

Berean Baptist Church

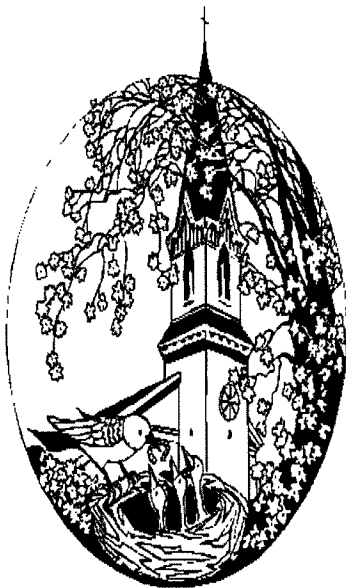
# Berean Banner

Volume 13

Number 3

March 2019

## Pastor's Perspective: "We Are Fighting A Spiritual War; Time To Defend Righteousness"



What happens to a society that turns its back on God? Our nation once had a great reverence for the things of God. Even unbelievers showed some respect for the beliefs of the truly devout. In our society unbelief has moved from a passive role to open rebellion and hatred against God and His followers.

Isaiah 5:20 warns, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil..." So-called educated secular unbelievers not only reject God and His word, but question the integrity, faith and

knowledge of Christ's followers. Jesus told us that such things would happen. At the Last Supper, Jesus said in John 15:18-20, "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because you are not of this world, but I have chosen you out of the world, the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you..."

Romans 1:21-28 speaks of the downward spiral that occurs as a nation forgets God. It begins with unthankfulness and continues to idolatry. Idolatry is more than a statue made of stone or metal but anything that takes the place of God. It could be sporting events, leisure activities or our job. God is crafted into a god that is convenient and molded to our desires. This sometimes is followed by sexual uncleanness and the misuse of the man/woman relationship that God intended for

continued on page 2.

### Inside this issue:

Pastor's Perspective	1
From The Pastor's Desk	1
Memory Verse	2
Poetry Corner	3
Events	3
Service Times	4
Upcoming Events	4

## From The Pastor's Desk...

Make the right choice: Joshua 24:15, "Choose you this day whom you will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

David was faced with a

problem. Darius the king had signed an unalterable royal decree that "Whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee O king, he shall be cast

into the den of lions," Daniel 6:7.

The challenge was whether to obey God and continue to

Continued on page 2.

## **“We Are Fighting A Spiritual War; Time To Defend Righteousness” ...continued from page one.**

marriage. The final destination of such rejection of truth is, “God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient.”

A person who is given over to a reprobate mind is lost for eternity. They are the walking dead who have willingly sinned against the truth to the point of no return. II Peter 2:21 declares, “For it had been better for them not to know the way of righteousness, then after they had known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.”

Jesus has commanded us to be salt and light in a rotting world that loves darkness, Matthew 5:13-16. Salt not only preserves but in an open wound, it burns. In today’s society, where evil is greatest, the sting is painful to such large open wounds. The light that we shine blinds the eyes of those whose eyes have adjusted to evil.

The Apostle Paul warned in II Timothy 4:3-4, “For the time would come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.” Let us heed God’s word for what it says, not what we wish it to say. Living for God will be difficult in this world.

So put on the armor of God and in faith and your daily walk, stand for what is right. We are in a spiritual war and we must fight, surrender not being an option. Matthew 5:13 teaches us, “Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.”

It is time for Christians to stand firm in the faith and without apology defend righteousness. To do less is to be of no value to God.

### January Finances

General Fund	\$3,726.96
Designated	<u>\$ 209.45</u>
Total	\$3,936.41

### Designated Accounts

Youth	\$2,390.73
Miscellaneous	\$ 121.63
D.C. Trip	\$ 923.79

### MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 86:12, “I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore.”

Prayer is the most important thing in my life. If I should neglect prayer for a single day, I should lose a great deal of the fire of faith.

—Martin Luther

Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments, despise our persons—but they are helpless against our prayers.

