

APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER

CLEAVER OF TRUTH MINISTRY
rodneyarmstrong73@yahoo.com



14838 Rialto Ave.
Brooksville Fl. 34613
Ph. 239 223 0472

“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword”... Hebrews 4:12

Dear Friends and Family,

Another month has come and gone
 and that old calendar keeps moving on.

The days and months are passing fast.
 How much longer will time last?

Of course it's not meant for us to know
 Only our Father above who loves us so

But He has sent us information reliable
 Which we can read – It's in our Bible

So dear Friends open up that old Book
 It's all there if we take time to look

Just look at the world, It's a real mess
 We know for sure, we don't have to guess

We know without a doubt
 Time is just about to run out

Let our eyes see and our ears hear
 The Saviour's coming is very near!

Troublesome times are here, filling men's hearts
 with fear; Freedom we all hold dear, now is at stake.

Humbling your heart to God, saves from the
 chast'ning rod. Seek the way pilgrim's trod.
 Christians awake!

Chorus:

Jesus is coming soon, morning or night or noon;
 Many will meet their doom; trumpets will sound.

All of the dead shall rise; righteous meet in the
 skies; Going where no one dies, heaven-ward
 bound.

Love of so many cold; losing their home of gold;
 This in God's Word is told; evils abound.

When these signs come to pass, nearing the end at
 last, It will come very fast; trumpets will sound.

Troubles will soon be o'er; happy forevermore,
 When we meet on that shore, free from all care.

Rising up in the sky, telling this world goodbye;
 Homeward we then will fly, glory to share.

**THIS MONTH'S MESSAGE: PRACTICALITY OF
 CHRISTIANITY**

ARE YOU GOING TO HELP ME?

**In 1989 an 8.2 earthquake almost flattened
 Armenia, killing over 30,000 people in less than
 four minutes.**

**In the midst of utter devastation and chaos, a
 father left his wife securely at home and rushed to
 the school where his son was supposed to be, only
 to discover that the building was as flat as a
 pancake.**

**After the traumatic initial shock, he
 remembered the promise he had made to his son:
 “No matter what, I'll always be there for you!”
 And tears began to fill his eyes. As he looked at
 the pile of debris that once was the school, it
 looked hopeless, but he kept remembering his
 commitment to his son.**

He began to concentrate on where he walked his son to class at school each morning. Remembering his son's classroom would be in the back right corner of the building, he rushed there and started digging through the rubble.

As he was digging, other forlorn parents arrived, clutching their hearts, saying: "My son!" "My daughter!" Other well meaning parents tried to pull him off of what was left of the school saying: "It's too late!"; "They're dead!" ; "You can't help!"; "Go home!" "Come on, face reality, there's nothing you can do!"; "You're just going to make things worse!".

To each parent he responded with one line: "Are you going to help me now?" and then he proceeded to dig for his son, stone by stone.

The fire chief showed up and tried to pull him off of the school's debris saying, "Fires are breaking out, explosions are happening everywhere. You're in danger. We'll take care of it. Go home." To which this loving, caring Armenian father asked, "Are you going to help me now?"

The police came and said, "You're angry, distraught and it's over. You're endangering others. Go home. We'll handle it!" to which he replied, "Are you going to help me now?" No one helped.

Courageously he proceeded alone because he needed to know for himself: "Is my boy alive or is he dead?"

He dug for eight hours12 hours24 hours36 hoursthen, in the 38th hour, he pulled back a boulder and heard his son's voice. He screamed his son's name, "ARMAND!" He heard back, "Dad!?! It's me, Dad! I told the other kids not to worry. I told 'em that if you were alive, you'd save me and when you saved me, they'd be saved. You promised, 'No matter what, I'll always be there for you!' You did it, Dad!"

"What's going on in there? How is it?" the father asked.

"There are 14 of us left out of 33, Dad. We're scared, hungry, thirsty and thankful you're here. When the building collapsed, it made a wedge, like a triangle, and it saved us."

"Come on out, boy!"

