

# The Messenger

A Publication of Community Bible Fellowship

June 2019



The *righteous*  
man walks in his  
*integrity*  
his children are  
*blessed*  
after him.

---

Proverbs 20:7

---

# HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



## June Tidbits...

### **BABY BOTTLES for LIFE**

Our participation in Pregnancy Resources "Baby Bottles for Life" campaign has begun. Grab your baby bottle and fill it with coins, cash or checks. Then, return your baby bottle to the church and grab another, if you so wish. We'll be collecting monetary donations for this campaign until Father's Day. See Mark Barnhouse for more information.

### **CBF DUTY @ MERCER COUNTY FOOD PANTRY**

Do you want to be a doer of good work? Here's your chance! It's our turn to serve at Mercer County Food Pantry. We have two serve dates: Tuesday, June 4th, from 5:30 to 7 PM; and Friday, June 7th, from 8 AM to 12 noon. Just show up, and they'll put you to work doing much!

### **CBF RUMMAGE SALE COLLECTION**

Our CBF Rummage Sale is June 7 and 8, again during Aledo's Rhubarb Fest. Items for the sale will be accepted in the chapel June 2nd through noon on June 6th. We're also in need of volunteers to help prepare and man the sale. If you'd like to help set up, tear down or work at the sale, please contact Roy Langley as soon as possible. Proceeds from this sale will go towards our church mortgage.

### **RHUBARB PIES ~ SALE**

We will be selling rhubarb pies again this year at our annual CBF Rummage Sale. Proceeds from this year's pie sales will again go to Royal Family Kids' Camps. A list of needed supply donations will be available as pie-making time approaches. See Shannon VanZummeren if you'd like to help in some way.

### **CBF ANNUAL FISHING DERBY!**

OK, fishing pros and novices, it's time again for our

annual CBF Father's Day Fishing Derby. On Saturday, June 15th, we'll gather from 10 AM to 1 PM at Don and Jinnie Johnson's pond. (Directions: head north out of Aledo on Highway 94, go ½ mile past the airport - the Johnson residence is on the east side of the highway). We'll provide a hot dog, chips and tater salad lunch to all who join us. Prizes will be awarded for the smallest, biggest, and most fish caught. Bring your poles, tackle and lawn chairs. We'll have a few poles available if you don't have one. And great news - a fishing license is not necessary; Illinois has free fishing for the Father's Day weekend! Yay! Plan to attend and bring your friends and family. It's a load of fun! See Roy Langley for more information.

### **DIAPER COMPETITION**

Our diaper drive was a huge success! Our CBF Family brought in a total of 5484 diapers to be donated to Bella's Closet. The gals were the big winners of the competition - donating 2752 diapers. But...it was a close race! The guys brought in 2732 diapers! Wow! It is truly wonderful to see so many folks pulling together to show God's love! A big thank you goes out to Rachel Barnhouse and Jeanette Sipes for heading up this fun competition for such a worthy cause!





## ***Do Not Fear... You Are Mine!***

It is hard to believe that Kelli and I have been serving here at Community Bible Fellowship for six months now. During that time, I have seen my faith grow in immeasurable ways. I have encountered things I have never experienced before and tripped over my own feet multiple times. On a few occasions, I have experienced the unusual sensation of fear as I explore my new surroundings and the awesome responsibility of being your pastor. Recently, this has led me to ask myself a new question. What would I do if I weren't afraid? Sure, it might be a slightly cheesy and cliché question, but maybe it's cliché because it's true.

Fear has a way of stopping us in our tracks. It has a way of keeping us in our boxes because that unknown place outside of our comfort zones is just a little too wild and unpredictable and scary. One of the most frequent commands that God or God's messengers give in Scripture is to fear not. Fear is one of those things that gets in the way on our faith journeys; it is one of those things that keeps us from experiencing the fullness of who God is, how God is moving in the world and who God is calling us to be.

**Isaiah 43:1 (NASB),**

**Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine!**

When God called Moses out of his comfort zone at the burning bush, Moses' first responses were those of fear: fear of failure, fear of not being enough, fear of how people will respond, fear of the unknown. Out of fear, Moses begs God to please send someone else and to let him keep living his quiet and comfortable life. God calls Moses beyond his fear, recognizing that these are indeed scary things, but that God will be with Moses - so they are not reasons not to try.

When the Israelites heard from Moses what God was going to do, they too responded with fear. Because as much as they wanted

freedom, the risk and uncertainty was frightening; so time and again, they struggled. These are just some of the countless stories from Scripture of people experiencing fear and God calling them beyond that fear.

