodus - Leviticus - Numbers - Deuteronomy - Joshua - Judges -
Samuel - Kings - Chronicles - Ezra - Nehemiah - Esther - Job - Psalms -
Proverbs - Isaiah - Jeremiah - Ezekiel - Daniel - Hosea - Joel - Amos - Jonah -
Micah - Habakkuk - Haggai

January 2016

3 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	4	5	6 7:00 WL – Worship	7	1/8 10:30 QC – Bible study	2/9 10:00 DU – Bible Study
10 * See below for worship and Bible study times. CR –Potluck & Voters’ Meeting	11	12	13 10:00 CR-Senior Citizens	14	15 10:30 QC – Bible study 1:00 MU-Worship	16
17 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	18	19	20 7:00 WL – Study	21	22 10:30 QC – Bible study	23
24 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 * See below for worship and Bible study times.						

BR – Burlington. Concordia Lutheran Church, 2901 Cliff Rd., Burlington. 4th Sunday worship at 4:00 p.m.
 CR – Cedar Rapids. Word of God Lutheran Church Deaf, 1515 29th St. NE, Cedar Rapids. Every Sunday, Bible Study at 9:00 a.m., Worship at 10:00 a.m.
 QC – Quad Cities. Trinity Lutheran Church, 1122 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport. Every Sunday, Worship at 1:00 p.m.
 WL – Waterloo. Christ Lutheran Church, 234 S Hackett Rd., Waterloo.
 DU – Dubuque. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2145 John F. Kennedy Rd., Dubuque.
 MC – Mason City. Meeting in Charles City. Talk to Pastor Northwick for details
 MU – Muscatine. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 2611 Lucas St., Muscatine.

February 2016

	1	2	3 7:00 WL – Worship	4	5 10:30 QC – Bible study	6
7 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	8	9	10 Ash Wednesday 10:00 CR-Senior Citizens	11	12 10:30 QC – Bible study	13 10:00 DU – Bible Study
14 * See below for worship and Bible study times. CR-Potluck	15	16	17 7:00 WL – Study	18	19 10:30 QC – Bible study 1:00 MU – Worship/Study	20
21 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	22	23	24	25	26 10:30 QC – Bible study	27
28 * See below for worship and Bible study times.	29					

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