"No Dad! Let the other kids out first, 'cause I know you'll get me! No matter what, I know you'll be there for me!" (Chicken Soup for the Soul)

Our Heavenly Father knows we are in trouble and He too has made a promise to us as well. No matter what befalls us He'll be there for us to deliver us from our enemy the devil, if we trust Him and really believe because He is as good as his word.

DECODING THE BOOK OF DANIEL AND REVELATION
CONTINUED.....

Read Daniel 8

After Daniel has the vision of the four beasts which we learned was Babylon, Media Persia, Greece and Rome; he has another vision of a ram and a he goat. We find God is repeating what He has previously told Daniel in order for us to be sure of the prophecy.

In Daniel's vision he was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam and he was by the river of Ulai.

He saw standing before the river a ram which had two horns, one of which was higher than the other one. The higher one came up last. He saw the ram pushing toward the west and north and south. No beast could stand before him. No one could deliver out of his hand but he did according to his will and became great.

(The Ram is the double kingdom of Media ad Persia the horns denote power)

While Daniel was considering the ram a he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth and touched not the ground. The he goat had a notable horn between his eyes. The he goat was very swift and powerful and he ran into the ram in the fury of his power. He broke the ram's two horns and the ram had no power to stand before him. The he goat cast him down to the ground and stamped upon him and no one could deliver the ram out of his hand.

(The He goat is the king of Greece under the rule Alexander the Great)

The he goat waxed very great and when he was strong, his great horn was broken and four notable ones came up in its place toward the four winds of heaven.

(Alexander the Great died and four generals, Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy and Seleucus divided up the kingdom)

And out of one of them came forth a little horn which waxed exceeding great, toward the south and toward the east and toward the pleasant land. And it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground and stamped upon them.

(The pleasant land is Jerusalem. (Jer.3:19; Zech 7:14) This little horn is the same horn we read about in Daniel 7:20, 21 that had a mouth that spoke great things and made war with the saints. There is only one power that has made war with the saints and it is Rome. (It is estimated that from one and half to two million Christians were martyred during the dark ages 321 AD to 1798 AD)

He magnified himself even to the prince of the host and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.

(The Prince of the host is Jesus Christ, who was put to death on the cross. Jesus as the Lamb of God was the true sacrifice; thereby making the daily animal sacrifices of the old sanctuary no longer necessary.)

And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practiced and prospered.

Daniel heard one saint say to another saint, "how long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? And he said unto me UNTO TWO THOUSAND AND THREE HUNDRED DAYS; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

(We will learn more about the 2300 days later.)

Daniel then heard a man's voice which called and told Gabriel to make him understand the vision.

Gabriel told him that the vision shall be for the time of the end. Behold I will make thee know what shall be in the end of the indignation for at the time appointed the end shall be.

The Ram having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia. The goat is the king of Greece and the great horn is the first king. That horn

being broken four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power. And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.

And his power shall be mighty; but not by his own power; and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper and practice and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. Through his policy he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by PEACE shall destroy many; he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand. Daniel was told to shut up the vision until the latter days.

(We are now living in the end time so knowledge is increased and we are able to understand what Daniel was not able to understand. We have the keys to understanding prophecy through the use of these symbols).

We will continue with Chapter 9 next month.

LIBERTY NOTES ON THE BILL OF RIGHTS (CON'T) THE SIXTH AMENDMENT

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial...."

King Solomon wrote about swift justice several millennia ago in the book of Ecclesiastes: "Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil." Ecclesiastes 8:11

In more modern times, the English Habeas Corpus Act of 1679 set limits on the time an accused person could be detained. Many incarcerated suspects in England had been held sometimes indefinitely, with no access to the courts. This act set a deadline of three days for a review of the case of the accused.

Early American statesmen also recognized the importance of timely justice. If a trial was not conducted within a reasonable time, witnesses could forget details of their testimonies.

