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# Bible Explorations Newsletter

October 2016 Issue

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### Exciting note from Kuwait

Response to news letter

"Just wanted you to know that your broadcast airs here in Kuwait City, Kuwait. I was shocked when I saw it as this is the 2nd most strict of all Islamic countries with Saudi being the 1st. So you can imagine my shock when I saw your broadcast. Anyways, keep on preaching it!"

My answer to friends over there is that this is exactly what we plan to do. We are currently in a drive to have the funding for another year. Pray that it be within His will.

Notes from a Sabbath school teacher in Idaho:  
 The lesson was about "those who talk **about** the lost versus those who talk **to** the lost, and then filled the time helping those who will talk **to** the lost."

Mark 16:16 "And He said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

For those who questioned the text he read from Paul's declaration Phil 4:13 and applied it to us all. "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me," and again from Peter's comment in 1Pet 3:15, "but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts; and be ready to give answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and with fear."

Actually the first answer is given to a small group of evangelist, whereas the second and third can be applied to all Christians.

Then he added, "There is a problem in the church today. It is subtle, but it is there. People are telling us, 'wait, hold it, you don't know enough. You haven't been to the beginners class, you don't even have a Bible. You haven't learned to pray. You can't share your faith with someone, you aren't ready.'"

But the truth is, that all these things can help, but the Holy Spirit uses a witness whose heart is motivated by love.

Do a little thinking about your witness and watch for opportunities. That way you will be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason for the hope that is in you with meekness and with fear.

If you meet a person who is spiritually inclined your conversation can get rather deep quite soon, but actually the test is speaking of a person that "asketh you" and

then says to do your explaining (or teaching) with a meek attitude and with respect for the other person, willing to listen to him, and then turn his thoughts toward a higher truth.

### COMMON FEARS



I'm afraid of being rejected.  
I'm afraid of what my friends will think.  
I don't think I can share with my coworkers.  
I don't know enough.  
I'm afraid of losing my friends and relatives.  
I don't know how.

In the picture of new students above you will see no sign of these excuses. Things are deep but light enough to keep the students light and happy.

If you wish to experience the level of joy so many others have found, you will have to drop those excuses for not sharing your faith. You will have to practice obedience to the great commission. Not only will this impact the lives of your loved ones, giving the Holy Spirit the opportunity to draw them to Christ, but you will experience a new depth in your relationship with God. One you have not had before. After all, God promised, "I will be with you." Ex. 3:12. Then just wait to see what God will do with an ordinary person like you, who is obedient in sharing his faith.

### Conversation starters from light to heavy

Do you go to church anywhere?  
Do you think there is a heaven or a hell?  
Do you have any kind of spiritual belief?  
If you died, would you go to heaven? Why?  
To you, who is Jesus?  
Do you want to know His more correct name?  
If you were wrong in a spiritual belief would you want to know it?

Use any of these ice breakers or think up one of your own.



Be sure of a reasonable and Biblical answer to your question. One that will lead to further studies. Remember, you only need one conversation starter. "There are two important things that come from the book of Romans, may I read them?" **If yes**, open your Bible to Romans and read Romans 10:9: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shall be saved." "So what does the Bible teach about death and the resurrection?" And you are on your way.

No, it doesn't have to be the state of the dead. You choose your subject according to your ice breaker.

After you ask: "May I read them to you?" your new friend says "no," or "not at this time," pass the time of day and move on. However if you have prayed "Lord, lead me to some soul today," He probably will.

### MANY THANKS

To the men and women who volunteered their time, hard work, and travel time these past weeks to Terra Bella. The tents are up, tables and chairs moved into place for the coming Feast of Tabernacles. It all starts October 16 through October 23rd. Do yourselves a favor and head toward Terra Bella campgrounds the week before for those who enjoy camping or want to be here on the Day of Atonement, Oct 11.

### WHAT'S UP WITH SOME OF YOUR MONEY?

I do believe our readers have a right to know what is being written. Sometimes it is better for you to decide what is truth and what is not. This story has the earmarks of truth:

Banks are now just outright stealing people's money.