## **The Pastor’s Desk Continued...**

worshipping Him, or disobey the king and be cast into the lion’s den.

When the moment of truth that tests our faith arrives in our life, we have a choice that must be made: follow God or fear man.

Perhaps your choice to follow God will result in personal loss such as a job promotion, physical well being, or strained relationships.

Whatever the case in your life, remember that when Daniel was cast into the lion’s den, it was not where

he wanted to be. The danger was real, but God was there to help him go through the trial, not avoid it. Even in the place of danger, God is there. He will be with you even in the lion’s den. Will you choose God’s way and trust Him?

# Poetry Corner

## The Chair

A man's daughter had asked the local minister to come and pray with her father.

When the minister arrived, he found the man lying in bed with his head propped up on two pillows. An empty chair sat beside his bed. The minister assumed that the old fellow had been informed of his visit.

"I guess you were expecting me," he said.

"No, who are you?" said the father.

The minister told him his name and then remarked, "I saw the empty chair and I figured you knew I was going to show up."

"Oh yeah, the chair," said the bedridden man. "Would you mind closing the door?"

Puzzled, the minister shut the door.

"I have never told anyone this, not even my daughter," said the man. "But all of my life I have never known how to pray. At church I used to hear the pastor talk about prayer, but it went right over my head." "I abandoned any attempt at prayer," the old man continued, "until one day four years ago, my best friend said to me, 'Johnny, prayer is just a simple matter of having a conversation with Jesus. Here is what I suggest.' 'Sit down in a chair; place an empty chair in front of you, and in faith see Jesus on the chair. It's not spooky because he promised, 'I will be with you always'. 'Then just speak to him in the same way you're doing with me right now.' 'So, I tried it and I've liked it so much that I do it a couple of hours every day.'

"I'm careful though. If my daughter saw me talking to an empty chair, she'd either have a nervous breakdown or send me

off to the funny farm."

The minister was deeply moved by the story and encouraged the old man to continue on the journey. Then he prayed with him, and returned to the church.

Two nights later the daughter called to tell the minister that her daddy had died that afternoon.

"Did he die in peace?" he asked.

Yes, when I left the house about two o'clock, he called me over to his bedside, told me he loved me and kissed me on the cheek. When I got back from the store an hour later, I found him dead. Apparently, just before Daddy died, he leaned over and rested his head on the chair beside the bed. What do you make of that?"

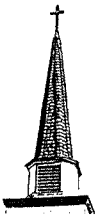
The minister wiped a tear from his eye and said, "I wish we could all go like that."

# Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner

Don't forget to be in prayer for Pastor Art as he heads out to Washington, D.C. on March 10th. This is a great opportunity for him to try and reach California Senators and

Congressmen for God's glory. We are still short on the funds needed to make this trip so if you can help in anyway, please do. This is your opportunity to help reach others.

Don't forget to sign the list for the Corned Beef & Cabbage dinner on March 16th at 4:00 p.m. We need to know if you are coming and what you will eat so we can purchase the food necessary for the meal.



## Berean Baptist Church

Pastor Art Zacher  
1147 Broadway Street  
Fairfield, CA 94533  
(707) 428-4620

*Searching the Scriptures for  
Life's Answers - Acts 17:11*

*Address Label Here*

We're on the Web!

[www.BereanBaptistFairfieldca.com](http://www.BereanBaptistFairfieldca.com)

# Welcome To Our Church

### Sunday Worship Services

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.  
Children's Church.....11:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

### Wednesday Services

Bible Study & Prayer.....7:00 p.m.  
King's Kids (grades 1-8).....7:00 p.m.

### Saturday

Daytime Visitation Program .....10:00 a.m.

### Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 3rd, Lord's Supper, 12:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 10th, Pastor going to Washington, D.C.  
Thursday, March 14th, Pastor returning from trip  
Sunday, March 17th, Advisory Council, 12:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 31st, Birthday Sunday, 12:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 31st, Finance Committee, 5:15 p.m.

Don't forget our Bible reading every Saturday at  
8:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. Join us for a time of  
reading God's word together.