



Hillside Monthly Dispatch

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 18 No. 11

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

November 2019

BUILDING BRIDGES TO OTHERS

From the Pastor's Desk

Islands We Are Not!

Genesis 2:18

To my surprise I saw a lone deer in the yard the other day. When I opened up the curtains, there he was, a young buck eating something on the ground, he was probably eating from the plethora of acorns that have fallen from the trees next to my office. It was early and my eyes were still a little blurry so I rubbed them to be sure I was seeing only one deer. Honestly, I thought I saw a couple of deer to the right but my eyes hadn't yet adjusted to the bright daylight that was glaring my vision even further.

As I paused to behold the majestic young buck I noticed a pattern of behavior that really emphasized his aloneness. He would eat for two seconds, then pop his head up and look in a particular direction. Then he would eat for two seconds and again pop his head up and look in a whole other direction. He did this several times glaring off into the distances longer than he was allowing himself to eat.

Now I bring this up because we have had many deer come through our yard between the house and the church. In the past I observed a rather high level of security among a group of deer than what I observed among this one lonely deer. He was obviously nervous, scared, unsure of his surroundings, and cautious to the point of frozen panic. That is until a loud noise from across the street at Associated Grocers caused him to jump out of his skin and quickly run into the woods for cover.

That incident has made me consider our general state or well-being when we try to go it alone in this world. God has made humanity to be communal people. A healthy person recognizes the times in which it is okay to be alone and at other times the need for companionship when things become difficult or lonely. Yet isolation can get at us at any given time in our lives, and when that happens we need to recognize that God provided a way in which we do not have to be alone.

This is clearly seen in Genesis 2:18 when God said about Adam, "It is not good for man to be alone, I will make him a helper." This is an amazing and wonderful account in which God recognized that, though Adam (man) enjoyed communion with Him, man still had a loneliness in which

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Nov. 2, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

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

Nov. 3, 2:00 a.m. – Turn Clocks Back

Nov. 3, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

Nov. 11 – Veteran's Day

A day to honor those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Nov. 28 – Thanksgiving Day

A day to thank the Lord for all our blessings.

Weekly:

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

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

Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m. – Weekly Bible Study

there was none like him in all the world. Thus God made for him a helpmate in the form of a woman in which she complemented him in every way. Thus Adam was no longer alone.

God's design for this life is that there are three pillars that uphold every society. If one of those pillars is misaligned in anyway then the other two suffer and the world as a whole does not operate as effectively as it could. The three pillars are the government/society, the church, and the family. Each must work in conjunction with the other in order to achieve the design God has intended them to have.

Notice that each institution or pillar has at its very core communion. One cannot have a government/society without multiple individuals operating within it, thus a level of companionship is achieved within that particular pillar.

The second is the church. Now I know that we no longer live in the Christian-oriented world that we once enjoyed, but

See Pastor's Desk on p. 2

In This Issue: Pastor's Message | Upcoming Events | Men's Breakfast | Property & Space Patrol | Time Change | Federalist Papers | Lying | Gospel Radio | Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Pastor's Desk (from p. 1)

that does not mean God's design in nullified by mankind's sinful disobedience. The church, that is the place where the people of God find communion, has always been an avenue to find like-minded individuals in which we can find support, comfort, encouragement, and love. It was designed to fill a gap for those who are without such family or support.

Lastly, the family undergirds the other two. Just as the government is to protect the family and provide freedom for the church, and the church is to give guidance to government and the family, so too the family penetrates both government and church by providing the greatest influence of all – a Christian morality and ethic that can effect policies and religious observance from the clear teaching of the Bible.

All of this is to say, we are not islands unto ourselves, and we were never meant to be. Yes there are individuals who will never marry, but that does not negate their need for some community or support in their lives. Also, there are some who are lonely even in a crowd, but that is less about the lack of presence of community and more about a severe case of mental or emotional disorders that disrupt the natural plan of God for community.

There are always outliers to every subject, but the Bible clearly teaches us that even in a universe where God declared everything "very good," He still said that it is not good for individuals to be alone. Thus God provided for all of us community. Whether it is a community called "society," or a community called the "church," or a community called "marriage and/or family" God has provided for you and me a means of help to get through this world of difficulty. Help where we don't have to feel helpless, alone, afraid, or scared.

