



HILLSIDE MONTHLY DISPATCH

Hillside Baptist Church, Pembroke, NH

Volume 15 No. 4

Modeling the Truth of God's Word

April 2016

How Will You Be Remembered?

From the Pastor's Desk

Down Memory Lane

Job 18:17 "Memory of him perishes from the earth, and he has no name abroad."

Grave stones tell a message that leave us questioning about how or why the person died. At the Page cemetery lot, there is one small stone shaped like a lamb with the name Oscar who died as an infant. How sad.

His father's name was Ai and his mother was Hannah. Oscar's mother died shortly after Oscar's death and the whereabouts of Ai remain a mystery.

I have the deeds to two plots in the Pine Grove Cemetery on Stage Road in Gilmanton [shown below, a short distance



from Upper Suncook Lake] that were purchased by my great grandparents, Albert and Addie Page, in 1883.

[Editor's note: The following records were found via www.findagrave.com. Albert R Page, Birth: Nov. 29, 1842, Death: Jan. 8, 1921; Addie C Page, Birth: Aug. 4, 1851, Death: Sep. 22, 1922, Wife of Albert R. Page.]

Buried there are ancestors who died as early as 1845. Some of them must have been exhumed from a family plot elsewhere and re-interred in Gilmanton. No one knows the situation.

Looking at past events, the memory fades. What is important today will amount to nothing in the future. The greatest concerns today become a big zero tomorrow.

In the early days of Hillside Baptist Church, we kept a prayer journal in the prayer room. This continued until about 1993. The room was furnished with a chair, table, lamp,

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Apr. 2, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

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

Apr. 3, 10:45 a.m. – Lord's Supper

Apr. 24, Noon – Quarterly Business Meeting

Preceded by a Baptist Potluck Dinner

May 7, 8:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast / Spring Clean Up Day

Following breakfast, we'll clean up the church and grounds.

Weekly:

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

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

Bible, and a journal. I don't know where the journal went but the rest is still there. Do you know where the prayer room was?

The journal had prayer requests by date and then the date when the request was answered. Some of those who entered the requests are deceased or have since moved away. The prayers have all been answered. The concerns of the day are no longer concerns but the needs continue for each new generation.

In the Book of Job, Bildad, the Shuhite, implied that his friend, Job, was really the stupid one (v18:3). Each of the three friends tell Biblical truth but with incorrect application to their friend Job.

The truth in v18:17 stands strong today. Not only will our concerns be forgotten but also ourselves. The grave stone leaves a name but the person is forgotten.

What kind of legacy will be remembered?

My grandmother Alice Foss Page often told about Granny Foss from Center Barnstead, who was "The most kindly, gentle, and Godly person there ever was." The memory of her continues.

How will we be remembered? Just a name on a stone?

✠ Pastor Al

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On the web at <http://www.hillsidebaptistnh.org>

Men's Breakfast

On Saturday, April 2nd 5th at 8 a.m., we won't be eating left over Easter candy, but we'll be having a fine home cooked breakfast followed by an interesting Bible discussion. Even though it's Saturday morning and you want to sleep late, get yourself up and tool on over.. It will be worthwhile and you'll be glad you did.

Fellowship Events

On April 24th at midday right after Sunday Service, plan on attending the Potluck Dinner. Visitors are invited to stay for the food and fellowship – we always have plenty.

After dinner, there will be a quarterly business meeting with the main items being a review of the 2015 financial statement and discussion of property insurance.

Property and Space Patrol

March was a pretty quiet month with not much snow. A heating element on the hot water heater in the church furnace room failed and caused a bit of a water leak. But we installed a spare, cleaned up the water, and got it up and running again.

Hoping to see you on May 7th at 8:00 a.m. for Men's Breakfast. Right after breakfast, we will jump into Spring Cleanup Day. The big chore will be installing the air conditioners for the summer. I'll have a list of jobs and all I need are your willing hands.

✠ Pastor Al Page

For His Time

A daily devotion from the March 7, 2016 pages of "Our Daily Bread."

"2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. -- James 1:2-4

When South African pastor Andrew Murray was visiting England in 1895, he began to suffer pain from a previous back injury. While he was recuperating, his hostess told him of a woman who was in great trouble and wanted to know if he had any counsel for her. Murray said, "Give her this paper which I have been writing for my own [encouragement]. It may be that she will find it helpful."

This is what Murray wrote:

"In time of trouble say:

First—God brought me here. It is by His will I am in this strait place. In that I will rest.

Next—He will keep me in His love and give me grace in this trial to behave as His child.

Then—He will make the trial a blessing, teaching me lessons He intends me to learn, and working in me the grace He means to bestow.

Last—In His good time He can bring me out again—how and when He knows.

I am here by God's appointment, in His keeping, under His training, for His time."

We want the instant solution, the quick fix, but some things cannot be disposed of so readily; they can only be accepted. God will keep us by His love. By His grace, we can rest in Him.

Jesus and Socialism

A unique set of circumstances in the 2016 Presidential Race has led to an avowed socialist candidate to become wildly popular, especially with young people whose economic and political knowledge is possible at the shallow end of the information pool. Christians might be wondering what Jesus might say about that.

An online article by Bryan Fischer at the American Family Association's web site (<http://www.afa.net/the-stand/bible/2015/10/jesus-was-not-a-socialist/>) might be a good place to start. In part it states the following:

"Rumors continue to persist that Jesus was a socialist, despite all the evidence to the contrary. For instance, he did not believe in the involuntary redistribution of wealth. He never once commanded government to dig its hands into the wallets of its citizens to give their money to somebody else.