"Years ago banks stored real money (gold) and gave their customers paper receipts which made transferring and transporting easier. Then, as years went by, banks just began storing currency. Un-backed fiat paper is not real money!

"Now, in the 21st century the term "bank robbery" has a completely different meaning. The Russian turn of phrase means that the bank robs you.

"What occurred in Cypress in 2013 was the most overt form of daylight robbery. Over the weekend the banks closed, and upon reopening, anyone with substantial funds, found they had 50% less than they had the day before." With no possibility of reprieve.

Wow, what a stab in the back? what if something like that happened over here? Something has.

"Over the past weekend, the swindlers (workers) at Wells Fargo were caught engaging in questionable activity yet again and consequently their stock's value has suffered. The shares took a noticeable dip as Warren Buffet's favorite bank was fined \$185 million for a series of fraudulent actions.



"According to reports, since 2011, bank employees have opened 1.5 million bank accounts and 'applied' for 565,000 credit cards as well as opened false email accounts - none of which were authorized by their customers.

"Part of the fraud lies in the fact that these shady bank workers were transferring funds from customers' existing accounts into newly created accounts unbeknownst to them, resulting in overdraft fees for insufficient funds in some cases.

"According to the New York Times the bank's employees incentivized to partake in this illegal activity by compensation policies that rewarded them for opening new accounts." For a country that has no

morals, it seemed like pie in the sky. So let's go for it! I don't think so!

The only way a person can mend the holes in his character is with Christ. Then a whole new set of laws will be opened to him and he can choose, day by day, morning by morning, whom he will follow.

### EXORCISTS WANTED!

By whom? certainly not by Bible Explorations. But by the Roman church who appear to be at war with Satan and Satan worshippers.



Does Satan have his way with the school board? After campaigning under the slogan 'Educatin' with Satan', the Portland chapter of the National Organization of the Satanic Temple has applied for more help. They now can legally operate an "after school club." After School Satan Clubs cannot be denied wherever Christian, or any other religious clubs, operate.

Experts from the Catholic Church in Italy and the U.S. have said that exorcists are needed as never before, because more and more people are trying Satanism.



Valter Cascioli, a psychologist and scientific consultant to the International Association of Exorcists, which is endorsed by the Vatican writes:

"The number of people who take part in occult and satanic practices, which lead to serious physical, psychological and spiritual damages, is constantly rising. Literally, he says, he is urging for colleges or a university to be set up specifically to educate exorcists." (And give another right to the Jesuits to our classrooms for the well being of us all.)



I can't seem to break the silence of so many thousands of fire victims these past months. The most recent in California is in the Santa Cruz Mountains. It has now scorched more than 2,250 acres, destroyed a home and buildings, and triggered evacuations. The triple-digit temperatures and dry conditions are driving the explosive blaze. This particular area has not been hit with a major blaze in about 15 years. In the Bay area, 8 record temperature highs were set Monday, 104 made it the second warmest September high since 1958.

In Sonoma County more than 1000 fire fighters have gained the upper hand on the Sawmill fire which started Sunday. Burning 10 miles east of Cloverdale, the blaze is 1,500 acres so far.

The Soberanes fire in Las Padres National Forest continues to burn. This blaze began July 22 and so far has consumed 128,380 acres!



While these and more fires continue to burn, the other side of the U.S. is getting flooded. Last week Wisconsin got their share of rain. One person was killed after a mudslide destroyed a home. They declared a disaster emergency for 13 counties.

This week Cedar Rapids Iowa is seeing the worst flooding since 2008. It forced 10,000 residents out of their homes and businesses. The river that runs through Cedar Rapids reached its second-highest peak ever on Tuesday. So far the damage is fairly minor flooding because "contractors erected nearly 10 miles of

temporary barriers in just days, and 250,000 sandbags were filled and placed to protect homes and businesses. The city had some of the Hesco barriers for years for flood protection but this marks the first time they have been deployed in Cedar Rapids."