Fear is a reality of life and something that we all have in common. We all meet and experience fear daily, whether we are aware of it or not. And that fear we meet impacts our decisions. Sometimes this is helpful. A healthy fear of heights, for example, can keep us from accidentally falling off things. But often our fears impact our actions and thoughts in unhealthy ways. Often our fears cause us to box ourselves in or stagnate; they cause us to respond in brittle and anxious ways with others rather than with love. Maybe in those hundreds of times that God asks us to fear not in the Bible, God isn't asking us to do the impossible and live completely without fears. Maybe God is asking us to decide what we will do with our fears, to decide if we will let them hold us back or if we will hear the call of God to follow Jesus into that unknown, wild place of God's love.

So, what would you do if you weren't afraid? It's a question that helps open our hearts to hear how God might be nudging and calling each of us. Maybe if we weren't afraid, we would reach out to that person we haven't talked to in a while. Maybe if we weren't afraid, we would tell someone we love them. Maybe if we weren't afraid, we would talk about our faith lives with our friends. Maybe if we weren't afraid, we would try something new that we might fail at.

What would you do, if you weren't afraid?

In His grip,  
Pastor Paul Karsten

## A Note from Women's Ministry

I would like to thank all the women who joined our recent Beth Moore Bible Study on the Fruit of Spirit. It was such an awesome time for us to dive into God's Word on a deeper level, while also getting to know each other a little better. Being still new here to Aledo, I was blessed by the number of committed women who stuck with the 10-week study. There was a lot of homework through this study, and I was amazed at how many women did most or all of the homework. I was even more blessed by the spiritual wisdom that was shared through our reading God's Word and discussing what we learned through the prior week's homework. I would also like to thank all of the women for helping me to create a safe place by upholding my confidentiality requirement. I believe that Women's Bible Study should not only be a place where we can learn and grow spiritually together, but it can also be a place where we can share personal information, trusting that what is shared stays in the room. Thank you for taking this as seriously as I do and trusting me with the things you shared in class. The fellowship we shared together in and out of class has been so encouraging as I get to know some of you and feel more at home here in Aledo. Thank you for accepting me and my family with open arms. I'm excited to see what the future holds for Women's Ministry and for our church family.

I wanted to take this opportunity to share some highlights from our Beth Moore study, with the desire to refresh those of you who joined the study, as well as provide some encouragement to those of you who were not able to join us this time around.

- We all have a purpose that is beyond us. This means that our purpose will stretch us beyond ourselves and out of our comfort zones. Without the Holy Spirit to guide us and provide us with His wisdom, we are not able to fulfill the calling He has placed on each one of us.
- God has gifted us with the power of influence. As women, we must be very careful how we use that influence, for it can be used to be uplifting and encouraging, or it can be used to tear each other down and cripple our relationships.
- If we are truly filled with the Holy Spirit, we are protected from other spiritual forces inhabiting us.
- Only through the Holy Spirit are we able to spiritually discern what is good and what is bad. Not everything we face is in black and white, thus we need spiritual discernment to guide us when there is uncertainty or unfamiliarity.
- Attitudes and behaviors can be contagious; influential in both good and bad ways. Love forgives = Grace for one another.
- Our reservation in heaven provides us with joy.
- God calls us to be peacemakers, not peacekeepers.

- Only God's judgment is pure and righteous and free from being tainted by sin. When we judge others, we condemn ourselves. Let God be the judge.
- God is using aggravating people to complete us. This is specifically talking about the patience that we can have when we are filled with the Fruit of the Spirit. However, cultivating all the fruit provides us with the ability to have relationships with difficult people in our lives.
- Those who are faithful will bear fruit and will be rewarded.
- We need to own up to our own stuff...our hurts and our struggles. We need to recover and move on so that we can minister to others.
- God makes himself believable to us every single day. We only need to seek Him in all that we do and experience in life.
- Focus on who God is over what God does. Faith is believing in what we do not see.
- Fear cripples faith but faith cripples fear.
- God will use circumstances to humble us. But we will also be given opportunities where we must humble ourselves before God and others.
- Continue seeking God's wisdom so that our words, actions and attitudes are building up the body of Christ and bringing glory to God.

