



Hillside Monthly Dispatch

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 18 No. 6

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

June 2019

EXEMPLIFY THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

From the Pastor's Desk

Desiring A Right Spirit Within

Psalm 51:10-11

Many of you know that I often take a trip into Manchester to help out at the Harvest Food Pantry off Elm Street. Well there are many different ways to get there, and often I take a road in Hooksett that gives me a back entrance into downtown Manchester. It's a road that takes me by Southern New Hampshire University.

Well, on the side road I generally go down, there was this old white house – decrepit, dilapidated, derelict, and any other “D” word you can think of to describe how bad the house was. Recently someone bought the house and began to make the necessary repairs to upgrade it.

Over the course of a couple of months I witnessed countless thirty-yard dumpsters of housing material get hauled off to the dump. Then, without skipping a beat, the inside was reworked and totally renovated with all new materials.

During this time, the outside got a much needed upgrade in siding, roofing, and overall curb appeal. It was clear that the new owner invested a great deal of money in making the house livable for the next owner. Soon after completion, the owner then put the house up for sale and it was immediately snatched up by a wanting buyer.

You know, as I think about the house, it reminds me of a passage found in Psalm 51 in which David laments over his sin regarding the Bathsheba and Uriah incident. In the passage David rightly acknowledges his great sin and failure to uphold God's law and how he clearly betrayed the love of God with his heinous sin.

The passage reaches a point as David is begging God to take away the iniquity within him and to restore the relationship that he himself damaged. In verses 10-11 he cries out to God, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.” We see within this passage a plea from David for God to forgive, cleanse, and renew him within and without.

Much like that white house that needed much repair, David's house, that is, his very being, was decrepit, dilapidated, and derelict beyond his ability to do anything about it. So he pleaded with God Almighty to do three things.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

June 1, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

The men share a meal, then engage in a Bible discussion.

June 2, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

June 6 – 75th Anniversary of D-Day

June 14 – Flag Day

June 16 – Father's Day

Time to return the CareNet Baby Bottles.

June 21 – Summer Solstice

Longest period of daylight from sunrise to sunset. The sun reaches its highest elevation at midday.

Weekly:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School and Bible Discussion

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. – Worship Service

First, he beseeched God to get rid of all the soiled aspects of his being and create a clean heart. That is, a heart that is pure, undefiled, devoted, and holy in the sight of the living God. David recognized his sin was a staining agent that caused a massive separation between him and God. We too must be diligent in beseeching God to create in us a clean heart, for too often the sin we commit in our daily lives also creates a separation and thus it needs to be made spotless.

Second, David then asked God to renew a steadfast or right spirit within him. In other words, he asked God to not just clean out his heart, but place within him a desire to refrain from sin by loving what is righteous and holy. David knew that his heart was a hotbed of worldly desires that needed to be kept in check. He was a man of great passions that often led him into sinful opportunities. Thus he asked God to help him keep himself in check by giving him a spirit that was true to God and His ordinances.

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On the web at <http://www.hillside-sbc.org>

Pastor's Desk (from p. 1)

Third, David asked God to allow him to remain in His presence and to continually keep His Spirit within him. David remembered what happened when God removed His Spirit from King Saul. When God rejected Saul, God took away His very Spirit and Saul went mad with rage, suspicion, jealousy, and anger towards many individuals, especially towards David, a young soon-to-be King of Israel. But also David did not want to lose that special relationship that he enjoyed with God, that one-on-one bond that he had with his God. What a beautiful picture it is to see someone trying his best to keep in touch with his God.

As we consider this passage, a few things come to mind that we can learn from David's failure and repentance. First, David confessed that he sinned against God and God alone in verse 4. Though he confessed his sin before God David was fully aware of the fact that he had sinned against others: namely Uriah, Bathsheba, and frankly the whole kingdom.

It is important for us to remember that when we betray someone, do wrong towards another, or flat out sin against any person that, yes, we have wronged them and we do need to apologize and ask for forgiveness. However, never lose sight of the fact that even though we sin against any person or persons, we have first and foremost sinned against God for we have broken His standard and we need to repent before Him.

Also, we cannot hide our sin from God, thus the quicker we repent and ask forgiveness, the quicker our relationship with God will be restored. That is the beauty of our God, that, if in our brokenness, we turn to Him and repent with a heart that is true, He in no way will reject us.

God loves to forgive sinners through the blood atoning work of His Son, Jesus, thus when we come in true faith and ask to be made new, He will do it, and when He does, our relationship will be restored that much quicker. God does not enjoy broken fellowship and when it is broken both He and us lose out. So the next time you sin, instead of running *from* God, quickly turn and run *to* God, and you will know the blessings of a restored relationship with Him.

Lastly, David teaches us that to desire a holy standard in our living is a good thing. Many of us should ask God regularly to renew a steadfast or right spirit within us. That is a spirit that desires that very best of God's character to be lived out in our lives daily. It is a desire to do what is righteous and holy in a world that is sorely lacking in such character. It is an aspiration to be more than a redeemed person who is struggling to make it in this fallen world of sin, but to be a redeemed person who exemplifies the attributes of a magnificent God who is love.

Ask God and He will give you a right or steadfast heart that enables you to walk in a holy standard before Him, for His glory and for His greatness. Oh, the Lord be praised for how wonderful and benevolent He is, all glory and honor be given to Him, our God, now and forever, Amen.

