



HILLSIDE MONTHLY DISPATCH

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

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Modeling the Truth of God's Word

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Share God's Word

From the Pastor's Desk

One Great Message from One Great Verse

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him, would not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Have you ever had anyone cut you off while driving? Have you ever had anyone look at you like you have two heads? Have you ever had anyone tell you off because of what you said? Do you know someone who just doesn't like you? If you haven't, I would be quite surprised.

We live in a fallen world in which we exist with many different kinds of personalities and dispositions. It is a society that, metaphorically speaking, yells from the mountain top “I am the most important one in my world, so get along or get out of the way.”

If you let yourself stop and dwell on it, such a world can drastically drag you down into the pit of despair and frustration. I admit that it can be terribly irritating to be around such people, but have you ever stopped to think about the other person in such a way that Christ died for them too? If you haven't thought of it, then let me encourage you to start interacting with others around you like you *have* thought of it.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is for everyone and what is nice is that it is wrapped up into one verse in Scripture, and that verse is John 3:16. This one great message from this one great verse can answer man's deepest needs and answer his biggest questions on life.

Awhile back I had the opportunity to hear a very well delivered sermon on John 3:16. The sermon

Upcoming Events and Meetings

July 3, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

July 4 – Independence Day



Weekly:

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

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

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. – Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Al Page

was so good that I, in a type of subconscious way, picked up a new book off my shelf on the very subject. (I have a bookcase in my office in which I have a hundred or so books in which I haven't yet read, so that it why it is new to me.)

The book is entitled “Whosoever Will” and without really noticing it at the bottom, there was a small excerpt that said “Reflections from the John 3:16 Conference.” The whole book is about a need to argue for the reality that the gospel message is for anyone who will accept.

In the very first chapter of the book, there is an article by Jerry Vines who is noted in Christian circles as one of the best known preachers and writers on sermons. The article of course is on John 3:16 in which he writes on how important this simple verse in the Gospel of John is.

See Pastor's Desk on p. 2

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

Pastor's Desk (from p. 1)

On page 14 in regards to meeting the needs of everyone he states, "John 3:16 addresses a number of 'isms.' The phrase 'For God' responds to atheism, which claims there is no God. The phrase 'so loved' responds to fatalism, which asserts God is an impersonal force. The phrase 'the world' responds to nationalism, which says God loves only one group of people. The phrase 'that He gave' responds to materialism, which says it is more blessed to receive than to give. The phrase 'His only begotten Son' responds to Mohammedism, which says God has no Son.

The phrase 'that whosoever believes' responds to five point Calvinism, which says Christ died only for the elect. The phrase 'in Him' responds to pluralism, which says all religions are equal. The phrase 'should not perish' responds to annihilationism, which says there is no hell. The phrase 'but have everlasting life' responds to Arminianism, which says God only gives life conditionally. John 3:16 is a simple biblicism which reveals the mind, the heart, and the will of God."

If you get a chance please read through that quote one more time. The statement is concise and speaks to the point, God sent his son so that all who receive him will live with him forever, but all who do not receive him will perish for the same amount of time.

This verse is a sermon in a nutshell on eternal life in Christ to anyone who will stop and hear you preach this good news. It is a verse that should make all stop and ask "Am I the whosoever?"

Of course the answer is yes, you are. He is, she is, they are, I am, we all are the whosoever that can accept the salvation of Jesus Christ.

Let me encourage you once again to be prepared to share this message. I know that this verse has been used so many times that it seems to have lost its punch, but the truth is the only punch it has lost is in the sight of many in the Christian community.

To the world outside of our Christian circles, this is a verse that is yet to be learned in their life.

Please take the time to recognize the need to share this one great message from one great verse and

who knows you just might see some come into the kingdom through your faithfulness to share.

✝ Pastor Jim

Property and Space Patrol

Mowing the front and back lawns continues on a weekly basis.

✝ Pastor Al

Is God Listening? Yes!

The following humorous and also serious story appeared in the June 26, 2021 *Our Daily Bread* devotional booklet. It was based on Jeremiah 29:10-14 and was written by Con Campbell. Read the scripture and then read the following story.

United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt often endured long receiving lines at the White House. As the story is told, he complained that no one paid attention to what was said. So, he decided to experiment at a reception. To everyone who passed down the line and shook his hand, he said, "I murdered my grandmother this morning." The guests responded with phrases like, "Marvelous! Keep up the good work. God bless you, Sir." It wasn't until the end of the line, greeting the ambassador from Bolivia, that his words were actually heard. Nonplussed, the ambassador whispered, "I'm sure she had it coming."

Do you ever wonder if people are really listening? Or worse, do you fear that God isn't listening? We can tell if people are listening based on their responses or eye contact. But how do we know if God is listening? Should we rely on feelings? Or see if God answers our prayers?

After seventy years of exile in Babylon, God promised to bring His people back to Jerusalem and secure their future (Jeremiah 29:10-11). When they called upon Him, He heard them (v. 12). They knew that God heard their prayers because He promised to listen. And the same is true for us (1 John 5:14). We don't need to rely on feelings or wait for a sign to know that God listens to us. He's promised to listen, and He always keeps His promises (2 Corinthians 1:20).

Review: "How We Got Our Bible"

When you pick up a Bible, you think, what do I read first, Old Testament, New Testament, Genesis, Matthew? How do I know it's worth reading? It's really old so it is still true and valid for today.

In Neil Lightfoot's 1986 publication, *How We Got the Bible*, you learn about papyrus, parchment, and vellum, the oldest materials used to record the books of the Bible, the original languages in which the Scriptures were written like Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek, the uncial and miniscule types of writing. Lightfoot also covers errors of the copyists and the rise of textual criticism as a way to determine correct readings, the early efforts starting with Erasmus in 1516 to produce an accurate Greek New Testament after Guttenberg's invention of the printing press. Other chapters cover the earliest attempts to translate the ancient manuscripts into English by such pioneers as John Wycliffe (in 1382) and William Tyndale (in 1526 (NT) and 1530 (OT)) and the efforts to suppress those translations. You also find out about the astounding discoveries of manuscripts no more than a few hundred years removed from the time of Jesus and the apostles, manuscripts older than the ones used to produce the famous 1611 King James Bible.

In later chapters, Lightfoot discusses how it was decided what books of the Bible were valid to include in "The Canon" (referring to a measuring rod) and which ones were inferior like the Old Testament Apocrypha and New Testament Apocrypha.

The final chapter ends with a summary of the book's major points. At the end of each chapter are a summary and discussion questions in case the book is used in a Bible Study.

The book, as they say, is "illuminating."

✝ Michael Frascinella

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Hillside wishes a happy, happy birthday to these people who celebrate another orbit around the Sun:

7/19 Frank Dawson
7/21 Florence Omar
7/22 Gabriel Davis



Hillside also wishes God's blessing on any folks who celebrate a wedding anniversary this month. If that's you, let the editor know about it.

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.

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.

During the week, tune into well known speakers such as Alistair Begg, Chuck Swindoll, Dr. David Jeremiah, and Dr. Jim Daly. In the evenings catch the latest episode of "Adventures in Odyssey."

Also, in the wee hours of Saturday and Sunday mornings, if you can't sleep, tune in to Praise & Worship music.

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

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.

Sermons are also recorded weekly and published on the web site as podcasts in mp3 format.

Submissions for Next Issue

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



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

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