As we wrapped up the Beth Moore Bible Study on the Fruit of the Spirit, many women were anxious to hear when the next study would start and what would it focus on. At this point, there are several thoughts as to where we will go next in our Bible study together. However, the needs of all of you and where the Holy Spirit guides me are essentials in determining what study is most appropriate and beneficial. I have given the women who attended the recent study a survey to rate the over-all study, as well as provide me feedback on what areas they might want to focus on studying. I would like to open this request for feedback to all of you women in the church, and ask that you would contact me with some ideas you might have. Here are some topics that have been suggested: mothers-focused, godly wives-focused, mentoring and discipleship, Holy Spirit focused, equipping with God's armor, specific books of the Bible, other Beth Moore studies, other Bible teacher studies, other suggestions. I would love to know what you all would like to see in our Women's Ministry going forward, so my ears are open to ideas and suggestions. I'm looking forward to growing right alongside all of you as we focus on what God would have us learn and do through His ministry for women.

In His Service,  
Kelli Karsten

# Omaha Trip

by Margaret Puckett

## Carry one another's burdens; in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. (Galatians 6:2)

My husband and I enjoy being able to help others carry their burdens by volunteering to work with disaster relief. We find it spiritually fulfilling while we take part in fulfilling the law of Christ, which is to help others, especially believers, in times of need; to encourage other believers; and most importantly to love.

Over Easter break from my teaching position at a local elementary school, my husband and I traveled to Whitehall, NE (just outside Omaha) to help a couple who had lost almost everything in a flood. They lived near the Platte River, which had swelled to a dangerous level, causing a breach in the levee. Areas that had never experienced flooding before were destroyed by swiftly moving water. The home of Maggie and Steve DeGunia was one of the structures in the path.

Maggie is a graduate of Aledo High School and was a good friend of our daughter throughout high school and after. She and her husband believe on the Lord. They did not have flood insurance, and they spent much of their savings in the last year fixing up this home, which they had purchased last year. They have two little girls under the age of nine and an adopted daughter who is sixteen. All their personal belongings are gone, as well as all their furniture. They are hoping that some of the appliances can be repaired. They are currently staying with friends.

To make matters worse, Steve developed an unusual infection in his leg and had to be hospitalized for several days, which also took him out of work. Steve drives a truck, and Maggie is a hair designer. They work long hours and have little time to spend on the house. They were unable to get into the area after the flooding for several weeks, and getting to the house even now is a true off-road experience!



Getting to the property was a true off-road experience. Most of the roads in the area are partially, or completely washed away. Only off-road vehicles can access the roads at this time.

During our two-day stay, we were able to remove a subfloor in the kitchen, which revealed a layer of mud that had to be scraped up. They had previously removed drywall four feet up from the floor, but mold was beginning to grow up on an area of one of the bedroom walls, so we removed more drywall and sprayed Shockwave to keep the mold from spreading, as we also did in the kitchen once the flooring was removed. We removed some moldy walls that were around the laundry area, as well as an area behind a fireplace. We whittled down a pile of debris piled ten feet high that could be burned, and took care of some other minor mud-out work. We were able to begin putting some insulation in the walls before we left.

"Between the generous donations people have sent and FEMA, we will not only be able to rebuild but also afford flood insurance for the future and NOT have to claim bankruptcy."

We thank our church family for praying for this family in their time of need. With the flooding in our area now, we may soon have other opportunities to help someone in need. We ask that you be ready to volunteer if the opportunity arises so that you, too, can fulfill the law of Christ. You will be amazed at what changes will happen within your own heart as you serve others.



Maggie helped us remove the subfloor in the kitchen. She really enjoyed taking her frustrations out on the floor with the mattock (tool) Rick gave her to use.



The water was eighteen inches deep inside the house and stood at that depth for several weeks, leaving mud and debris behind.



These piles of debris are all that's left of the personal property and furniture that was inside the house. The wood items can be burned, but it will be a long time before debris removal trucks can enter the area due to the road destruction. It was difficult for the couple to watch their things be thrown into a burn pile.

## Something to Consider...



A worried woman went to her gynecologist and said, "Doctor, I have a serious problem and desperately need your help! My baby is not even 1 year old and I'm pregnant again. I don't want kids so close together."

So, the doctor said, "Ok and what do you want me to do?"

She said, "I want you to end my pregnancy, and I'm counting on your help with this."

The doctor thought for a little while, and after some silence he said to the lady, "I think I have a better solution for your problem. It's less dangerous for you too."

She smiled, thinking that the doctor was going to accept her request.

Then he continued, "You see, for you not to have to take care 2 babies at the same time, let's kill the one in your arms. This way, you could rest some before the other one is born. If we're going to kill one of them, it doesn't matter which one it is. There would be no risk for your body if you chose the one in your arms."

