

**Schedule of Meeting Times:** *modified until April 30 due to the pandemic.*

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM

*Speaker, Robert Emerson*

Study Sunday **Postponed**

Worship Sunday **Postponed**

Worship Sunday **Postponed**

*Singing every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday evening*

Study Wednesday **Postponed**

*Sadly, our gospel meeting  
with Lowell Sallee has now  
been postponed indefinitely...*



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**Servants during April:**

**Songleader:** TBD

**Reading:** TBD

**Announcements:** TBD

**Table:** TBD

**Wednesday Lesson:** TBD

**Lawn Mowing (week starting):**

Robert(3), Larry (10), Kris (17),

Marty (24), Stanley (31)

## Hays Mill church of Christ

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# The Bible . Examiner

*"Examine everything carefully..." – 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB*

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# Judah's Maginot Line

*By Kenny Chumbley*

***"And Rehoboam... built cities  
for defense in Judah," 2 Chron 11:5.***

The Maginot Line was a series of technically advanced, impregnable defensive forts—"land battleships"—that France built after World War I on its border with Germany. Its purpose was to keep the Germans out of France. But when Germany invaded, they simply by-passed the Maginot Line and entered France through Belgium. Ever since, "Maginot Line" has been proverbial for a shortsighted exercise in futility.

Interestingly, 2 Chronicles 11 describes an ancient Maginot Line built by Rehoboam. When you plot (as best you can) the locations listed in verses 5-10, they indicate a defensive arc across the southern part of Judah designed, no doubt, to

deter or repel an Egyptian invasion or other threat from the south.

But when Rehoboam angered the Lord by forsaking His law, 2 Chron 12:1, Shishak, king of Egypt, "took the fenced cities which pertained to Judah, and came to Jerusalem." When, through disobedience, you attack the Lord, no defense you've prepared can save you from His counterattack.

I'm not saying that the Judean kings shouldn't have fortified their cities (2 Chron 14:6; 17:2, etc.) or built up their walls (2 Chron 14:7; how can you be anti-wall after reading Nehemiah?), but I am saying that Judah's fortifications were only as strong as Judah's faith. One of the things forewarned in the Davidic covenant is that if David's children broke the covenant and

refused to keep God's law, He would bring their "strong holds to ruin," Psa 89:40. God showed Rehoboam that He meant what He said.


One of the great lessons of Chronicles is that power comes from faith, not forts. "No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save. But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death," Psa 33:16-19 (cf Mk 9:14-29, where nine apostles lost their power when they lost their faith).

Asa, Rehoboam's grandson, also fortified cities, 2 Chron 14:6. But when Judah was threatened from the south during his reign by an Ethiopian army twice the size of his own, 2 Chron 14:8,9, Asa's first recourse was prayer. "LORD, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. Help us, LORD our God, for we rely on you, and in your name we have come against this vast army. LORD, you are our God; do not let mere mortals prevail against you," 2 Chron 14:11. The Lord answered this prayer of faith by smiting the Ethiopians, 2 Chron 14:12.

When Jehoshaphat, Asa's son, was challenged by an evil axis of

Moabites, Ammonites, and Edomites, 2 Chron 20:10, he assembled the congregation, led them in prayer, 2 Chron 20:5-12, and sent his army into battle led by a choir "singing to the Lord and praising him for his holy splendor," 2 Chron 20:21, NLT. When you trust God, tenors are more powerful than tanks, 2 Chron 20:22.

No nation has ever built stronger defenses than America. But all of our mega-tonnage, Star Wars missiles, and stealth weapons will prove as useless as the Maginot Line when God judges us for our unrighteousness, Prov 14:34.

Remember that whatever fight you fight today against the evil one, "the battle is not yours, but God's," 2 Chron 20:15. Trust God! 

## Our Religious World



**3 years**, 24 hours a day, acquiring an education — grade school, high school, college.

**7 years** eating, 24 hours a day — some more, some less, obviously.

**14 years**, day and night, working.

**5 years** riding in automobiles or airplanes.

**5 years** talking with each other—again some more and some less.

**1 year** sick or recovering from sickness.


**24 years** of our life sleeping!

**3 years** reading books, magazines, and newspapers.

**12 years** amusing ourselves—watching TV, going to the movies, fishing, etc.


That totals to **75 years**. As I looked at these statistics I began

thinking. Let us suppose that you spent every Sunday of your life, for 75 years—through infancy, childhood, adulthood, old age—meeting with the church and worshipping God twice each Lord's day. Now if you did, how much time would you have spent worshipping God? Figure it out—the answer is **less than 11 months**. Let's double it because you have always attended two Bible studies a week. If you have never missed a Bible study in all your life, that still just totals **11 months**.

