

Family Items



A Clipboard of News for God's Family at Jones Road

Sick:

- ◇ Let's not forget those with ongoing issues, including **Bobby and Carol Abernathy...Jane Ola Hinkle...Exie Pepper...Ruth Peete.**
- ◇ Continue to remember **Marshall Pepper** as he struggles with his lung issues.
- ◇ Please pray for **Peggy Nave**, Susan Turner's mother and grandmother to Aimee Turner and Emily Banta. She is in Huntsville Hospital and her health has taken a serious downturn.

Miscellaneous:

- ◇ Our hearts are heavy this morning as we learned of the passing of our sister **Jeanette Newby**. Her son said she peacefully passed away around 1:00 this morning.
- ◇ Our meeting with David Thomley begins today and we need to be present and punctual each night. And let's continue to invite others!

Travelers:

- ◇ **John Harris** will be working out of town this week...

Meetings:

- ◇ Check the board for details regarding a special series of studies for teens and young adults July 21 at **Hughes Road**.
- ◇ Group 2 will meet at the Sandlins' house July 22 after the evening worship.
- ◇ The class for young mothers will be August 4. There will be a morning session from 10:00—12:00 and an afternoon session from 1:30—3:30. A box has been placed in room 11 for those who wish to submit questions, suggestions, topics, etc.

We Meet...	Elders
Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M. Sunday Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M	Mike Huggins Steve Leverette Daryl Turner
Deacons	Evangelist
Marcus Dean Ron Flatt John Harris	John R. Gibson

Jones Road Journal

July 15, 2018



Who Is God? (Part 3)

By John R. Gibson

[From "In the Beginning" Studies in Genesis, © 2018, Truth Publications.]

God of All Nations

With the call of Abraham the focus of Genesis shifts to the family of one man and that will remain the focus throughout the Old Testament, but Genesis makes it clear that Yahweh is not some regional deity limited to Canaan and the Israelites. He is portrayed as Creator of all mankind in chapters 1, 2 and the Judge of all the earth in chapters 6-9 and again in chapter 19. While these examples show His concern for and involvement with all mankind, of greatest significance to us are the repeated references to all nations being blessed as He speaks to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

“And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” 12:3

“In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.” 22:18

“And in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.” 26:4

“And in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” 28:14

When we see the LORD as the God of all nations, we should see both His love for us in Christ (Galatians 3:16) and our obligation to love all people and proclaim His gospel everywhere (Acts 10:28, 34-35; Mark 16:15-16).

The Living One Who Sees and Hears

“And the Angel of the LORD said to her:

‘Behold, you *are* with child,

And you shall bear a son.

You shall call his name Ishmael [*God hears—margin*],

Because the LORD has heard your affliction.’

Then she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, You-Are-the-God-Who-Sees; for she said, ‘Have I also here seen Him who sees

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me?’ Therefore the well was called Beer Lahai Roi [*Well of the One Who Lives and Sees Me—margin*]; observe, *it is* between Kadesh and Bered.” 16:11, 13, 14

Though God did not always directly intervene in people’s lives in Genesis and will not do so today, we are shown from the beginning that God is alive and can see and hear. Does the Lord really know our needs as we are promised in a number of passages like Matthew 6:25-34; Luke 12:22-34; et al? The God who saw Hagar by the spring sees us wherever we are! Do our prayers really mean anything? When we have studied the Genesis account, we will not be hesitant to plead with God as Abraham did in chapter 18 and the servant did in chapter 24, for our Lord lives, sees, and hears. And while this thought should be a source of great encouragement to God’s children, let’s not forget that He also can see those parts of our lives we have sought to keep hidden (cf. Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; Luke 12:1-3).

Providential

While the miracles of Genesis cause us to bow before Him in awe of His power, we should find great encouragement in the times we see God working through what has come to be referred to as providence. While providence may be defined in different ways, we use it here to speak of God’s care and provision, especially when it is done without a miracle. This book of beginnings shows us God’s ability to accomplish the desired end without mankind seeing Him at work. Examples of His providence are not limited to but include Rebekah coming to the well at the right moment (chapter 24), the increase in Jacob’s flocks and herds (31:4-13), and the rise to power of Joseph. Though what we see are envy, attempted adultery, lying, crops failing, etc., Joseph said, “God sent me before you to preserve life.... But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive” (45:5; 50:20). When we come to appreciate the fact that our God can work through nature, governments, man’s freewill and even rebellion to bring about our ultimate good (Romans 8:28), how could we fail to be a people of faith who trust Him and pray without ceasing?

Longsuffering

We noted earlier that Yahweh is both a God of wrath and of grace and this last point relates to both. His judgment will eventually come (2 Peter 3), but the story of Noah illustrates what Peter called the “Divine longsuffering” (1 Peter 3:20). The world was so wicked that the God of justice had to destroy it, yet the Lord allowed the preacher of righteousness (2 Peter 2:5) years to prepare the ark and warn of the coming judgment. It would be

the height of folly for us to presume upon that longsuffering, but aren’t we thankful the same longsuffering works for our salvation and seeks our repentance (2 Peter 3:9)?

Conclusion

While we have not covered all that could be written about God in the book of Genesis, we have seen enough to increase our faith, deepen our reverence, and strengthen our commitment to obedience. If we come to know God it will change our lives!

“And this is eternal life, **that they may know You, the only true God,** and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” John 17:3

“When the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven...in flaming fire taking vengeance on **those who do not know God**, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Thessalonians 1:7-8

All Scripture quotations are taken from the New King James Version, copyright 1995, Thomas Nelson Publishing, Inc.

Readings for July 15-21

1 Kings 19-21; 2 Chron. 17; Psa. 129; Matt. 1 / 1 Kgs. 22;
2 Chron. 18; Matt. 2 / 2 Chron. 19-20; 2 Kgs. 1; Psa. 20; Matt. 3 /
2 Kgs. 2-3; Psa. 48; Matt. 4 / 2 Kgs. 4-6; Matt. 5

Privileged to Serve

SUNDAY AM

Announcements: Steve Leverette **Song Leader:** Ron Flatt
Opening Prayer: Aaron Banta **Lord’s Supper:** David Conn
Serving Lord’s Supper: Tony R. David C. Jim D. Dustin H.
 Bryant P. James H. Mike H. Steve L.
Sermon: David Thomley **Closing Prayer:** David Hough
Count Contribution: Aaron Gabardi Don Alexander

SUNDAY PM

Announcements: Nathan Pepper **Song Leader:** Anthony Thomas
Scripture Reading: Rodney Peete **Opening Prayer:** Coulter Broadway
Sermon: David Thomley **Lord’s Supper:** Bradley Craig
 Nathan Pepper **Closing Prayer:** Drake Richter

WEDNESDAY PM

Announcements: John Harris **Song Leader:** Aaron Banta
Lesson: David Thomley **Closing Prayer:** Tony Richter
Sound Booth: Coulter B. / Nathan P. **Ushers:** Tracy S. David H.