*Hong Kong CNN:* Heavy rains from Typhoon Megi caused a landslide Wednesday that left 27 people missing in China's Zhejiang province, state-run media reported.

Megi made landfall earlier Wednesday in China's Fujian province, less than 24 hours after it devastated Taiwan. Four people died and at least 524 were injured in Taiwan after the powerful storm slammed into the island's northeastern coastline on Tuesday afternoon. More than 3.8 million homes were left without electricity on Tuesday night after some 38 inches (one meter) of rain fell in Yilan County, according to Taiwan's Central News Agency.

By Wednesday, more than a million were still waiting for their power or water to be restored, with the total damage toll sitting around \$4.78 million. The typhoon was the third storm system to hit the island in just two weeks, lashing Taiwan with winds up to 143 miles per hour (230 kilometers per hour).

On September 14, Typhoon Meranti killed 30 people and injured many more in the island's south and collapsed over 900 homes (\$2.63 billion in damage), followed by typhoon Malakas which drenched Taiwan's north on September 16. Typhoon Meranti was the strongest storm seen in the region since 2013, leaving hundreds of thousands of Taiwanese homes damaged or without power in its wakes.

And so it goes, one storm after another, one fire after another? Debris lying for miles along roadsides. Children crying, parents dazed. If it would just stop raining or send a little to the California coast! But little relief in sight.

*CNN:* In a bizarre consequence of Eid al Adha (Festival of Sacrifice) celebrations in Bangladesh, animal sacrifices have combined with heavy rains leaving the streets awash with blood. Shocking photos emerged from the capital, Dhaka, Wednesday that showed residents wading through streets flooded with a mix of

animal blood (and backed up sewer toxins and poisons) and rain water.

This was one of the largest man-made ugly pictures I have ever seen. Never have I seen such a sight. I can't show you the pictures as they are blocked by financial arrangements. Literally red rivers flowing in the streets.

### Strangers in the Land



Rocks loomed high ahead. The ship listed sharply. A horrible crunching sound joined with the wind. The last Pierre remembered, he was fighting for breath and being banged against the rocks. Pierre choked and sputtered. The boom of waves receded. Salt pricked his eyelids and stung his nose. His hands hurt. He looked at them in surprise. They were scraped raw where he had clung to the rock. At first he could react only to one sensation at a time. His ears roared. He shook the water out. His hair lay in a wet mass over his forehead where a wave had flung it like seaweed. He coughed. A few feet away, someone echoed his coughing, Pierre looked up and saw Claude.

The storm was over. Farther on, Henri sat by Grand-pere, crying. Pierre crawled toward him. Claude followed, and the three boys propped Grand-pere against a rock. His head had dropped back and his face appeared peaceful, almost smiling. "Why doesn't he open his eyes?" Henri asked. "Why is he smiling like that?"

"Any survivors?" a strange voice hoarse with worry called out. "Yes, thank God," another answered. Small boats landed. Men jumped out and ran along the beach looking for the passengers. Pierre found Father and Mother conscious, but too weak to stand. The people of Boston opened their homes to the refugees, and after the count was taken of the survivors, it was determined that among others, both Grand-pere and the old Huguenot preacher had drowned. There were not enough people to settle the Nipmuck country, and Father decided to settle in Boston. Within a few months he was once more in a familiar position, dealing with ships and cargo, and Mother was in charge of a snug, warm house.

The three boys learned everything they could about their new country. There was nothing to fear from the savages in Boston. Wild animals were far off in the woods. As for food, the three boys learned to love corn in short order. Claude took it on himself to learn how the land was tilled. He prepared the earth carefully, planting corn, perhaps four or five kernels at a time. Pierre and Henri

helped, but already Pierre liked to be on the wharf watching ships come and go with their cargoes of furs, timber, fish, and cloth.

