



Family

West Chicago Church of Christ

Volume 40, Issue 14 • April 6, 2008

A Preacher's Perspective

The words of God in **Jeremiah 22:29** have a haunting sadness: "O land, land, land; hear the word of the Lord." They are part of a sad prophecy. No more of the children of Judah's kings would sit on the throne. Jehoiachin's uncle Zedekiah would be the last king.

The time of hearing the word for good news had passed. Now it was time to hear the word of the Lord for judgement:

"I will hand you over to those who seek your life, those you fear-to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and to the Babylonians...

You will never come back to the land you long to return to."

Jeremiah 22:25,27

Great cities, great nations, important people—all are under the sovereign power of God. There is a time for hearing God's hope and promises. There is a time for hearing God's judgement. The power of nations has never been to God more than the "dust on the scale" (**Isaiah 40**). His plans are not subject to the approval of parliaments or the impulses of tyrants. The results of tracking polls do not have relevance to God's purposes.

Except, perhaps, in this way: the polls which ask the question "Who is the Lord?" may, in fact, have great importance in God's determination of the events which are to follow.

In Jeremiah's day, the time of preaching, pleading and prophets had passed. The answer of the people to God had been consistently "no." Now the die was cast. Now Nebuchadnezzar was to be the primary agent of God's will. The enemy was, virtually, at the gate.

Then why this phrase - "O land, land, land; hear the word of the Lord"?

Here's a secret about God you may have already discovered: His mercy is beyond understanding. The wickedness of Judah could not exhaust His mercy. The

exile to Babylon was not to be the final chapter.

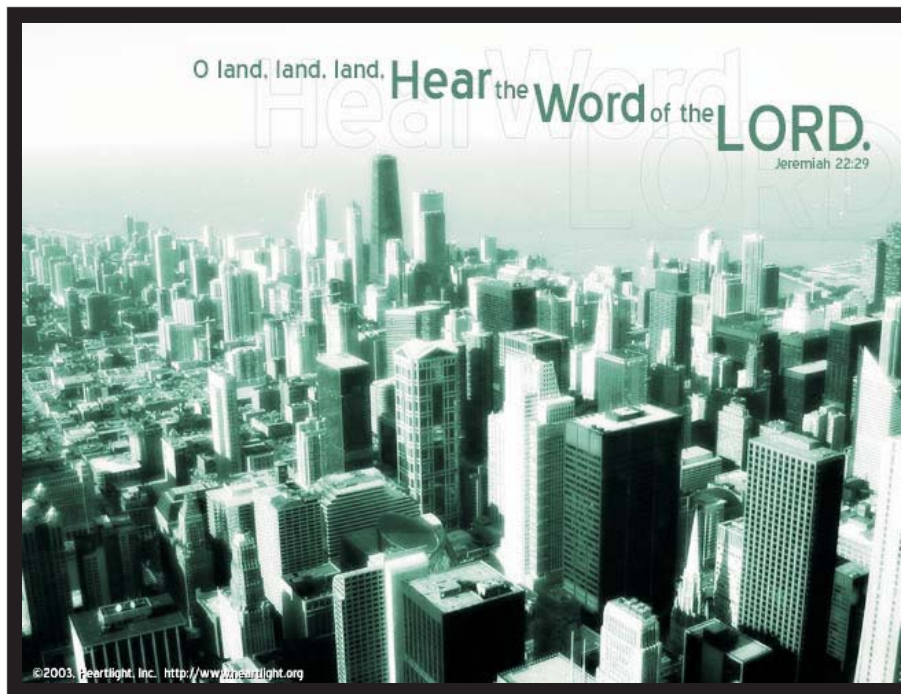
The Sun of Righteousness was still to rise! The covenant of the heart of God was still to be proclaimed and received. God's church would endure all the efforts of the enemy to defeat it.

Their hope was not to be found in "the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the

Lord" (7:4), but in the irresistible love of God and His redemptive determination.

Yet today, God's words still call, "...hear the word of the Lord." Our city cries out. Our nation staggers under the wickedness which it believes equates with freedom. Children, women, the weak and the naive fall prey to the advance of perversion in the cloak of tolerance and democratic sophistication.

"Hear the word of the Lord," and remember Jerusalem!



Chuck Miller

Welcome to the West Chicago Church of Christ

If you are visiting with us, we especially want to welcome you. We pray our time together worshipping our Father in heaven will be uplifting and encouraging.

Bible classes are available for all ages. Babies can be taken to the nursery located at the back of the auditorium. All other children meet in classrooms downstairs. Teens meet in the teen room, which is also located at the back of the auditorium. Adult classes meet in the auditorium and in the fellowship room downstairs.

Our Small Group Fellowship program takes place during the fall, winter and spring months and is on the first and third Sundays of each month and is in lieu of the Sunday evening worship. The Small Group Fellowship schedule does change occasionally due to holidays.

You are an honored guest and we want to thank you for being a part of our worship this morning!

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
(The Sunday Morning Worship is interpreted for the deaf.)
- Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
(No evening worship on Small Group Fellowship Sundays)
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of our elders.

