

## “The Humility of Our Savior”

Rev. David J. Bauer



*I was the first born of eleven children. When I was five years old my father left his employment at the Belt Railroad to enter the pastorate in a small unfinished basement church. We moved from Chicago to a southwest unincorporated suburb. I can remember that neither the church nor our home had running water at that time. Dad's beginning pay was \$30 per week. But because of father's daily evangelism, the church did not stay small and his salary did increase eventually. But so did the size of our family. We were poor and we knew it too. We were able to get along because of hand-me-down clothes given to us by cousins, a nearby grocer who took pity on my father, and the practicality of 2 thrifty parents. Mom and dad would use unique methods of making ends meet in a much different environment than our children are accustomed to today. But it was a humbling experience to know of our poverty and to not be able to afford the clothes, toys and “things” our playmates seemed to have.*

I later learned that the Son of God actually “chose” to enter the human race in just such a poor environment: *“But you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich He became poor, that we by His poverty might become rich” –2 Corinthians 8:9.* In order to minister and do His Father’s will, Jesus literally humbled Himself, became poor, lived and died a servant –Philippians 2:5-8. During His ministry he preached to the disciples that if they wanted to be first, they must be willing to be last. This kind of mind set is foreign to the heart of humankind. We have it in us to try to work toward a higher position. We have a habit of constantly comparing ourselves with our neighbors. E.C. McKinsey thoughtfully noted: *“It is difficult, if not impossible to save money when your neighbors keep buying things you can’t afford.”* And so goes our human thought process... It is hard to be humble in the midst of a world full of people who are proud of their human accomplishments.

Let us look at the poor, humble and servitude life our Savior chose:

**There was humility in being poor with no tax breaks –Luke 2:4.** Joseph and Mary needed to travel to Bethlehem to pay their taxes. There was not a break for poor people or a pregnant woman in her 9<sup>th</sup> month.

**There was the humility of a pregnancy out of wedlock –Luke 2:5.** This was a hard thing for Joseph to understand. Think of the shame before relatives and the later critics of the human Jesus.

**There was the humility of the birthing room –Luke 2:6-7.** One can imagine that if it were King Herod visiting Bethlehem a room would have been found. The birthing room for the King of Kings was in a dirty, dark,

smelly stable, with animals already occupying. The newborn boy was laid in a feeding trough (manger) and wrapped in torn cloths (rags for burials).

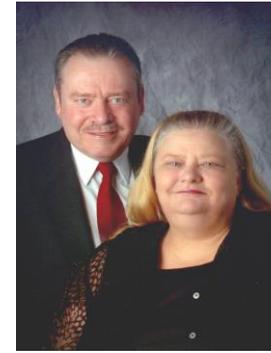
**There was the humility of very common visitors –Luke 2:16-18.** To the present day sheep and shepherds are the most common inhabitants of Bethlehem. They were the only ones to hear the angelic announcement; and they were the ones who would respond. The man, Jesus would appear before the wealthy, before the religious elite rulers and before political rulers. But the sad commentary of the Scriptures was that it was *“the common people (who) heard Him gladly” –Mark 12:37.*

**There was the humility of a sacrifice of the poor upon His presentation in the temple –Luke 2:24.** In compliance with the Law, as a newborn male child was presented in the temple religious ceremony, a sacrifice was required. Mary and Joseph presented two turtledoves (pigeons), the most common sacrifice of poor people.

**There was humility of having all the marks of the homeless –Luke 9:58.** His lifetime is a story of borrowed objects: Beds, food, ships, donkey, coins, even a tomb. He is indisputably called the greatest man who ever lived, but borrowed everything and never owned anything, except a cross.

**There was the humility of a trial, He was falsely accused, and was totally rejected by His brethren –2 Corinthians 5:21.** One cannot get more humble than this. He gave it all up, to be hung naked upon a cross (the ultimate curse), take our sin upon Himself (separating Himself from the Father), so we could become God’s righteous children!

**And this is humility, sacrifice and love to the highest degree known!**



Rev. David J. Bauer  
BRM Director &  
Dolores Bauer  
Office Assistant

### The Lighter Side... Overheard on Commercial Airplanes:

United Flight Attendant announced, 'People, people we're not picking out furniture here, find a seat and get in it!'

Another Flight Attendant's comment on a less than perfect landing: 'We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal.'

Flight Attendant's words: 'There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane'

'Your seat cushions can be used for flotation; and, in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments.'

Part of a Flight Attendant's arrival announcement: 'We'd like to thank you folks for flying with us today. And, the next time you get the insane urge to go blasting through the skies in a pressurized metal tube, we hope you'll think of US Airways.'



### *Bread Pudding with Strawberry Sauce*

2 - 8 oz. Loaves Italian Bread

4 Cups Skim Milk

½ Cup packed Light Brown Sugar

2 tsp. Vanilla Extract

½ Cup Egg Substitute

¼ Cup dark Seedless Raisins

1 tsp. Ground Cinnamon

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Spray 12X5" baking dish with vegetable cooking spray.

Cut bread into chunks. In large bowl, with wire Wisk or fork, beat milk, brown sugar, vanilla and egg substitute until well blended.