One day Father came home with a letter. "It's from La Rochelle." He opened it and began to read to himself. As he read his face whitened; then a slow flush started from under his collar and crept up his cheeks. "Why, whatever is the matter, Paul?" mother asked. "Why, why..." Father could not do anything except sputter. He waved the letter. With a sudden, angry look, he tore it into shreds and threw it into the fire. Then he burst into laughter. Tears of merriment poured down his cheeks. When he recovered, he explained. "That letter said I'm to appear at the door of the Catholic church in La Rochelle on October 7 and show cause why my lands and property should not be confiscated."

He paced the room. "I'll write a letter back." He seized pen and paper and sat down to write. Mother and the three boys remained quiet. Afterward, Father flourished the letter and read it aloud. "To Whom It May Concern: Every one that hath forsaken houses,...or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life. We shall never forget how we have fled from persecution and found acceptance before the people of this land; how, when we were strangers, they have taken us in." He handed the pen to Mother. "We'll all sign this."

Afterward, he took the boys with him to the wharf. "This letter is going back on the very next ship." He arranged with a captain to take the letter. The captain was curious and asked Father many questions about his new life in America. Then he turned to the boys. "Do you like living in America?" "Yes," they chorused. "What do you like most about it?" Claude spoke without hesitation, "There's so much land for crops." "How about you?" the captain asked Henri. "Nobody has to hide in America," he said.

Pierre hesitated before giving his answer. Somehow it seemed important to define and express all that had happened to him in the months that had followed the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. He wanted to say, "No one burns up your house. No one puts you in prison. No one tells you how to worship God." Somehow he could not get started.

"Well?" the captain prompted. "The nicest part about America," Pierre said, "is that the people here let you live the way you want to. They take you in as friends, whatever your religion. Back in our home country we were treated like strangers in the land. Here we are strangers no longer." .....*The End.*

**SEE YOU SOON FOR FEAST OF TABERNACLES!**

Bible Explorations welcomes all to a joyous experience of learning in Terra Bella, California October 15 - 23, 2016.

Welcome to Fall 2016

# Feast of Tabernacles



Note: Campgrounds will be available the prior week and stay longer, too (no charge).

**If coming from the South,** plan on 45 minute drive north from Bakersfield. Take Hwy 99. Passing through Bakersfield on Hwy 99 you will come to a cut-off to the right marked Hwy 65 to Porterville and Sequoia Parks. Take Hwy 65 north (the only way you can) past Ducor to Terra Bella, Ave. 95, (this is a stop signal). Turn East (right) on Ave. 95 & go about 3 miles to Rd. 256. Turn left (North) onto Rd. 256. Continue one long block to Ave. 100. Ave. 100 goes only to the right (East). Look for a red house on the left about one block from the corner of Rd. 256 and Ave. 100. **The address is 25810 Avenue 100, Terra Bella, CA 93270.**

**If coming from the North,** plan on 1 1/2 hour from Fresno. Continue South on Hwy 99 to Pixley. Watch close; it is but a little distance from Tipton. Take Ave 96 East to Hwy 65. Ave 96 will become Ave 95. (Continue east past the town of Terra Bella on Ave. 95 about three miles to Rd. 256. (There is Tuff Products at this' corner). Turn left (North) on to Rd. 256. Continue one long block to Ave. 100. Avenue 100 goes only to the right (East). Look for a red house on the left about one block from the corner of Rd. 256 and Ave. 100. **Address is 25810 Avenue 100, Terra Bella, CA 93270.** Campground entrance is on east side of house.

**RVs and tents are welcome free with free electricity, water.**

**Available motels:**

1. Motel 6 – least expensive (559-781-7600)
2. Americas Best Value Inn - (559) 306-1900
3. Best Western – has a Denny's (559-781-7411)
4. Holiday Inn Express – newest (559-782-1200)



## INTERNET BROADCAST

While it is much better in person, some are unable to attend, so we will again broadcast live during the meetings. Please see website below to watch us over the internet/satellite.

We will be **live** on BETV (Glorystar)

**To watch **live** online: [www.bibleexplorations.com](http://www.bibleexplorations.com)**

You can also watch us on Roku and Google TV.

For more information call: 877-475-1318