

THE REMINDER

BELLAIRE CHURCH OF CHRIST, 28 MAY 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Pat Butler** is getting stronger and she will meet with her doctors at the end of June. Pray for complete healing!
- **Anna Mickle**, is not doing well, her health is really struggling and she is very weak. Pray for her strength and comfort.
- **Holly Ann Villanueva**, **Sharon Alexander's daughter**, will have surgery on June 7th. Continue to pray for her.
- The **Bruno family** is visiting with us from Beaumont. Their baby was born premature and is in **Texas Women's hospital in the NICU**.
- Continue praying for those with on-going health issues. **Bob Stark, Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn, Don Hurd, and Johnny Martinez.**
- **Sermon Title: Sometimes Life Makes Turns**

Calendar Items:

- **Ladies Bible Class** will be next **Saturday June 3 10:00 AM at the Morolez home** (6006 Kelsey Place Court, Sugar Land, TX 77479). We will be studying Strategy 4 from the book Fervent Prayer.
- Next week begins a **new quarter of Bible classes!** We will have only one adult class, which will be in the auditorium (see back for more).
- The first **Sunday singing and prayer service** will be **next Sunday, June 4 at 1:30 pm**. Please make plans to attend!

SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Bible Study

SERVICE

Welcome - D. Broadwell
Song Leader - G. Williams
Opening Prayer - T. Walker
Lesson - S. Garrett
Communion Talk - C. Underwood
Announcements - B. Haley
Closing Prayer - M. Gomez

BIBLE CLASSES

Old Testament Survey

- Brian Haley
- Auditorium

Gospel of Mark

- Daniel Broadwell
- Back Classroom

Classes for children

WHO ARE WE?

A group of God's children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament

ELDERS

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Mike Pharris

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

EVANGELISTS

Daniel Broadwell
Steve Garrett

CONTACT US

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DIRECTORY UPDATES

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Overview of Psalms (part 1)

Editor's note: Beginning next Sunday, June 4, we will be studying the Psalms in the auditorium class. The quarter will be focused on how we use the Psalms in singing and prayer, but I want us also to become more familiar with the book itself. To that end, here is an introduction to the Psalter. At least, this is one part of an introduction, and the rest will be published in next week's reminder. Enjoy!

The book of Psalms is the most unique of all the books in the bible. It is a collection of 150 separate poems collected from an unknown number of authors over a thousand years in Israelite history. It is difficult to generalize about the psalms, except that they have been very important to God's people since their inception. In their original form, they were a hymnbook of sorts for the Hebrew people, used regularly in public and private worship. In the New Testament, the psalms stand as a foundational collection of texts for the apostles, who quote from Psalms more than any other book. To this day, Christians rely on the psalms in their daily reading and meditation on God's word. I pray this introduction aids you in discovering the heart of the bible.

History and Authorship

The psalms are "historically unspecific." What that means is that the psalms—while written by a specific person at a specific time—are written in a way to be applicable to any number of people and circumstances. For instance, when the author of Psalm 30 says, "He turned my mourning into joy," he was likely referring to a particular time that God helped him, but the psalm does not specify that and can be apply to any of God's people that have experienced a transformation at the hand of the Lord. If events are referred to, they are usually national historical events—like the crossing of the Red Sea—that happened to the whole nation and continue to exemplify God's deliverance in all generations. The fact that the psalms are written this way is probably one of the reasons they have been used as a national hymnbook throughout the history of God's people, even to today. The psalms tell the story of God's people at all times in all places.

David is the most common figure associated with the psalms. Almost half of the psalms are connected to David, but there are many other contributors. Who are these other authors? Some, like Asaph and the sons of Korah, appear to be among those chosen to serve in the temple worship. Other authors include Solomon, Jeduthun, Heman, Etan, and even Moses. The psalms without a name attached could have been written by anyone throughout any time in Israelite history. There is virtually nothing in the actual text of the psalms that indicates a specific author. Again, the psalms are "historically unspecific."

Importance of the Psalms

Psalms is the most quoted Old Testament book in the New Testament. This ought to clue us in to the importance of the book. As we noted earlier, the people of God today often turn to the psalms for devotional and meditative reading. Because they are poetic, our emotions are often stirred by the beautiful descriptions of God's deliverance from our darkest hours. But the New Testament writers found an even greater use for the psalms. They were constantly quoting from this book to prove that Jesus is the Christ and exhort His disciples to live in Him. These poems are not just written to make us feel good, but so that we might become "wise unto salvation in Jesus Christ" (2 Timothy 3:15)—who said Himself that in Him "all the things written in the Law and the Prophets and the Psalms are fulfilled." (Luke 24:44)