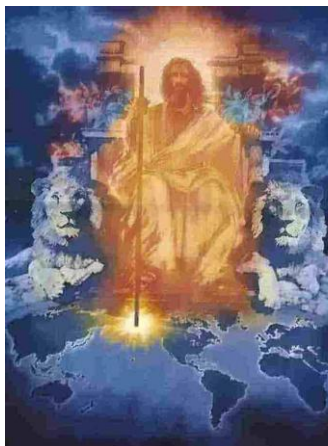




“The Right Perspective Found in the Right Place”

Rev. David J. Bauer

Several years were wasted in my youth. I lived in discouragement over the apparent mishaps and suffering of righteous people in comparison with the apparent success of unrighteous people. This bugged me a lot in those early years of my life. It appeared that Christians sure had a lot of problems! If we were favored by the Lord, why were we so afflicted? On the other hand, it looked like the ungodly lived a life of ease, eating, drinking and making merriment as they saw fit. From all appearances they lived a happy life, cheating in business and in their marriages. Yet they lived quite guilt free mostly, not appearing to worry too much about God or the hereafter.

Why was life so unfair? Is God really keeping track of all the dealings of humankind on this earth? Did it really matter in the long run? These were some of the questions in my young mind. I needed to live a few more years to see through the fuzziness of the developing picture and see the proper perspective of life. There are three different perspectives that author, Asaph points to in Psalm 73...

1. The perspective that this world is all there is -Psalm 73:1-7.

Asaph had such a faulty perception of the success of the wicked that it was affecting his own spiritual health. A faulty assumption we can have:

- >Their success causes others to envy their apparent comfort. Vs. 1-3
- >They don't seem to suffer pain even when they are dying. V. 4
- >They don't seem to have the same problems others have. V. 5
- >They are proud, violent, and have super rich success. Vs. 6-7
- >They have pride in bad behavior in the face of God and man. Vs. 8-9

We observe this kind of behavior in our overpaid sports figures, as well as in pampered Hollywood stars. We may see such proud acts of devil-may-care in our neighbors or in the company we work for, as the relative of the boss gets one promotion after another without a notice of his incompetence on the job. This is hurtful to the conscientious worker.

2. The perception of godliness as unnecessary -Psalm 73:10-16

When we move and act in envy, coveting the life of the “successful” as the world views success, we can make another faulty assumption. This kind of thinking can greatly damage our behavior and even our relationship with God. We are specifically commanded to be Godly in our behavior and to have an attitude of contentment. See 1 Tim. 6:6-8

- >We act as if God does not see nor know what is going on. Vs. 10-11
- >We believe that we have been Godly and no one seemed to notice (did we really expect or desire people to notice our good behavior?) The underlying feeling is that we are wasting our time being so good! V. 13
- >We think that all we experience is trouble and problems V. 14.
- >If we complain or voice our negative feelings to fellow believers, we can cause them to stray from the faith V. 15. We must be careful.

The situation is too painful to understand or to explain V. 16. (This causes us to feel like a martyr or the last ones on earth living righteously.)

3. The right perception is one of a powerful and all-knowing God

Psalm 37:17-26. Asaph finally looked in the right place for the proper perspective- He saw life and death through God's special lenses. All looked good for the wicked person until Asaph went into the house of the Lord and God gave him a glance at the end of that wicked person -V. 17. The end of the unbelieving pagan is precarious, total destruction, filled with terror and absolute desolation -Vs. 17-26. God is a God of judgment as well -V. 20. Human reasoning and observational powers are limited; we only see what our human eyes can observe in the present moment flawed by selfish human emotion. But God sees the past, present, future, and in every compartment of all of our lives, objectively - everything!

There are real and tangible benefits in having a relationship with the Lord:

- >He is always with us, holding our hand -V. 23. See Psa. 37:23-24
- >He guides us with his wonderful counsel -V. 24. -John 16:13
- >After our time on earth is over we get to go to glory -V. 24 -Phil. 3:19-20
- >We worship the Lord, the desire of all heaven and earth V. 25
- >When strength and heart fail and we leave this earth, we still have the Lord, forever and ever! -V. 26.

Conclusion: Let us not worry about other people and God's interaction with them. God sees all, is all powerful and faithful to the end. He will see to it that the wicked person gets opportunity to repent and justice too -2 Peter 3:9. But God will also see that the righteous person is rewarded according to his or her faithfulness in serving the Lord. Let us be steadfast, unmovable, continually doing God's work -1 Cor. 15:58.