The lady was horrified and said, "No doctor! How terrible! It's a crime to kill a child!"

"I agree," the doctor replied, "but you seemed to be OK with it, so I thought maybe that was the best solution."

The doctor smiled, realizing that he had made his point.

He convinced the mom that there is no difference in killing a child that's already been born and one that's still in the womb.

The crime is the same!

"Love says I sacrifice myself for the good of the other person. Abortion says I sacrifice the other person for the good of myself..."

Jesus sacrificed Himself for the good of sinners! That's perfect love!

~ Author Unknown



## A Note from the Hospitality Team

by Jinnie Johnson

The Hospitality Team was very busy during the month of April with preparations for our Passover celebration. Our team is very small so it was truly wonderful to have had so many from our congregation help us with this special celebration. We served 74 people a roast beef dinner that evening. Thank you for making this a successful celebration.

A special thank goes out to "Roy and Friends" for preparing and serving our congregation a terrific Resurrection Breakfast on Easter Sunday. This group has many talented cooks; the food was delicious! God has blessed our team through servants such as these; we truly appreciate them!

Coming Father's Day... a PIE FELLOWSHIP! Ladies, it's your turn to step up! Pastor Karsten is asking all ladies of the church to bring her favorite pie to service Sunday, June 16th – homemade or store-bought. After worship service, we'll cut the pies and have a special fellowship in honor of our CBF dads and men. Join us; it's sure to be a sweet time!

Friends,

Over the last few months, I have received several inquiries and questions that have revolved around the topic of end-times prophecy. Starting this month and moving forward, I am planning to share on different topics that are normally brought up when someone is looking for a deeper understanding of prophecy and the end-times. This month we look at the Seventy Weeks in Daniel 9:24-27. This section of scripture is often interpreted from one of four different viewpoints: Critical Scholarship (rules out predictive prophecy), Historical Messianic (traditional viewpoint), Symbolic Messianic (contemporary Evangelical) and Dispensational (future fulfillment). My opinion and viewpoint align with the Dispensational (future fulfillment) perspective. Looking at the Seventy Weeks from the Christian Eschatological Futurist, Dispensational and to some degree Partial Preterist views are in alignment with an understanding that we are currently in a gap in prophecy (the Great Parenthesis). This gap in prophecy began with the Jews' rejection of the Messiah and consists of the Church Age (Ephesians 3:2-6). After the Great Parenthesis we, as saved Christians, will experience the Rapture, which is then followed by the Tribulation, the Second Coming of Christ and culminating in the Thousand Year Millennial Reign. As you sit down to read this article, I suggest you first read through the scripture in Daniel. Next make a diligent point to stop at each scripture reference and look it up. Lastly, pray that God would reveal to you His purpose in sharing this prophecy. The purpose of this article, and future articles, is not intended to be divisive, but to foster discussion and dialogue about God's Word. We must understand that prophecy is only confirmed once the events recorded come to pass. And as always, we need to ask one important question when we opt to take an interpretive stance on God's Word,

"Is this a salvation issue?"

In His grip,

Pastor Paul Karsten

## *Seventy Weeks of Daniel*

No portion of the Old Testament unlocks the mysteries of God's prophetic plan for Israel and the nations as much as the book of Daniel. In particular, Daniel's prophecy of the 70 weeks found in Daniel 9:24-27 provides the indispensable chronological key to Bible prophecy. This prophecy concerns both the beginning and ending of "the desolation of Jerusalem" (from the Babylonian conquest to the second advent of Christ) and defines that period as "the times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24), after which Israel's time of restoration will begin (see Isaiah 2:2-4; Zechariah 8:1-15; 14:3-21). The prophecy of the 70 weeks, therefore, belongs to the larger collection of prophetic restoration texts given to Israel as a comfort in her captivity. These prophecies promise the messianic redemption through the Davidic dynasty in Jerusalem (Isaiah 40-66; Jeremiah 30-33; Ezekiel 33-48). The 70-weeks prophecy is included in the part of Daniel that records visions of future earthly kingdoms, both human and divine (chapters 7-12). It provides a prophetic template for

later eschatological revelations such as Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 24; Mark 13; Luke 21), Paul's "day of the Lord" discourse (2 Thessalonians 2), and the divine wrath section of the Apocalypse (Revelation 6-19). The New Testament writers used the 70-weeks prophecy to predict future events, so we too should interpret it futuristically.