Elders:

- Don Brewster Bob Jett
- Chuck Miller Bob Voigts

Deacons:

- Justin Avey:** Benevolence, Fellowship, Stewardship & Leadership
- Jay Hearn:** Worship & Pulpit, Communications, Outreach, Education, Benevolence
- Cliff Plummer:** Fellowship, Benevolence, Education
- Curt Robinson:** Education, Stewardship & Leadership
- Rick Root:** Communications, Education, Stewardship & Leadership
- Paul Stirrup:** Stewardship & Leadership, Benevolence



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This Morning...

Please take a moment to fill out an attendance card, especially if you are a guest this morning. Please pass them to the aisle to be picked up before the sermon. Prayer cards are also available in the pew rack. You may choose to have prayers by the elders, a prayer warrior or by the whole church family. If you choose "whole church family" it will be announced following the sermon.

Order of Worship

- Welcome
- Singing - Tim Boyd
- Announcements - Kyle Wheeler
- Singing
- Prayer - Jon Miller
- Singing
- Lord's Supper
- Contribution and Prayer Card Collection
- Sermon - Chuck Miller
- Singing
- Prayer Card Responses and Prayer - Bob Voigts
- Announcements
- Singing
- Closing Prayer - Mike Henkel

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- April 10 Kyle Wheeler

Dates to Remember

- April 6 Connection Point @ North Park
- April 6 Small Groups
- April 10 Preachers Breakfast
- April 12 RCC Board Meeting
- April 13 Sunday Night Light, Teens
- April 16 Seniors Breakfast
- April 17-19 Sheldon Heights Teacher Workshop
- April 20 Small Groups
- April 27 Sunday Night Light, Teens

Records You Helped Make

- Sunday Morning Bible Class 73
- Sunday Morning Worship 129
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class 54
- Contribution \$3,201.83

Before a word is on my tongue
you know it completely,

O LORD.
Psalm 139:4



In Our Prayers...

Sylvia Atten, Dana Howard's friend, is struggling with several life issues.

Dub Avey, the uncle of Justin Avey and Theresa Link, broke his hip in four places several weeks ago. He had surgery and is in rehab. They are working to get him ready to go back home to be with his wife.

Mary Brent, Joe Kirts' sister, continues to struggle with health issues and needs a liver transplant.

Josephine Haggerton has several health issues and will be going through tests the beginning of April.

Sue Lake, Marion's sister-in-law, has several health issues which are monitored. She is stable at this time.

Bob Voigts is cancer free. There are a couple of lymph nodes which are enlarged so he will be completing his chemotherapy treatments.

Those suffering with long-term issues:

Herman Aultman - Bobbie Whitman's brother
 Andrea Bailey - a former member from California
 Irene Barnes - Lynette Root's aunt
 Paul & Judy Bertrand - Lynette Root's parents
 Lisa Beverly - Sandy Boyd's sister who has MS
 Bonnie Bingham
 Leona Boston - Lynette Root's aunt
 Jim Brannon - Pat Brewster's brother-in-law
 Nancy Brewster
 Jim & Julie Chavez
 Bob & Chris Czernik
 John Day
 Lisa DeVaney - Marie Hayes' daughter
 Al Dorsey
 Doug Dorsey - Al's son
 Chad Englebach - Marie Hayes' grandson
 Amy Ferguson - a former member from Montana
 Jean Gray - Linda Vantreese's sister
 Elizabeth Griffin
 Sarah Hayden & family - Maria Zeisler's relative
 Mary Henkel - Mike's mother
 Kathy Huml - John Pedersen's sister
 Kelly Ieler
 Amy Kalupski - sister-in-law of Julie Chavez's friend
 Joe and Star Kuhnle - Chuck & Bobbye's foster son
 Debbie Lawrence - Bobbie Whitman's niece
 Don Lemley
 Anne Librande - Joanne Johnson's mother
 Steve Link
 Jack Lockett - the father of Charlie, Mike, Shelley,
 Julie Chavez, Missy Kissane, & Becky Pedersen
 Mike Lockett - Joan's son
 Laura Mahan - Shirley Rucker's daughter
 Steve & Melissa Massie family
 Danielle Nichols - Alyssa Milam's niece
 Tim Miller
 Josh Otte - Chris Czernik's nephew and the son of
 Marion Lake's cousin
 Doug Peterson
 Melinda Poff - the sister of Jason Willis

Neal & Pat Ronzheimer
 Fintan Schiltz - the infant son of the Hearn's neighbors
 Kay Schrader
 Chester & Phyllis Sitler
 Bruce Snyder - Bob Voigts' cousin
 Cindy Stewart - Bob Voigts' cousin
 Ollie Taylor - the niece of Lynette Root's friend
 Linda Vantreese
 Eudie Voigts - Bob's mother
 Jim & Jamie Winner
 Jim & Jeremy Whitman
 Rick & Gina Zamora

Armed forces overseas:

