

Be Careful lest they break...

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country.

"Is there anything breakable in this here package?" the postal clerk asked her.

Only the Ten Commandments," was the lady's swift reply.



FLORIDA COURT SETS ATHEIST HOLY DAY

In Florida, an atheist created a case against the upcoming Easter and Passover Holy days. He hired an attorney to bring a discrimination charge against Christians and Jews and observances of their holy days. The argument was that it was unfair that atheists had no such recognized days. The case was brought before a judge.

After listening to the passionate presentation of the lawyer, the judge banged his gavel declaring, "Case dismissed!"



The lawyer objected, stating, "Your Honour, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas and Easter. The Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah, yet my client and all other atheists have no such holidays.

The judge leaned over the bench, "Oh, but you do! You client, counsel, is woefully ignorant. The calendar says April 1st is April Fools' Day. Psalm 14:1 states *"the fool says in his heart, there is no God."* Therefore, it is the opinion of this court that, if your client says there is no God, then he is a fool. Therefore April 1st is his day! Court is adjourned.



The scouter asked the boys to identify 3 essentials for surviving in the wilderness. Several listed, matches, food, blankets, etc. Then one little boy eagerly raised his hand.

"Yes Timmy, what are the 3 most important things you would bring with you", asked the Scout Leader.

"A compass, a canteen of water and a deck of cards," Timmy replied, "because you need the compass to find the right direction & the water to prevent dehydration. And everyone knows that the moment you start playing solitaire, someone is bound to come up behind you and say "Put the red nine on top of that black ten."

Where Christ is cherished, family is loved and everyone is family!



GETTING CONNECTED

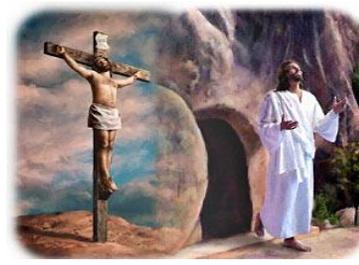
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He Cares

I know that I can trust the Lord
To keep the stars in place,
To grant the lark, the rose, the
oak,
His wisdom and His grace.

I know that ev'rywhere I look
I see His guiding hand
More beauty, mercy, love and
faith
Then I will ever understand.

Yes He Care for Me!

~ Author Unknown



Sundays in April...
Yearning for Yahweh!

Prayer crowns God with the honour and the glory due His name, and God crowns prayer with assurance and comfort. The most praying souls are the most assured souls.

~ Thomas Benton Brooks

Join us each Sunday for Worship...

10:45am worship and praise

Thot: God says get rid of everything that holds you back from experiencing true freedom in Him. When you do life will be better than ever. [Reference: Hebrews 12:1; John 10:10]

The Lighter Side...

A man was stopped by a police officer at 4am. "What are you doing out at this hour?" asked the officer. "I'm on my way to a lecture", was the driver's reply. The officer then asked him, "Who on earth is going to give a lecture at this time of day?" "My wife" replied the man.



Something To Think About..

When we think of the report of Stephen being stoned (Acts 7:54-60) we hardly think of following with such statements as, "*So there was great joy in that city.*" [Acts 8:8] Certainly for the early Christians and the Hellenistic Christians in particular, would seem justified in questioning God for Stephen having to die. "Why all the suffering, Lord?" would be our prayer. "Why are children sick with cancer? Why did this mother or this wife or this husband or this father leave so suddenly?" If you're a loving God why do these bad things happen to good people?" In chapters immediately following Stephen's stoning, Luke reports, rather succinctly, of increased persecution, men and women being dragged out of their homes and off to jail – the scattering of believers all led by the driving force of a man named Saul. We can sit back dismayed or we can see that in all this that God is not stopped! Our God does not give up or quit! Yes evil befalls even those who love the Lord, but we mustn't be discouraged or abandon our faith. Interestingly, it is in the areas of the world – the Middle East, Africa and Asia where faith is increasing and people are building the Church of our Lord Jesus. And in Russia, where during the days of the Soviet Union the Underground Church thrived and grew, the Church is now experiencing decline and disinterest. Let us hold on to our faith and glory that we are worthy of being persecuted, let us stand firm – ready to give account of the reason for our faith. The Psalmist writes, "*though they plot evil against you and devise wicked schemes, they cannot succeed.*" [Psalm 21:11] Again we find reassurance from Romans 8:28-29, "*We know that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord, to those who are*

Mt Brydges Baptist Church 147th Anniversary



with Heartsong
Sunday April 27th 2pm
Potluck supper follows

called according to His purpose." For the believers of the early Church who were persecuted and had real reason to believe their lives were in jeopardy, rather than quitting, we see them going out and telling the good news – throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the outmost parts of the world. We are told in Acts 8:4, "*those who had been scattered preached the Word wherever they went.*"

When Philip preached to a city in Samaria, we're told, "*when the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, that all paid close attention to what he said...so there was great joy in that city.*" Indeed God is no quitter – He will not be vanquished. We may ask God why things happen, however, when we focus on the "why" we miss out on the "What" God is going to do through our circumstances. Our Sovereign Lord has a plan – a plan that you and I may not fully understand until we meet Him in glory. God has a plan just as He had a plan to bring us salvation through the death of His Son, Jesus on two rough pieces of wood and several large nails. The enemy thought they had outfoxed Him, the political leaders of his day thought they had won. But they could not understand that Jesus chose to accept His Father's will and went to the cross for your sake and mine.

TV Christian Teacher, Dr. Charles Stanley, in his book *In Touch with God*, says of adversity, "it is God's most effective tool insofar as spiritual growth is concerned, the degree to which we desire to grow spiritually corresponds to our ability to handle adversity successfully. If our priorities are ease, comfort, and pleasure, we will have little tolerance for adversity. We will

see it as an interruption rather than a part of God's plan for us."

It was because Philip experience persecution that the Samaritans received his message. It is because we too have heartaches and sorrows that we can reach those around us. It is because we can have real joy that God's plan can send us to others. ***What joy that is!***

Mark your Calendar...

Sunday Apr 6th – Communion

Tuesday Apr 8th & 22nd, Kid's Club returns (6:30-8pm)

Wed Apr 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th
– **Deepening Life Together: John's Revelation Revealed** 7pm

Friday Apr 18th – Good Friday **Walk of Witness** starting at MBBC @ 10am.

Sunday Apr 20th – EASTER!

Sunday Apr 27th Anniversary 2pm