He did, of course, believe in the *voluntary* redistribution of wealth, where individuals give freely to those in need out of their own resources and motivated by compassion. His commands about feeding the poor and clothing the naked were given to us, not to government.

Also, Jesus' parables reveal a decidedly capitalistic, free enterprise view of economic transactions. For instance, in the parable of the workers in the vineyard we find Jesus frowning on the concept of collective bargaining and even the minimum wage."

Mr. Fischer continues with a discussion of Matthew 20:1-16, the parable of the vineyard owner who hires workers at all hours of the day but pays them all the same wage, a denarius. To the grumbling early workers, the owner replied, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? "

A currently popular destination for redistributed wealth is "free college tuition."

In a column entitled "The Lure of Socialism" (Feb. 17, 2016), Thomas Sowell, senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University, wrote the following (excerpted):

"A market economy is one in which whoever makes a decision is the one who pays for that decision. It forces people to be sure that what they want to do is really worth what it is going to cost. ... Whether judging by test results, by number of hours per week devoted to studying, or by on-campus interviews, it is clear that today's college students learn a lot less than college students once did. If college

See Jesus and Socialism on p. 3

Jesus and Socialism (from p. 2)

becomes "free," even more people can attend without bothering to become educated and without acquiring any economically meaningful skills."

In a sense, many who would decide to grasp the free education are turning the foregoing parable on its head and stealing the tuition from the owners of the wealth. They would not have made that decision to go to college if they had to pay for it. Sadly, the government would be encouraging the misuse of wealth instead of penalizing the practice. Proverbs 30:9 comes to mind, in which Agur prayed these words, "That I not be full and deny You and say, 'Who is the LORD?' Or that I not be in want and steal, And profane the name of my God."

✠ Michael Frascinella

Easter, the Egg, and the Bunny

Resurrection Sunday is now a joyful memory, reminding us that we serve a Risen Savior. But what did the news media focus on but Easter Egg Drops from helicopters and the annual White House Easter Egg Roll? As a counterpoint to these irreligious activities, consider the following historical details from the early church.

According to *Eerdmans' Handbook of Christianity*, with Emperor Constantine's conversion to Christianity in 312 A.D., Sunday was declared a Roman holiday and Christians could now celebrate the Lord's Day more openly. In an unfortunate attempt to Christianize a pagan holiday, the name "Easter" was adopted for the day on which Jesus rose from the grave. It was not until the early 4th century that Easter was expanded into a week-long festival that included Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.

The 40 days before Easter were formalized into a period of fasting, study, and examination of candidates for baptism. The week after Easter was made into a special time when newly baptized Christians received specialized religious instruction.

The following information about "Easter" comes from Christiananswers.net.

Scholars agree that the name "Easter" has its roots in ancient polytheistic religions (paganism). This name was never used in the original Scriptures, nor was it ever associated biblically with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For these reasons, it is preferred to use the term "Resurrection Sunday" rather than "Easter" when referring to the annual Christian remembrance of Christ's resurrection.

The Egg

Most children and families who color or hide Easter eggs as part of their Resurrection Sunday tradition have no knowledge of the origin of these traditions. Easter egg activities have become a part of Western culture.

"The egg was a sacred symbol among the Babylonians. They believed an old fable about an egg of wondrous size which was supposed to have fallen from

heaven into the Euphrates River. From this marvelous egg — according to the ancient story — the Goddess Astarte (Easter) [Semiramis], was hatched. And so the egg came to symbolize the Goddess Easter."¹

The idea of a mystic egg spread from Babylon to many parts of the world. In Rome, the mystic egg preceded processions in honor of the Mother Goddess Roman. The egg was part of the sacred ceremonies of the Mysteries of Bacchus. The Druids used the egg as their sacred emblem. In Northern Europe, China, and Japan the eggs were colored for their sacred festivals.

The egg was also a symbol of fertility; Easter (Semiramis) was the goddess of Fertility. The Easter egg is a symbol of the pagan Mother Goddess, and it even bears one of her names.

The Bunny

The rabbit is well known as a sexual symbol of fertility. In various parts of the world, religions which developed from Babel also associate the rabbit with periodicity, both human and lunar (for example, Egypt and China). The Mother Goddess, Easter (Semiramis), is associated with the Moon. In other words, the Easter bunny symbolizes the Mother Goddess. Annual springtime fertility rituals are associated with worship of the Mother Goddess and Tammuz, the reincarnation of her husband Nimrod. (See Genesis 10:8-12.)

¹ Ralph Woodrow, *Babylon Mystery Religion* (Riverside, California: Ralph Woodrow Evangelistic Assn., 1966), pp. 152-153.

On Tithing

The following chuckle was sent in by Cynthia Ward.



NEXT TIME WHEN I PREACH ON TITHING,
DON'T SING 'JESUS PAID IT ALL' AS OUR
INVITATIONAL HYMN

Birthdays and Anniversaries



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

- 4/6 Ruth Bubacz
- 4/18 Terri LaValley
- 4/20 Jack Ward
- 4/26 Fran Severance



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

- 4/28 Al & Rachel Page

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 will be our duty and privilege to lift you up in prayer to Jesus our Lord.

Hillside on the Web

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

Submissions for Next Issue

Deadline is Apr. 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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