Equally important was the idea of a public trial, as opposed to a secret one. Public trials had been

conducted for 150 years on this continent before the Bill of Rights was written in 1789. The right to a public trial was an established custom and the First Congress approved its inclusion in the Sixth Amendment. Sixth Amendment authors were familiar with the secret trials in England and the abuses of liberty under the English Stuart kings. English settlers recognized a public trial as one of their rights and it has been cherished for generations of Americans.

The Sixth Amendment, which requires public trials, allows citizens to view the actions of judges and prosecutors, thereby serving as a check on their power in the court of public opinion.

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a ...trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed....

The early English settlers brought the concept of trial by jury with them to the New World in the 1600's, In fact the violation of this principle was one of the many grievances against King George III.

In a jury trial, citizens, not government officials decide the guilt or innocence of the accused. This allows citizens to hold public officials accountable. A jury must decide whether the evidence brought by law enforcement officials and the prosecutor convinces them that the defendant is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. Their verdict determines whether the prosecutor's case succeeds or fails and whether the defendant pays a penalty or is set free.

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right.....to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor..."

James Madison adapted this language when he wrote the Sixth Amendment.

The phrase in the Sixth Amendment, "to be confronted with the witnesses against him" is referred to as the Confrontation Clause. This guarantees the right of the accused to face his or her witnesses in open court and also to cross-examine them to determine the veracity of their

testimony. The whole point of this process is to get to the truth.

"In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right....to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defence".

The right to counsel was included in the Sixth Amendment because it had not been a right of defendants in English courts. In U.S. courts in modern times, the issue has been whether a defendant can afford legal representation, and if he cannot, whether the court will provide it.

The purpose of the constitutional guaranty of a right to counsel is to protect an accused from conviction resulting from his own ignorance of his legal and constitutional rights...compliance with this constitutional mandate is an essential jurisdictional prerequisite to a federal court's authority to deprive an accused of his life or liberty...If this requirement of the Sixth Amendment is not complied with, the court no longer has jurisdiction to proceed.

The right to counsel is one constitutional right that must be supported with public fund, since the justice system must pay a court-appointed attorney. Support for those who cannot afford an attorney is known as "indigent defense," and is performed by a system of public defenders. This is a major budget item for state and local governments.

There is no perfect justice system on this earth, but the authors of the Sixth Amendment sought to shape our justice system with time-honored principles that would establish justice in the United States. Today with all its flaws, our justice system still works amazingly well to protect our rights and punish the unjust; a marked contrast to systems in other nations where basic human rights are ignored, and liberty is but a dream in the minds of the victims.

THE TOUCH OF THE MASTER'S HAND

'Twas battered and scarred, and the auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
To waste much time on the old violin,
But held it up with a smile.

“What am I bidden, good folks,” he cried,
 “Who’ll start the bidding for me?”
 “A dollar, a dollar, then, two! Only two?
 Two dollars, and who’ll make it three?”

Three dollars, once; three dollars, twice;
 Going for three But no,
 From the room, far back, a grey-haired man
 Came forward and picked up the bow;

Then wiping the dust from the old violin,
 And tightening the loose strings,
 He played a melody pure and sweet
 As caroling angel sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer
 With a voice that was quiet and low,
 Said, “What am I bid for the old violin?”
 And he held it up with the bow.

“A thousand dollars, and who’ll make it two”
 Two thousand! And who’ll make it three?
 Three thousand once; three thousand, twice;
 And going and gone,” said he.

The people cheered, but some of them cried,
 “We do not quite understand
 What changed it’s worth?” Swift came the reply;
 “The touch of a master’s hand.”

And many a man with life out of tune,
 And battered and scarred with sin,
 Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd,
 Much like the old violin

A “mess of potage,” a glass of wine;
 A game – and he travels on.
 He’s “going” once and “going” twice
 He’s “going” and almost “gone.”

But the master comes and the foolish crowd
 Never can quite understand
 The worth of a soul and the change that’s wrought
 By the touch of the Master’s hand.

