



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
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**Confidence
Corner
John F. Board**

In this week's *Confidence Corner* I want to look at a fascinating passage located in the book of 1 Kings. The passage is fascinating because it is a fulfillment of something that was recorded approximately 550 years

previous to the time of Ahab; the prediction was in the days of Joshua. Consider with me 1 Kings 16:34 which reads, *"During the time of Ahab, Hiel from Bethel rebuilt the city of Jericho. It cost Hiel the life of Abiram his oldest son, when he began work on the city. And it cost the life of Segub, his youngest son, to build the city gates. Through Joshua (the son of Nun), the LORD had said that this would happen."*

As noted above, the inspired prediction was first recorded in Joshua 6:26. This passage recorded these words, *"Joshua laid an oath on them at that time, saying, "Cursed before the LORD be the man who rises up and rebuilds this city, Jericho." The LORD had pronounced a curse on anyone who violated God's ban against rebuilding Jericho on the old site.*

Consider the following thoughts. First, even though 550 years had passed, the LORD and His Word were not forgotten. Time may have passed but what the LORD said would be fulfilled. Second, the LORD was powerful enough to carry out His oath.

Today, we would do well to remember that God is faithful to His Word. At times people may be tempted to forget or take lightly the promise of Jesus that He will return to the earth in Judgment. Almost 2000 years have passed since Jesus prophetically foretold His return. Time continues today, but make no mistake, Jesus is coming again and when He does time will be no more. His faithfulness also promises eternal blessings to those following Him. Rely upon the faithfulness of God to fulfill what He says, and live so that the end for you will be eternal joy.

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E-town Youth Rally

Learn to DISCERN

Friday night, August 2
and
Saturday, August 3

Joe Wells
from Spring Hill, TN
will be the Keynote Speaker.

Topics Include:
Absolute Truth
Social Media
World View

RSVP by 7/28/19 if your group will need overnight housing.

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. — Unity of the Spirit
Ephesians 4:1-6

P.M. — Malachi
Malachi 1:6-9

Summer Vacation

It is so hard for me to believe, but before we know it what many refer to as summer vacation will be over. Soon the kids will start school and the freedom to travel will be limited. The carefree days of summer for many will roll into the responsibilities of fall. I hope you continue to have a wonderful summer, but I hope in doing so you have not and will not forget about God.

Sad to say that some people who claim to be followers of God take not only a vacation from their hectic schedules but also a vacation entirely from God. When summer comes they have more daylight hours and so they stay away from Sunday evening services or Wednesday Bible study because they need to get something of a physical nature accomplished. Others find themselves involved in sports that keep them away from worshipping God. Others simply figure that if they are on vacation that such means they can take a vacation from God. The reason that vacation is their time and very valuable time—so they don't want to waste any time worshipping God.

There are many problems with such a mindset. God desires that we seek Him first. Matthew 6:33 still reads, *"But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you."* When we allow vacation and our free time to come before, or in place of God, we have sinned and disappointed God! Not only have we made something an idol by placing it ahead of God, but we have also failed to see the underlying issue—we are not wholeheartedly committed to God.

Make no mistake, God desires that we rest and refresh. Jesus on a number of occasions would do so. He would get away from the crowds to refresh. But notice His refreshment did not leave out God. His refreshment involved God. When He went away, He went away to pray! He longed for fellowship with His Father. He did not seek to avoid worship or time with God.

I truly hope your summer has been great and will finish that way. I know many of you have actually taken vacation time to serve God through camps and other ways. This article is not written to condemn taking time to be together as a family or taking time to rest; it is simply a reminder that when we do take time to be with family or to rest, that we include God in our vacation. If we do so we will be blessed!

*John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY*