

Mission Possible

Words of Hope Ministries

November 2024

I've been seeing this commercial lately that shows some Natural Disasters and the commercial states these disasters are not acts of God but acts of man. It goes on to say that the reason for all these disasters is because of man's abuse of pollution and global warming. "They are not of God!" Now I'm no scientist or even close to any type of scholar, but I do know God is the author of all things. I wonder if this guy or scientists ever stop to think that God allows these things to happen because of man's disobedience. I agree we are polluting HIS beautiful planet. Truth be told, the physical types of pollution are just the tip of the melting iceberg. God is being taken out of everything! He's taken out of school, out of our communities, our government our society has taken Him out of everything. It's gotten to the point if we as Christians speak His truth, we are considered insensitive and politically incorrect. Speaking of which has anyone heard a word of God out of the mouths of the candidates we have running for the Presidency. I have not! It's all about division and trying to adhere to the so-called popular opinion. From what I can see neither one of them is of GOD! Galatians 3:28 There is nether Jew nor gentile neither prisoner or free, neither male nor female for you all one in Christ Jesus! Shouldn't we be working together to all be unified as One in HIS NAME!!? There are wars everywhere, natural disasters famine, diseases of all kinds....

I try my best to not be a doomsday preacher and I love to inspire HOPE, but fellow Christians we are in Spiritual Warfare. We have signs all around us to the extreme that I have never seen in my lifetime. And I am hopeful! The Bible is full of stories of God's wrath on man when He becomes frustrated with us. But just as all these disastrous things around us are of God, so is our HOPE. He is the ANSWER! As Christians we must acknowledge that we are at spiritual war against principalities. So as we say in the penitentiary "Strap Up!"

Ephesians 6:11-17 11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in

place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

I had started writing this message a week ago and put it on hold considering the Hurricane Helene right here in Western NC. I have never seen anything like it! The destruction is beyond the scope of the imagination. The devastation is heartbreaking. Lives lost, homes destroyed, businesses destroyed, roads, bridges and highways washed out.....

On the flip side the humanitarian effort I witnessed was also something I have never experienced before. Stranger helping stranger. People not caring where you are from who you are going to vote for; what your religion is. None of that seems to matter. It's just neighbor helping neighbor. Another thing I noticed was above the downed trees, washed out bridges and roadways was a sparkling, pristine, look and smell across the mountain range. I noticed a cleansing of the region.

Could that be the reason for the natural disasters? Is this God's way of purifying what man is continuing to defile? Maybe the scientist and I both right. Maybe man is responsible for the cause of these natural disasters and this God's way of cleaning HIS planet.

I don't claim to have all the answers but what I do have is a belief in God that he is the Master of all things. He giveth and He taketh away. Only He knows His reasons and I choose to continue to put my faith in The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

"The gift we offer others is so simple a thing as hope."—Daniel Berrigan—"Our actions and beliefs affect others. As we grow and change, we feel better. We view the world with more positive eyes. We must share this with others."

He is the Answer and the only true HOPE we have if this world.

God's Peace, Kevin

Praise and Prayer

Lord, these are dark and dangerous times for our country. Our politics is full of hate, and it's spilling over in how we think of and treat each other. And like any nation, we have guilt for the evil that we have done and permitted.

We have deep injustices in our criminal justice system against the marginalized and politically disfavored, resulting in many false convictions and plea deals done by the innocent to end their ordeal. In this way we have corrupted justice in violation of your commands to judge with truth.

We have made idols out of our possessions, out of sex, out of ourselves, out of politics, out of our nation, and out of the government, and we have viciously attacked anyone who questions our false gods. We treat them as heretics to be despised and hated.

We hate and malign our political opponents, forgetting that they too are made in your image and forgetting Jesus' teaching that to hold another in contempt is the equivalent of murder, an attack on the image of God and thus on God himself.

May we as your people resist the temptation to hate, to insult, to lash out. May we love our

enemies and pray for those who insult or persecute us. May we be peacemakers.

May our allegiance be first and foremost to your Kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. May we live by Jesus' teachings and the values of the Kingdom as agents of reconciliation and shalom in a world that desperately needs them. May your priorities be our priorities over party, tribe, or faction. May we seek first your Kingdom and your righteousness, working for your justice in the world but especially for your rule over all areas of life. May we be disciple-makers in accordance with your final command to us.

May we live by the law of love—not the kind of sentimental love our culture promotes—but love that seeks the ultimate good of all persons, not their temporary satisfaction. May we love people enough to speak the truth with compassion and gentleness. May we care more about their wellbeing here and in eternity than about what they think of us.

Politically, the issues we are facing are many and complicated, and no party stands for your Kingdom in all areas. May we affirm and support what is good: the right to life, liberty of conscience, our fundamental freedoms, equal justice under law, government that carries out its responsibilities before you but stays out of things beyond its legitimate authority. May we oppose what is evil: infanticide, abuse of all sorts, injustice, and dehumanizing rhetoric from all sides. And above all, may we put our hope in you, not in the election or defeat of candidates or parties.

Lord, you and you alone determine the rise and fall of nations. Only your Kingdom lasts forever. If this is the time when we will see the decline of our nation, keep us from despair, remembering that our citizenship is in Heaven from which we await our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. Your promises remain unchanged, and whatever happens, we know you are true. Our hope is in you, not in politicians, parties, laws, or constitutions. We commit our nation into your hands, and by your grace we will live in faith, hope, and love, whatever happens.

We ask all this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Strange Thanksgiving Traditions That Everyone Pretends Aren't Weird

The Turkey Toss- In Indianapolis, IN, people have started an annual tradition of dressing their turkey in a baby onesie, dousing it in lighter fluid, attaching it to a long chain, lighting it on fire, and throwing it across the length of a football field. This tradition was basically started by a bunch of dudes who wanted to see a flaming turkey streak through the night sky, and now, it's an annual thing.

Frozen Turkey Bowling- At the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, the most popular Thanksgiving tradition is an event called Frozen Turkey Bowling, where people hurl frozen, oiled-up turkeys down a grocery store aisle at a set of bowling pins. The event raises money to combat smoking, which is an awesome reason to throw a frozen bird at a bunch of bowling pins.

Pardoning A Turkey- In 1947, a weird tradi-

tion known as the National Thanksgiving Turkey Presentation was founded under the Truman administration. However, Ronald Reagan was actually the first present to formally "pardon" one of the turkeys given to him. Truman, Eisenhower, and several other presidents actually ate the turkeys presented to them. In 1988, George H.W. Bush instituted the turkey pardon as a national tradition while he was in office.

North Tech's Pie Throwing Event- At the North Technical high school in Missouri, they host an annual event where people throw pies into the faces of their administrators

The Turkey Trot- Turkey trot 5Ks happen all over the country. Thousands of full-grown adults each year don turkey costumes and go jogging before consuming billions of calories

later that evening. Although it's probably just a ploy to get out of helping your mom make all those side dishes before your Uncle Larry shows up and falls asleep in the potato salad, turkey trots are definitely a weird Thanksgiving tradition to behold.

Cracking The Wishbone- This bizarre Thanksgiving tradition actually stems from the ancient Romans, who believed that the person who broke off the larger piece of the wishbone would have a wish come true. The wishbone must be completely dry and brittle before you try to snap it, so you can't actually crack a wishbone at the Thanksgiving table.

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THANKSGIVING

Time to gather with those you love.

Honor the differences of people at your table.

Anticipate joy in laughter.

Noticed the beautiful colors of the season.

Know the value in connecting with others.

Share your bounty and talents.

Give to those in need.

Identify your strengths and resilience.

Verbalize what you are grateful for.

Invite love and kindness in your heart.

Never give up on yourself.

Give God the glory and praise for all gifts, especially grace.





Nov 12 Tavaris M.
Nov 13 Sherwood A.
Michael N.
Nov 14 John K.
Nov 15 Violet S.
Nov 16 Edward B.
Nov 18 Lewis M.
Nov 20 Alex R.

Nov 26 Willie H. Nov 27 Terrence S. As you grow another year older, may you also grow deeper in your faith and closer to God. May His wisdom guide you and His love comfort you.

Happy Birthday!

baked 24. Unfinished business

Answers I. Split Personality 2. Misunderstood 3. Somewhere Over the Rainbow 4. History Repeats Itself 5. One in a Million 6. I'll be there in a minute 7. High chair 8. Space Invaders 9. Slow down 10. Stand in the corner 11. Double vision 12. Walking on thin ice 13. Eye of the storm 14. A marks the spot 15. Once Upon a Time 16. Broken promise 17. Shrinking violets 18. Pineapple upside down cake 19. Back door 20. Get a word in edgewise 21. Cross country 22. Six feet under ground 23. Half

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| Saturday | Friday | Thursday | Wednesday | Tuesday | Monday | Sunday |
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| 2 | 1 | | | | | |
| John 8:32 | Romans 8:37 | | | | | |
| 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| 2 Corinthians 1:4 | Hebrews 12:3 | 1 John 4:19 | Romans 12:19 | Psalm 8:3-4 | Hebrews 12:1 | Matthew 7:8 |
| 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 |
| James 1:5 | Ephesians 1:18 | Hebrews 10:35 | Psalm 106:1 | Proverbs 28:13 | Revelation 7:14 VETERANS DAY MONOTONIC ALL WID DEPETO | John 8:11 |
| 23 | 22 | 21 | 20 | 19 | 18 | 17 |
| Ephesians 2:10 | John 6:35 | Hebrews 11:6 | Romans 14:8 | 2 Timothy 2:13 | Mark 8:34 | Romans 8:4 |
| 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 | 24 |
| Ephesians 3:18 | Psalm 68:19 | John 15:10 | Psalm 23:1 | Psalm 32:5 | Matthew 24:46 | Mark 3:35 |