### **The Context of The Prophecy**

Daniel understood from Jeremiah's prophecies that the Babylonian exile would last for 70 years (Daniel 9:2; Jeremiah 25:11; 29:10). He recognized that the restoration depended on national repentance (Jeremiah 29:10-14), so Daniel personally interceded for Israel with repentance and petition. He prayed specifically for the restoration of Jerusalem and the Temple (Daniel 9:3-19). Daniel apparently expected the immediate and complete fulfillment of Israel's restoration with the conclusion of the 70-year captivity. However, the answer delivered to him by the angel Gabriel (the 70-weeks prophecy) revealed that

Israel's restoration would be progressive and ultimately fulfilled only at the time of the end (see also Daniel 12).

### The Extent of The Prophecy

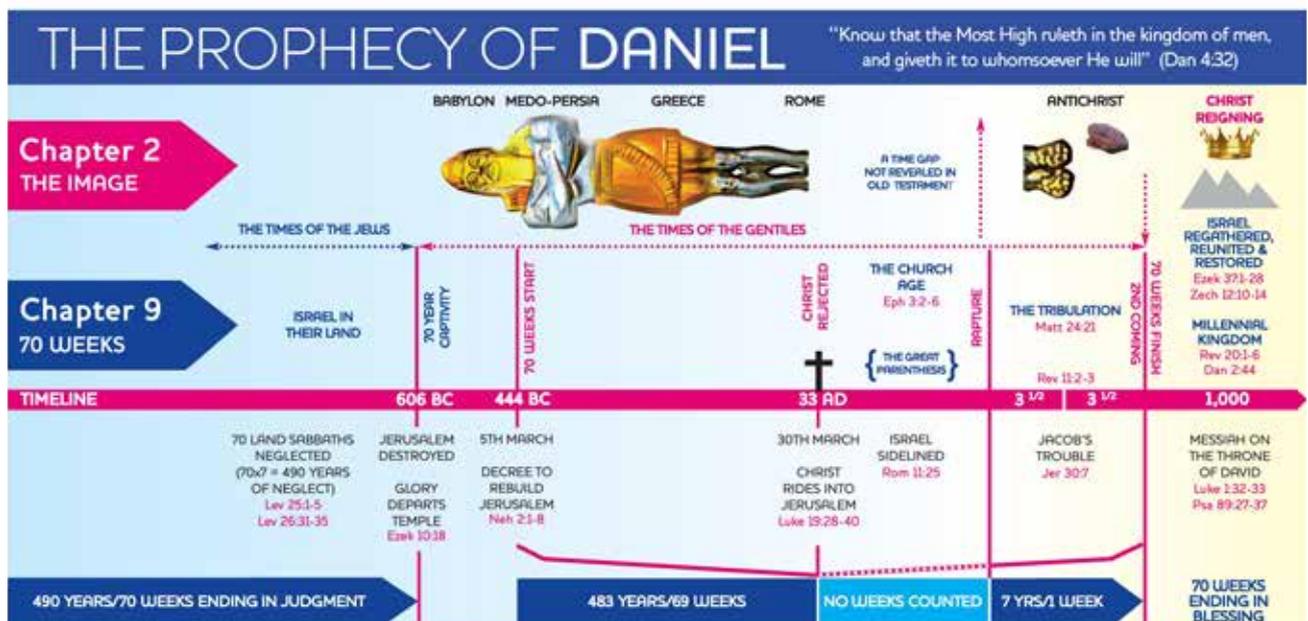
God decreed that He would complete His messianic redemption of the Jews and Jerusalem (which includes both advents of Christ) in 70 weeks. He listed six restoration goals that He would accomplish during this time:

1. "to finish the transgression,"
2. "to make an end of sins,"
3. "to make atonement for iniquity,"
4. "to bring in everlasting righteousness,"
5. "to seal up vision and prophecy," and
6. "to anoint the most holy place."