Greg Billings - Justin Avey's employee
 Wes Clark - the son-in-law of Lynette Root's friend
 Dustin Meritt - Justin Avey's employee
 Chris & Jennifer Roberts - Cathleen Longfellow's
 sister & brother-in-law are going to Iraq for 16
 months, they have a 1-year-old daughter
 Shane - the son of LeAnn Sexton, a friend of
 Lori Plummer's
 David Teel - Justin Avey's employee

Missionaries:

Jarrold, Allison, Soledad & Levi Brown - Honduras
 (especially for their adoption process of Soledad)
 Obadiah Doka & Family - Nigeria
 Dry Bones Ministry - homeless teens in Denver, CO
 Keith, Kim, Candace, Laura & John Mark Lango
 - Brazil
 Makinde Olufemi - Nigeria
 Shults-Lewis - the teens, their families, the workers
 Enoch & Jeannine Thweatt - Taiwan
 Joe Voigts - China - also pray for the churches and all
 the new Christians

Nursery Workers

Bev Day, Kim Sitler



Collection Counters

Paul Mullins, Paul Stirrup



It's a Boy!

Former members, Mark & Rennell Johnston, had a healthy baby boy, Shane Thomas, on Saturday, March 29. Their other children are Nick, twin girls, Reagan and Riley and Reese. Their address is: 627 Shelokum Drive, Silverton, Oregon 97381. Congratulations!

Small Groups

Today is Small Group Fellowships. Please see Don Brewster, Cliff Plummer or Bob Voigts, if you would like to join a group today. Remember there is no evening worship scheduled on Small Group Sundays.



VBS

“God’s Big Back Yard” is the theme for our VBS program this summer. We need leaders for Crafts, Bible Story, and Group Guides. We’re also looking for someone to help us with outreach into our community. If you’d like to be involved and help plan this year’s program, let Cliff know.



Wednesday Ladies Class

The book reviews continue with the following:
 April 16: Ultimate Book Review: Survey of the Bible
 April 23: The Epistles of John

National Teachers Workshop

The Sheldon Heights Church of Christ is hosting a teachers workshop, “Teaching All Things.” It will be held at the Holiday Inn, 500 Holiday Plaza Drive, in Matteson, Illinois from Thursday, April 17, until Saturday, April 19.

There is package registration or a la carte registration. Check the information on the bulletin board and sign up if you are interested. Cliff will contact you about registration. Please sign up as soon as possible.

Honduras Trip

The Honduras Mission Trip is scheduled to depart on Saturday, August 2 and will return Sunday, August 10. **The commitment deadline to go is Sunday, April 20.** A \$250 deposit to the church is due that day. Apply for a passport NOW, if you do not have one. For more information or if you have any questions, see Emily Gray.

Some of you have asked about helping to provide financial support to help those who are making the trip. See Don Brewster or any of the elders, or just give cash or a check and clearly indicate it is to support the trip.

Funds for Brian Holtin

Brian Holtin, Joe & Terrie Kirts’s son-in-law, is going on a mission campaign to Scotland with the Freed-Hardeman University Chorale. Their work will consist of choral group singing in public places (schools and malls) to generate interest in the church in Kirkcaldy, Scotland. In years past, this has generated much interest in the community and the church’s attendance has increased.

Please give any contributions you would like to make for Brian’s trip to one of the elders or place it in a Special Contribution envelope located at the back of the auditorium and put it in the collection plate. Any donations should be received by this Wednesday, April 9.

Food Pantry

The food pantry needs cereal and grocery bags. Place your donations in the bin under the table by the restrooms. Thank you!

Youth & Family News

TEENS: There is a **Connection Point** at North Park this afternoon. We’ll leave right after this morning’s services, stopping for lunch along the way. We should be back to West Chicago about 7:00 p.m.

Our next Sunday Night, Light is April 13. Guys bring pop, girls bring veggies or dessert.

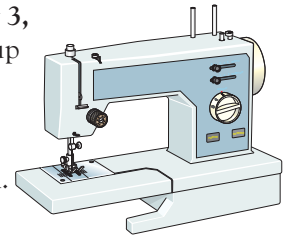
Wheaton Academy is hosting an interactive exhibit, “**World Vision AIDS Experience**,” to help people better understand the reality of life for millions of children in Africa today. Our youth group will experience the exhibit on Sunday night, April 20, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

PARENTS: We may need an extra van and driver today for the Connection Point at North Park. Please talk to Cliff if you can drive.

Ladies Day Out – Quilting

Francis Shearer has rescheduled her **Quilting Party** to either **Saturday, April 26 or May 3**, in the fellowship room. Please sign up in the foyer for the Saturday you think you will attend.

We will begin at 10:00 a.m. and then finish around 3:00 or 4:00 p.m. Bring a salad to share for lunch.



Another Ladies Day Out – Quilting

Francis Shearer is wondering if there are any ladies interested in going to the International Quilt Festival this Friday, April 11, at Rosemont. We’ll meet at the church building at 9:00 a.m. Tickets are \$10 for adult, \$8 for seniors and students/children 10 and under are free. Please sign up on the sheet in the foyer.