Add bread chunks and raisins. Let bread soak in milk mixture for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Spoon bread mixture into baking dish; sprinkle evenly with cinnamon. Bake 1 hour or until knife inserted in center of bread pudding comes out clean.

STRAWBERRY SAUCE - Blend 2 Cups frozen (but thawed) Strawberries and ¼ Cup Sugar or Equal. -Eleanor Svoboda



Safe Driving in Winter:

Be sure to check your tire pressure more often in winter. Cold weather will decrease tire pressure and may bring it down to a dangerous level. Don't forget to check tire pressure in the spare tire as well.

If your battery is more than three years old, have it checked by a reliable mechanic. Check terminal connections for corrosion build up and for good clean connection. Even a new battery will lose up to 70% of its power in sub zero temperature.

Are your windshield wipers streaking? Right before the ravages of winter, we should replace our wiper blades. This is a good investment! Yes! Keep gas tanks ¾ full in winter. This will prevent condensation water build up leading to freezing problems and fuel tank from rusting on the inside.

Gifts to BRM can be sent to our PO Box or made online with any charge or debit card using the **Paypal button** on the left side of our website page at: [www.biblerelatedministries.org](http://www.biblerelatedministries.org). It is so easy to use! **Bible Related Ministries keeps Church doors open and good men behind our pulpits! We are supported 100% by individuals and church donations. Thank you for your faithfulness!**

For information on planning a legacy, Give Terry Balko a call at 404-229-1645 or email Mr. Balko for forms and details at [terry@terrybalko.com](mailto:terry@terrybalko.com). To be NOT PLANNING is a plan, but it is NOT a very good plan! **Don't let your hard earned life-savings go into a probate bureaucracy! Leave a legacy for your family & favourite ministries.**

**Bible Related Ministries**

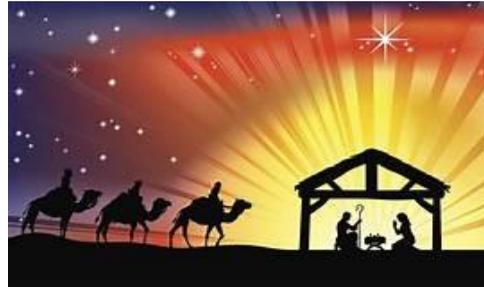
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**Bible Related Ministries Newsletter**

**Rev. David J. Bauer, Director**



**December 2018**

*"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shall call His name Jesus, for he shall save His people from their sins."  
- Matthew 1:21*

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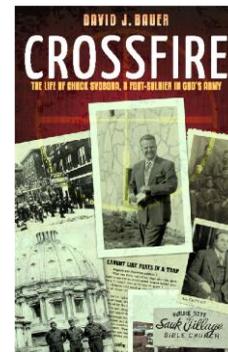
**Rev. David Bauer  
December Itinerary**



- Dec. 16 9:30 a.m. Devon Church, Chicago, IL
- Dec. 20 12:00 noon Pacific Garden Mission, Chicago IL
- Dec. 23 9:30 a.m. Devon Church, Chicago, IL
- Dec. 30 10:30 a.m. Marion Hills Bible Church, Darien IL

*"A day of reckoning is inevitable for those who choose to go on their way, refusing to make things right after being confronted with the facts." -Charles Svoboda-Who Would Believe It?*

*"God tests a man to make him. The devil tempts a man to break him." -Charles Svoboda*



**From Cicero Gangland, to Enemy Gunfire, to Church Organization, to Arbitration in Churches... and beyond! The Chuck Svoboda Story & Bible Church History!**

**--- CROSSFIRE ---**

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**BRM Field Report #12**

It has been a busy month, encouraging pastors, strengthening church board members, and fielding calls from churches needing help.

BRM had a very helpful Leadership Conference on November 10 at Grace Community Church. Our church friends there very graciously allowed us to use their building, along with the gift of helps from their members who helped in the kitchen, a sound technician in the tower and just being in the hallway to give directions to the attendees. Dr. James Ford, Jr. was our plenary speaker and we were privileged to be able to offer six workshops on cutting edge topics, helpful to church leaders. Evaluation forms turned in by those in attendance indicate that they were excited that we were able to offer them help to facilitate their present day ministries.

Then there are daily calls from churches needing help:

A missionary concerned about the lack of a pastor in his home church in Indiana. He was referred to us by one of our faithful supporters and we left our contact numbers and website info with the search committee. But they have not called us as of yet?

We recently received a contact from a pastor looking for a church somewhere in the Midwest. He will be leaving his church of about 300 people, after only 5 years or so in his present pastorate. Though he said he was interested in churches in the Northern Illinois area, we cannot offer him anywhere near 300 attendees in any of our available churches.

And we know from past experience that church problems are on hold for the Christmas holidays. We expect to hear from some churches in January, after the Christmas season. This is the pattern.

The Bauers visited dear BRM friends, George and Eva Farber on our last trip to Michigan in September. We were surprised to hear of George's sudden home-going on Oct. 14. Please pray for comfort and wisdom for Eva, as she must make some important decisions in the near future.

Do have blessed Christmas because of Jesus,  
Rev. David J. Bauer -Galatians 4:4-5