The 70 "weeks" are actually 70 weeks of years, or 490 years. They are divided into seven weeks (49 years), 62 weeks (434 years), and one week (7 years). Israel's full restoration would not be accomplished with the return of a remnant of the exiles after the 70 years. Rather, God would fulfill His promises for Israel's future after 490 years. Conservative Christian scholarship applies this prophecy to the coming and death of Jesus, the Messiah (Daniel 9:25-26) and to "the destruction of the city [Jerusalem] and the sanctuary [Temple]." These events took place after the 7 weeks and the 62 weeks, or 483 years (according to the Jewish lunar calendar). The 483 years began with Artaxerxes' decree to

Nehemiah to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem in 444 B.C. and ended with the death of Christ in A.D. 33. Futurists have classically interpreted the seventieth and final week (in verse 27) as beginning long after the end of the sixty-ninth week. Daniel 12 and the New Testament prophetic texts that are based on Daniel's 70-weeks prophecy show that the events of the seventieth week describe the Tribulation, including the revelation and destruction of the Antichrist. The Bible also calls this seven-year period the Great Tribulation, the day of the Lord, the day of wrath, the day of distress, the day of trouble, the time of Jacob's trouble, a day of darkness and gloom, and the wrath of the Lamb. The seventieth week accomplishes Israel's restoration in the end time (Daniel 12:4,9; see also 8:17), so it follows (and is distinct from) the church age (which is consummated by the rapture). The chart of Daniel's 70 weeks below features the premillennial pretribulation perspective of the 70 weeks.

That is, it shows the rapture occurring before the Tribulation and the second coming of Christ taking place before the millennium. Although not all evangelicals hold to a pretribulation rapture view (some favor, instead, a mid-tribulation or post-tribulation view), they agree that the Antichrist will arise during the Tribulation. He may be in a position of power before the rapture, but people will not recognize him as the Antichrist until the Tribulation.



## The Interpretation of The Prophecy

The 70-weeks prophecy will be fulfilled when its six restoration goals are met (Daniel 9:24). Non-futurists claim that the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus accomplished these goals. They, therefore, view the entire prophecy as being fulfilled consecutively without interruption between the sixty-ninth and

seventieth weeks. Some futurists agree that some of the redemptive goals may have been fulfilled in Christ's first advent, but they believe that other goals cannot be fulfilled apart from events that attend the second advent of Christ. For example, we do not yet see the answer to Daniel's central concern—the end of the captivity of the Jews and Jerusalem (Daniel 9:2).

### *Explanation of Daniel's 70 Weeks of Years*

69 weeks of years x 7 years in each week x 360 days per year = 173,880 days

March 5, 444 B.C. (Artaxerxes' decree) + 173,880 days = March 30, A.D. 33 (the triumphal entry)

### *Verification*

444 B.C. to A.D. 33 = 476 years

476 years x 365.2421989 days = 173,855 days

+ days between March 5 (Artaxerxes' decree) and March 30 (the crucifixion) = 25 days

Total = 173,880 days

### *Rationale for 360-Day Years*

½ week (or 3½ years)—Daniel 9:27

1260 days—Revelation 11:3; 12:6

42 months—Revelation 11:2; 13:5

42 months = 1260 days = time, times, half time = half week

Therefore, one month = 30 days; one year = 360 days

The non-futurist view points to temporary Jewish revolts, but all of these were unsuccessful and ultimately led to the destruction of the city and the Temple and to further exile. This, of course, offers no solution to Daniel's specific petition for his people's return to Jerusalem and the rebuilding of the Temple (Daniel 9:16-19). As a result, non-futurists generally depart from literal historical interpretation and resort to a symbolic fulfillment: a "spiritual restoration" coming through Christ's atonement. Gabriel promised Daniel that the one who would desolate the Temple would be completely destroyed (Daniel 9:27). This has never happened. Rather, the Roman general Titus, who destroyed the Second Temple together with his emperor father Vespasian, paraded the Temple vessels through the streets of Rome. The prophetic destruction of the Temple desolator in verse 27 must occur literally just as the destruction of the Temple in verse 26 occurred literally and the

messianic references in verses 25-26 were fulfilled literally. This destruction is "decreed"—it will clearly be the result of divine judgment. Only the futurist interpretation that sees the Temple desolator as the Antichrist (2 Thessalonians 2:3-4; Revelation 11:1-2) with his destruction at the second advent of Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:8-9; Revelation 19:11-20) is in harmony with this.

### **The Progressive Fulfillment of The Prophecy**

Several other factors also point to a progressive future fulfillment of these goals. For example, according to Daniel 9:24, the 70-weeks prophecy is for national Israel and Jerusalem. In other words, this is not a universal promise. It predicts the future of the Jews in their historic Land. In answer to Daniel's prayer, a Jewish remnant returned to Judah to resettle the Land and to rebuild Jerusalem and the Temple. Also, a Jewish Messiah came to the Land of Israel to "make atonement for iniquity" (Daniel 9:24). In the same

way that these events were fulfilled literally, the six prophetic goals of the 70 weeks should also be expected to be fulfilled literally. These six goals have not been fulfilled in the church in this age; rather, they apply to the Jewish nation in the age to come.