If you are a person who tends to be lonely, then the best thing you can do for yourself is to engage those whom God has placed in your life. Like God giving Eve to Adam, He has provided individuals throughout your life to assist you in times of trials and in times of triumph. God has given you people who have loved you and supported you and encouraged you to keep moving forward. Let me encourage you now to seek out communion with others. If you are a lonely individual, you need not be so. Engage others in the church and find the support God has provided for you and build a bridge from your island of self to the main shoreline of others.

✝ Pastor Jim

Men's Breakfast

This event comes early this month, on Saturday November 2nd at 8:00 a.m., so think hard and fast about what you might bring to share at breakfast. Whatever it is, we will enjoy the variety of breakfast foods that we have to choose from.

After breakfast, we will open to the Book of Mark and continue our monthly discussion of this gospel, which has only 16 chapters. This is always a good opportunity to gain new insights into God's Word.

Property and Space Patrol

There is not much to report. Everything seems to be under control. All the leaves are down and slowly blowing away down the street. The air conditioning units have been put into storage and the windows closed down.

The A/C units are several years old and showing their age, with rust in the cages and the A/C pans and deteriorated side shutters. We have the winter to figure out whether to keep them, replace them, or investigate alternative cooling methods.

✝ Pastor Al

Time Change

On Saturday night, be sure to set your clocks back one hour as we transition from Eastern Daylight Time to Eastern Standard Time.

If you don't do this, then, when you think you are on time for the 9:30 a.m. Sunday School session, you will actually arrive at 8:30 a.m. and have to sit in your car waiting for someone to open the church.

If you do correctly set your clock back one hour, then you will get an extra hour of snoozing. How great is that?

Or you could take advantage of that extra hour and vacuum the house before you leave for church!



God in the Federalist Papers

In the summer of 1787, representatives of the newly formed United States braved the sweltering heat of Philadelphia to attend the Constitutional Convention and draft a replacement for the failed Articles of Confederation. Convention delegates included such luminaries as James Madison of Virginia, Alexander Hamilton of New York, and George Washington of Virginia, who was elected President of the convention. After the final draft was approved, the next major obstacle was to convince the citizens in each of the 13 states to adopt it as the law of the land.

To urge New Yorkers to adopt it, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, and James Madison wrote a series of essays between October 1787 and May 1788. These essays were published in two New York newspapers and in several other states. These essays became known as the Federalist Papers.

In Federalist No. 2, John Jay waxed eloquently about the blessings of Providence. Here is an excerpt from that essay. Italics have been added for emphasis.

"It has often given me pleasure to observe that independent America was not composed of detached and distant territories, but that one connected, fertile, widespreading country was the portion of our western sons of liberty. *Providence has in a particular manner blessed it with a variety of soils and productions, and watered it with innumerable streams, for the delight and accommodation of its inhabitants. A succession of navigable waters forms a*

See Federalist Papers on p. 3

Federalist Papers, from p. 2

kind of chain round its borders, as if to bind it together; while the most noble rivers in the world, running at convenient distances, present them with highways for the easy communication of friendly aids, and the mutual transportation and exchange of their various commodities.

"With equal pleasure I have as often taken notice that *Providence has been pleased to give this one connected country to one united people*--a people descended from the same ancestors, speaking the same language, professing the same religion, attached to the same principles of government, very similar in their manners and customs, and who, by their joint counsels, arms, and efforts, fighting side by side throughout a long and bloody war, have nobly established general liberty and independence.

"This country and this people seem to have been made for each other, and it appears as if *it was the design of Providence*, that an inheritance so proper and convenient for a band of brethren, united to each other by the strongest ties, should never be split into a number of unsocial, jealous, and alien sovereignties."

The Danger of Lying

A priest told his congregation, "Next week, I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To prepare you for my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as the priest began his sermon, he asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17 as he requested. Most of the congregation raised their hands.

The priest smiled and said, "Mark has only 16 chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

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 person who is celebrating another orbit around the Sun:

11/29 Michelle Robertson



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

11/28 Jack & Cynthia Ward

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 Nov. 25. Send news items to News Wrangler and Editor, Michael Frascinella, mfrascinella@comcast.net.



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



Hillside Baptist Church
547 Pembroke St.
Pembroke, NH 03275

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