Rev. David J. Bauer
Director Emeritus

RECIPES

Simple Lasagna

- 12 Lasagna noodles - raw
- 1Lb Ground beef or Italian sausage cooked
- 1 Jar of spaghetti sauce, 32oz
- 2 cups Mozzarella
- 1 cup of water
- Grated parmesan for the top

Mix in a bowl

- 2 cups Cottage cheese
- 1 Egg
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Grated parmesan cheese
- 2Tbsp Dried parsley

Preheat the oven to 350°

Spread $\frac{1}{4}$ jar of spaghetti sauce in a 13x9" pan. Top with 4 raw noodles. Spread half of the cooked meat over the noodles, then spoon on half of the cottage cheese mixture. Cover with one cup of the mozzarella cheese, then spread a $\frac{1}{4}$ of the jar of spaghetti sauce over the cheese. Repeat. Finish with 4 noodles, then cover them with the remaining spaghetti sauce. Pour one cup of water around the edge. Sprinkle grated parmesan cheese over the top.

Cover with foil and bake for 1 hour. Remove foil and bake an additional 15 minutes. Let stand 15 minutes before cutting into slices.

-- Megan Matczak --

Helpful Hints

Add Baking Soda to Carpets to Eliminate odor - Do your carpets smell a little foul? Maybe one too many coffees spilled, or maybe your pets have lodged their smell into them, so much so it feels like you'll never get that smell out. Well, sprinkle some baking soda onto the carpet, and then let it sit for a few hours. After, you can vacuum it right up.

Using Vinegar to Descale Your Showerhead is a Great Home Hack - Put some vinegar into a bag and secure it around your shower head. Make sure the shower head is submerged in the vinegar. Before you know it, your shower head will look descaled and feel brand new again!

www.thepremierdaily.com/50-home-hacks/

Leave a legacy for your family & favorite ministries. When planning a legacy, give Terry L. Balko a call at 404-229-1645 or email Mr. Balko for forms and details at terrylbalko@gmail.com. **Don't let your hard earned life-savings go into a probate bureaucracy! NOT PLANNING is a plan, but it is NOT a very good plan!**

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Bible Related Ministries Newsletter

Fernando Garza, Interim President



*"...Of making many books there is no end;
and much study is the weariness of the
flesh. Let us hear the conclusion of the
whole matter: Fear God and keep His
commandments; for this is the whole duty
of man." -Ecclesiastes 12:12-13*

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BRM Interims and Associates Engaged in Ministry:

>Rev. Steve Barack, BRM Associate – Filling the next BRM assignment. Ready to go!
>Dr. Al Carson, Sr. BRM Associate – Sr. Pastor of Edwards Corners Bible Church, Marcellus, MI
>Dr. Joe Stewart, BRM Associate – Sr. Pastor of Grace Bible Church, Dallas City, IL
>Rev. Darwyn Hassert, BRM Associate - Smyrna Bible Church (and vicinity), MI, preaches and assists as needed in nearby areas
>Rev. Don Zimmerman, Interim Pastor of Western Springs Baptist Church, IL
>Rev. Jim Vyleta, Filling the next BRM assignment. Ready to go!

BRM Field Report #9

After an affirmative vote, West Madison Bible Church is welcoming their new pastor in September. Thank you, Interim Pastor Jim Vyleta, for helping this church successfully navigate through the transition process. Jim's next assignment will be pulpit supply for the Griffith Baptist Church on September 14th in northern Indiana.

August was a busy month for our men filling the pulpit in area churches:

- Lee Rupus spoke at Lisle Bible church on August 3rd, 17th, and 24th and was very well received.
- Steve Barack spoke at Devon Church on August 10th, and 24th

Don't hesitate to contact us by calling the office at 708-579-3800/ 3801 to schedule someone . We have people manning the phones and ready to respond to any needs, concerns, or issues.

Donations can be made in David Bauer's honor to Bible Related Ministries.

This month's newsletter was produced by Tracy McConnell using parts from previous issues.

A Letter from the Interim Director

Hello BRM Friends,

My name is Fernando Garza, and I'm BRM's Interim President. I've known David and Dolores Bauer for over 40 years, and Chuck and Eleanor Svoboda for about 30. I've also served on the BRM Board for 19 years. Shortly after the passing of our Executive Director, Reverend David J Bauer, the BRM Board met and appointed me as Vice President. According to the BRM bylaws, in the absence of the Executive Director, the Vice President assumes the position of Interim President. Although Pastor Dave's passing is a great loss, we know God is still in control and the mission of BRM will go on under the Lord's direction, "for all that is in the heavens and earth, is yours" (1 Chronicles 29:11).

I was saved in the 4th grade when I learned that Jesus died for me, and I needed him in my heart to go to heaven (John 3:3, 3:16). When I started attending AWANA clubs and Sunday School I was excited to learn more about Jesus and all the biblical stories. In my adult life, I served in the military, attended college, and continue to work in the medical field. I've been married for 37 years, and been blessed with 3 children and 6 grandchildren; with one more on the way.

As we wait on God to provide us with a new Executive Director, I am working with Dolores and the BRM Associate Pastors in fulfilling BRM's mission.

Please pray for BRM:

1. For God to provide a new Executive Director.
2. For Dolores, comfort and strength.
3. For the BRM Board, God's wisdom and guidance

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to reach out. Although I am still employed, I will reply in due time.

In the Lord's service,

Fernando Garza, BRM Interim President