### **Messiah's Mission**

The first three goals relate to the sins of national Israel, and the final three goals have to do with her salvation. The Messiah fulfills these goals in His first and second advents. Israel's return at the end of the 70 years did not "finish the transgression," "make an end of sin," or "make atonement for iniquity." Jewish commentators also held that the final fulfillment of these goals had not been accomplished with the return and restoration under Zerubbabel in 538 B.C. According to the Jewish commentator Abarbanel, Israel's sin required not 70 years but 490 years because of the violation of the sabbatical law (2 Chronicles 36:21). Other Jewish commentators such as Rashi and Metzudos held that this referred to a period following the 490 years, which they believed ended with the destruction of the Second Temple.

### **Messiah's Death**

Daniel's prophecy clearly reveals that the Messiah came and accomplished the first part of His mission (the first three goals) at the time predicted in verses 25-26—that is, 483 years into the 490 years. In verse 26, the Messiah is cut off, and Jerusalem and the Temple are destroyed. This occurred late in the Second Temple period. This was precisely when the rabbinic sources (see the Babylonian Talmud, tractate Sanhedrin 97a-b) expected the Messiah to arrive. The Messiah's death made an end of sin and made atonement for iniquity as predicted in verse 24. This act serves as the basis for Israel's future salvation at the second advent (Zechariah 12:10; Matthew 24:30-31; Luke 21:27-28; Romans 11:26-27). The words "cut off and have nothing" may mean "without inheriting the messianic kingdom" (verse 26). After Jesus' death and resurrection, He said that the kingdom was still future (Acts 1:6-7).

### **Messiah's Program**

The fulfillment of the last three goals awaits the time of the end. The phrase "to bring in everlasting righteousness" refers to the millennial restoration or "age of righteousness" (see Isaiah 1:26; 11:2-5; 32:16-

18; Jeremiah 23:5-6; 33:15-18). This eschatological restoration may also "seal up the prophetic vision." The final goal, "to anoint the most holy," must look to a future dedication of the Temple's Holy of Holies. Rabbinic interpretation referred this to the Third Temple. According to Tosefta Sotah 13:2, the Second Temple had not been anointed because it lacked both the ark of the covenant and the shekinah (the divine presence). When the Messiah returns in glory, He will build the millennial Temple (see Ezekiel 40-48), fill it with the divine presence (Ezekiel 43:1-7), and consecrate it for use throughout the messianic age (Isaiah 56:6-7; 60:7; Jeremiah 33:18; Ezekiel 43:11,18-27; 44:11-28; 45:13-46:15; Zechariah 14:16-21). Therefore, Daniel describes the Messiah's mission to Israel beginning with His crucifixion as Israel's Savior and culminating with His reign as Israel's king. God will fulfill all the elements of Daniel's prayer in the coming age of the Messiah's reign. The signal event that leads to the completion of the messianic program for Israel in the concluding half of the seventieth week is the "abomination that makes desolate." A leader (called a "prince" like the messiah in verse 25) related to the people (the Romans) who destroyed the Second Temple would make a covenant with the leaders ("the many") of Israel. The specific nature of this covenant is unclear, but it relates to the rebuilding of the Temple in some way. Jesus said that the future desecration of the Temple would be the unavoidable sign to Israel of the time of Great Tribulation (Matthew 24:15; Mark 13:14). The apostle Paul also used it as evidence for the unmistakable rise of the "man of sin" (the Antichrist) and of the judgment of God to come in the Tribulation (2 Thessalonians 2:9; Revelation 13:11-15). With the destruction of the Antichrist and his armies by Christ (Revelation 19:20), and the national repentance of Israel (Romans 11:26-27), the final restoration of Israel and the exaltation of Jerusalem and God's Sanctuary for which Daniel prayed will be accomplished (see Isaiah 2:2-3; 4:2-6; Jeremiah 3:17; Ezekiel 37:24-28; 48:35; Zechariah 8:3-8; 13:1-2; 14:8-20).

### **The Purpose of The Prophecy**

Daniel had searched the prophets and prayed for an answer to the mystery that surrounded the desolation of the Temple in his day. He learned that the times of the Gentiles began with the captivity of his day and would end with an international empire headed by

a coming wicked ruler. God revealed that this would occur in the end time and that the final act of Temple desolation would signal God's final judgment against the Gentile powers. Finally, God would fulfill all His promises to Israel (Daniel 2:44-45; 7:17-27; 12:1,7). In

the 70-weeks prophecy, Daniel gives us the key to the prophetic puzzle of the end time so that we might know what to expect and have confidence in our own day.