(Myra Welch)

HEALTH NUGGET

Natural remedies for shingles

Shingles (herpes zoster) is a viral infection that

causes a painful rash. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 1 in 3 people in the United States will develop shingles at some point in their lifetime. This viral infection is caused by the varicella zoster (VZV) virus, which is the same virus that causes chickenpox.

If you had chickenpox as a child, the shingles virus lies dormant in your system. But the virus can reactivate later in life and cause a shingles rash. The rash can occur on any part of your body but typically only affects small sections. Pain is usually the first symptom of shingles. The rash and fluid-filled blisters form within a couple of days after the onset of pain. Some people with shingles also have a fever, sensitivity to light, and fatigue.

Healing baths

Daily cleansing of the blisters reduces the risk of spreading the infection. Take a cool bath or shower to soothe skin. The coolness of the water can ease pain from shingles blisters and calm itchiness.

You can also take a healing bath to reduce symptoms. Pour 1 to 2 cups of colloidal oatmeal or cornstarch into lukewarm bathwater and soak for 15 to 20 minutes. Do not use hot water. Hot water can worsen shingles blisters because heat increases blood flow. Dry your body completely and then wash your towel to avoid spreading the virus to others.

In addition to taking a bath to relieve pain and itchiness associated with a shingles rash, apply a cool, moist compress. Do this several times throughout the day to relieve symptoms. Soak a

cloth in cool water, wring out the water, and apply the cloth to the rash and blisters.

Similar to a bath, the coolness of the compress can reduce pain. Repeat the process as often as you need to. Do not apply an ice pack to the rash. The coldness may increase skin sensitivity and worsen pain.

Create a paste using cornstarch or baking soda and water to naturally relieve itching caused by a shingles rash. Pour two parts cornstarch or baking soda into a cup and add one part water to achieve the desired consistency for the paste. Apply the mixture to your rash, and then rinse it off after 10 to 15 minutes. Repeat several times a day as needed.

Scratching a shingles rash can cause scarring and prolong blisters. If itching doesn't improve after a healing bath, a cool compress, or a baking soda or cornstarch mixture, use soothing lotions and creams. Lotions and creams don't speed up the healing process, but they can increase your comfort level. Avoid scented or perfumed lotions, which can cause further irritation.

Apply topical ointments containing the natural ingredient capsaicin up to three or four times a day. This is the active ingredient in chili peppers. It has an anti-inflammatory effect to help ease pain. Pain may increase after initially applying the cream, but it'll slowly go away. This cream works by reducing pain signals sent to your brain.

Additionally, you can apply calamine lotion after baths and showers to soothe irritated skin and help dry out blisters.

Years ago Rodney had shingles; he made a paste of aloe and cayenne pepper which dried up the blisters.

FROM KATIE'S COOKBOOKS

7 INGREDIENT KEY LIME PIE BITES

Crust:

1 sleeve of graham crackers
(if you are Gluten free you can use gluten free cookies or you can use a walnut-date crust))
¼ cup melted vegan butter (Earth Balance, etc)

Filling:

1 cup raw cashews
(soaked in jar overnight then drained)
¼ cup light or full fat canned coconut milk, well shaken.
¼ cup coconut oil, melted
3-4 large limes or 6-7 key limes (½ cup juice)
reserve 1 Tbsp grated lime zest (finely grated lime peel)
1/3 to ½ cup agave nectar (depending on how sweet you want it) If you don't have the agave substitute honey or pure maple syrup

Preheat oven to 375° and line a standard muffin tin with 12 paper liners. Add graham crackers to a food processor and process until you achieve a fine meal. Then add melted butter and pulse to combine. Distribute evenly among muffin tins and press down with a glass or spoon to flatten. Bake about 10 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from oven and set aside to cool.

Add all filling ingredients to a blender and blend on high (or liquefy) until creamy and smooth. Taste and adjust flavor as needed, adding more lime zest or juice for more tart and more agave for more sweetness.

Pour filling into muffin tins and tap on counter to release air bubbles. Top with a bit more lime zest and loosely cover.