✠ Pastor Jim

Men's Breakfast

This month's breakfast was met with several last minute cancellations so the two who attended enjoyed French toast, scrambled eggs, breakfast sausage, and coffee. With such limited attendance, the Bible Study was postponed until next time.

Property and Space Patrol

The grass keeps growing so we keep on mowing. The Spring Cleaning Day was dispensed with since the air conditioners were the only task needing attention.

✠ Pastor Al

Cold Water and Heated Conversations

To keep your marriage strong, learn how to listen well.

by Dr. Greg Smalley

I was cooking a meal with my wife, Erin. Once the chicken was on a platter, I put the skillet and glass lid in the sink.

"Make sure that you don't run cold water over the lid," Erin shouted from across the kitchen. I'm not an idiot; I know how to wash dishes, I thought, as I ran cold water over the lid.

Blam! The lid exploded. Glass flew everywhere. I looked at Erin. "I don't think you're supposed to use cold water," I said sheepishly.

Most of us want our husband or wife to pay attention to what we say, but I suspect that many of us are not always the most attentive listeners ourselves. To keep from pouring cold water on our relationship, we first need to learn how to listen well. This is especially true when discussing deeper matters of the heart.

Let me give you several pointers about how to actively listen:

- Turn toward your spouse and look him or her in the eyes.
- Resist distractions, such as your phone or the television.
- Pay attention to your spouse's nonverbal cues and body language.
- Don't think about rebuttals or whether you agree.
- Let your husband or wife finish talking. And, when it's appropriate, repeat what you hear your spouse saying for clarification.
- Pay special attention to your spouse's feelings.

Later that evening, Erin and I were revisiting the moment. "Glass went everywhere!" I said. "I could have been seriously injured."

"Exactly," Erin said. "That's why I told you not to use cold water." Feeling the emotional energy intensifying, I tried to calm the situation: "Don't worry. I'll buy you a new glass lid."

See Cold Water on p. 3

Cold Water, from p. 2

"You're missing the point of my frustration," Erin said. "I don't care about the lid. I felt disregarded." Every part of me wanted to defend myself. Instead, I leaned into empathy. "You're right," I said. "Thank you," Erin said. And then she added, "To make up for it, you can buy me a new Alessi cooking set. It's only \$4,500."

We ended up having a nice conversation that night. Holding Erin's hand as we talked created a special connection I was deeply grateful for. I'm also grateful that Erin forgot about the Alessi set.

The Great Rescue Mission

The following dramatic story comes from the *Our Daily Bread* devotional booklet for March 10, 2019. Written by regular contributor Bill Crowder, it ties the story of how Jesus rescued Zacchaeus, the tax collector (Luke 19:1-10), to a modern day rescue by the U.S. Coast Guard.



Coast Guard Rescue Boat CG 36500

On February 18, 1952, a massive storm split the SS Pendleton, a tanker ship, into two pieces about ten miles off the Massachusetts coast. More than forty sailors were trapped inside the ship's sinking stern in the midst of fierce winds and violent waves.

When word of the disaster reached the Coast Guard station in Chatham, Massachusetts, Boatswain's Mate First Class Bernie Webber took three men on a rescue boat to try to save the stranded crew against nearly impossible odds—and brought thirty-two of the seemingly doomed sailors to safety. Their courageous feat was deemed one of the greatest rescues in United States Coast Guard history and was the subject of the 2016 film *The Finest Hours*.

In Luke 19:10, Jesus declared His own rescue mission: "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." The cross and the resurrection became the ultimate expression of that rescue, as Jesus took on Himself our sins and restored to the Father all who trust Him. For 2,000 years, people have embraced His offer of abundant life now and eternal life with Him. Rescued!

As followers of Jesus we have the privilege, with the Holy Spirit's help, to join our Savior in the greatest rescue mission of all. Who in your life needs His rescuing love?

Tune in to Gospel Radio

In the Concord area, get more of God's Word by tuning into New Hampshire Gospel Radio at 99.1 FM or 104.3 FM. For example, on Saturday nights at 6 p.m. the locally produced "Saturday Night Gospel Hour" offers a wide variety of southern and country gospel music. During the week, tune into well known speakers such as Alistair Begg, Chuck Swindoll, Dr. David Jeremiah, and Dr. Jim Daly.

Learn more at <http://www.nhgr.org/>.

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Hillside wishes a happy, happy, happy birthday to the following people who are celebrating another orbit around the Sun:

- 6/4 Nanette Dawson
- 6/8 Gail Frascinella



Hillside also wishes God's blessing on the following people who celebrate a wedding anniversary this month:

- 6/6 Jim and Michelle Robertson
- 6/22 John and Tracey Bachand

Prayer Requests

If you need us to pray for a physical, spiritual, financial, marital, or other need, contact Pastor Jim, Pastor Al, or Michael Frascinella and they will get the word out to the membership. It is our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hillside on the Web

Go to the Hillside web site <http://www.hillside-sbc.org/> for more information about our fellowship, including this newsletter in PDF format.

Submissions for Next Issue

Deadline is June 25. Send news items to News Wrangler and Editor, Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella at comcast dot net.



Hillside Baptist Church is a member of the New Hampshire Baptist Association, part of the Southern Baptist Convention.



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Modeling the truth of God's Word



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