### **Timeline of Events**

- 605 BC – First captives (including Daniel) taken to Babylon
- 586 BC – Destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple
- 539 BC – Medes and Persians conquer Babylon
- 538 BC – Cyrus decrees that the exiles return
- 516 BC – Temple rebuilt under Haggai
- 445 BC – Nehemiah rebuilds walls
- 167 BC – Antiochus Epiphanies (Seleucids) desecrates the temple
- ca. 0 – Jesus born
- ca. 30 – Jesus baptized
- ca./33 AD – Jesus crucified/resurrected (New Covenant established)
- 70 AD – Jerusalem and temple destroyed by Romans by Titus
- 135 AD – Rebuilt Jerusalem again destroyed under Hadrian

### **Bibliography**

- Culver, Robert D. Daniel and the Latter Days. Chicago: Moody Press, 1977.
- Ironside, H.A. The Great Parenthesis. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1943.
- McClain, Alva J. Daniel's Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1960.
- Pentecost, J. Dwight. Things to Come. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975.
- Walvoord, John F. Daniel: The Key to Prophetic Revelation. Chicago: Moody Press, 1971.

# GIVE A HELPING HAND



Make this craft to show appreciation for your dad or another special man.

## What you need:

- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Adult garden gloves
- Garden gloves that fit you
- Permanent marker

## What you do:

1. Paint your right palm and press it on the back of the right adult glove. Lift to reveal your handprint. Repeat with your left hand and the left glove.
2. If you have younger siblings, layer their handprint(s) on top with a different color.
3. Write your name(s) and the date.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 on your gloves.
5. Present the gift. Offer to use your gloves to give a helping hand with chores!

## June Birthdays & Anniversaries

|      |                           |      |                      |
|------|---------------------------|------|----------------------|
| 6/2  | Debbie Norton             | 6/13 | Rod & Joan Link      |
| 6/4  | Ben & Brittany Dowd       | 6/15 | Griz & Pam Hoffman   |
| 6/5  | Nick & Debbie Norton      | 6/16 | David & Eileen Sipes |
| 6/5  | Eric & Lindy Shaw         | 6/22 | Alexa Keller         |
| 6/6  | Mike & Robin Barnhouse    | 6/24 | Kay Hucke            |
| 6/7  | Pam Hoffman               | 6/26 | Roy Langley          |
| 6/7  | Cherrilee Crewe           | 6/26 | Eric Shaw            |
| 6/10 | Roy & Pam Langley         | 6/28 | Travis Canaday       |
| 6/11 | John Chapman              |      |                      |
| 6/11 | Marvin & Florence Reddick |      |                      |

## Mark Your Calendar

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| 6/04, Tues | Food Pantry Duty   5:30 – 7:00 PM   Mercer County Food Pantry |
| 6/05, Wed  | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman   7 PM   Room N2  |
| 6/07, Fri  | CBF Rummage and Pie Sale   12 noon - 6 PM   Chapel            |
| 6/07, Fri  | Food Pantry Duty   8 AM – 12 PM   Mercer County Food Pantry   |
| 6/08, Sat  | CBF Rummage and Pie Sale   8 AM - 4 PM   Chapel               |
| 6/08, Sat  | Youth Movie Night   6 PM   Sanctuary                          |
| 6/09, Sun  | High School Youth Group   4 PM   Activity Room                |
| 6/12, Wed  | The Book of James Bible Study w/Bob Hoffman   7 PM   Room N2  |
| 6/15, Sat  | Fishing Derby   10 AM - 1 PM   Johnson Pond                   |
| 6/16, Sun  | Father's Day Pie Fellowship   11:45 AM   Sanctuary            |
| 6/23, Sun  | Jr. High Youth Group   5 PM   Activity Room                   |
| 6/30, Sun  | Potluck Luncheon   11:45 AM   Sanctuary                       |

## CBF Financial Report – April:

|                      | Monthly     | Year to Date |
|----------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Total Income         | \$13,087.39 | \$56,785.50  |
| Total Expenses       | \$11,725.40 | \$50,222.35  |
| Net Operating Income | \$1,361.99  | \$6,563.15   |



1109 SE 3rd Street  
Aledo, IL 61231  
Phone: 309.582.7406  
Email: [office@cbfaledo.org](mailto:office@cbfaledo.org)  
[www.cbfaledo.org](http://www.cbfaledo.org)