Freeze for 2-4 hours or until firm. Remove from freezer for 10-15 minutes to thaw before serving. Will keep covered in freezer for up to 2 weeks, though it is best when fresh.

You can make a lime pie instead of the bites.

Remember God loves you and so do we!
Katie and Rodney Armstrong

PRACTICALITY OF CHRISTIANITY

Is it Judicious and sensible to be a Christian?

God loves every person He created. "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him". 1 John 4:16

Just as light comes from the sun to lighten the world; Love and truth emanate from God to give to us spiritual light and security.

"Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends" John 15:13

How would you like to have a friend that would be willing to give his or her life for you? If they would be willing to do that do you think they would withhold anything they owned from you?

What if Bill Gates or Warren Buffet or maybe Donald Trump somehow became your friend and promised to supply your every need; do you think that maybe you could learn to love them?

What if they put everything they owned at your disposal with guidelines as to how it was to be used; could you live with that?

There is a person far richer than these three men who has already promised all I have mentioned and His only requirement is that you learn to love Him as He loves you.

I was bankrupt when I was forty years old physically and spiritually; physically because I could not buy anything on credit and spiritually bankrupt without Jesus.

I was at the bottom of the barrel with no way to turn but to Jesus. Immediately after turning my life over to Him things began to change. That was forty five years ago. I've been retired for 23 years and can testify how He has supplied my every need... and then some!

If you are a needy Christian I suggest you examine your life, your faith and practices because if you are needy, it isn't God's fault.

Solomon the wisest man to ever live, other than Jesus, said, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I

not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread". Psalms 37:25

"The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the LORD shall not want any good thing". Psalms 34:10

"Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart" Psalms 37:4

There are over three hundred promises like this in the Bible; however, there are conditions for their fulfillment.

We can't be half-surrendered and expect God to fulfill His promises. Scripture says, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me": Psalms 66:18

We cannot be dabbling in sin and expect our prayers to be heard. Scripture says," But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" .Matthew 6:33

When Jesus was here on the earth He went about healing all manner of disease. He is not here today, He is in heaven interceding with His Father for our sins but He has arranged a way for us to be healed. In His place He sent the comforter, the Holy Spirit, to guide and instruct us and to lead us into all truth. John 16:13

God is still in the healing business today. Are you sick? If you want healing instructions for physical and spiritual healing are in His word.

"If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee". Exodus 15:26

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land". 2 Chr. 7:14

"Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;" Psalms 103:3

"Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart

from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine". Proverbs 3:5-10

"Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up." Hosea 6:1

"Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy rereward (*protection*)." Isaiah 58:6-8

"But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Matthew 4:4

If we are not in good health maybe it is because we have not been following God's instructions in His Word for our health. We are what we eat. The cells in our body are made of what we put into our mouths. At the time of creation, in the book of Genesis, instruction was given as to what our food was to be. Also in the eleventh chapter of Leviticus differentiation was made between clean and unclean foods for our consumption.

Exodus 20:16 tells us if we want to be healthy we must obey the Lord. If we obey the Lord in all things He will keep His promises to us, ALL OF THEM

We have been reviewing how to have good health by obeying The Lord but there are even greater advantages than these. It definitely pays to be a true Christian.

It is wise, judicious, prudent, good judgment and practical to obey God and keep His commandments.

There is another side to the coin; If we refuse to obey Him what will be our fate? If we refuse to obey Him He still loves us. because He died for the ungodly. Romans 5:6

"Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty." Exodus 34:7

"For the LORD shall rise up as in mount Perazim, he shall be wroth as in the valley of Gibeon, that he may do his work, his strange work; and bring to pass his act, his strange act" .Isaiah 28;21

God is love because it is His character to love. Even when He must dispose of the wicked whom He loves, it is in love and mercy that he destroys them. It is His "strange act". "Upon the wicked he shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup." Psalms 11:6

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them." Revelation 20:6-9

"Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee". Ezekiel 28: 12-15, 18

This anointed covering cherub is Lucifer. (Satan)

Yes it is wise, prudent, to obey The Lord.
Rodney Armstrong