Think about that — 5 years in an automobile and just 22 months with the church! Twelve years amusing ourselves in front of a TV, and just 22 months with the church. And that is if you have always attended and never missed! That tells us a little bit about the brevity of time and our priorities in life... *(Article slightly edited.)* 

## Remember in Prayer

"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving," Col 4:2... **Pam and Buddy** both had good results from their recent medical tests! Please remember always to pray for **Hazel Teeple**, as she has decided against any cancer treatments. And don't forget **Ruth Black** and **Madelene Britnell**; nor **Lois Adams, Carolyn**

**Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, and Polly McNatt** when you pray. 


*We will not meet again as a church until after April 30<sup>th</sup>, due to restrictions on all non-work related activities as outlined by the state health officer in response to the coronavirus pandemic. Let us keep in contact with one another!*

were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. Therefore what benefit were you then deriving from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the outcome of those things is death. But now having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you derive your benefit, resulting in sanctification, and the outcome, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord,” Rom 6:20-23.

Sin brings only death; but there is nothing at all to be ashamed of in Christ. Those of us that claim to be in Christ—are we ashamed of the one that brought us salvation; that freed us from sin? Are we hesitant to speak about Him, and about what it means to serve Him, just because someone might get upset? Or because they might ridicule us? Or because it is uncomfortable?

If is a little awkward or uncomfortable now, it will be more

than uncomfortable later—as Jesus noted, “For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul? For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” In other words, what is there here that is worth giving up your eternal soul? Because that is exactly what you do when you are ashamed of speaking out about your relationship with the Lord, or ashamed of what He has said. So He continued, “For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels,” Mk 8:36-38.

There is no shame in the truth that leads to salvation; and that would lead Paul to say, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek,” Rom 1:16. 

## How Will I Spend My 75 Years?

*By Melvin Newland*

Statisticians tell us that the average life span is now around 75 years. A few years ago, someone went to the trouble to research

what people do with their time. If we live to be 75, most of us will have spent:



Check out our website! There have been dramatic changes—now, from it, you can access 428 pulpit sermons, 150 radio sermons, 49 “gospel meeting” sermons, 103 bulletins, and 249 articles! And all of them able to be located through an on-site search function!

# Hosanna!

*By Kris Vilander*

One of the most beautiful words in all of scripture can also be one of the most perplexing—at least for many of us: “hosanna.” What does it mean?

Coming from Psalm 118:25, it literally means something like, “Save, we pray.” It was one of several songs (including Psalms 113-118) that would be used by ancient Jews to praise God while waving palm or willow branches during the most joyous of the yearly Jewish feasts, the Feast of Booths, or Tabernacles. While the feast was intended to memorialize the period of wandering, and in which all Jews would make and live in small, outdoor booths made of leafy branches or palm leaves, Lev 23:42,43, it was also a jubilant harvest festival, Ex 23:16. Vine says that the last day of the festival was called “the great Hosanna,” and the boughs they waved, “hosannas.” God set that time apart for them so that they would remember their utter dependence upon Him; not just for the physical, but the spiritual: to know “...that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD,” Deut 8:3b (cf v2-5).

The Psalm itself reads, “The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone. This is the LORD’S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day which the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. O LORD, **do save, we beseech You [Hosanna!]**; O LORD, we beseech You, do send prosperity! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we have blessed you from the house of the LORD,” Psa 118:22-26.

Jesus quotes it as a Psalm that pointed to the Messiah, Mt 21:42; so is it any wonder that when he came into Jerusalem riding on a donkey (fulfilling Zech 9:9), that “Those who went in front and those who followed were [quoting this psalm,] shouting: ‘Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David; Hosanna in the highest,’” Mk 11:9,10! Though not fully understood by those welcoming him at the time, their salvation had come—not in a physical king

or kingdom, but through Jesus' sacrifice in just a few days!


Of this salvation, songwriter Ruben Morgan reflected,

*Let the weak say, "I am strong"; let the poor say, "I am rich";  
let the blind say, "I can see": it's what the Lord has done  
in me. (Mt 11:5)*

*In the river I will wade; **there my sins are washed away**  
by the heaven's mercy stream of the Savior's love for me.  
(Acts 22:16; Heb 10:19-22)*

*I will rise from waters deep to the saving arms of God;  
I will sing salvation's songs—**Jesus Christ has set me free.**  
(Rom 6:2,3,22,23)*

*Hosanna, Hosanna to the Lamb that was slain;  
Hosanna, Hosanna: Jesus died and rose again!*

In a sense, the cry, "Hosanna!" is both a plea for salvation, and wholehearted praise because that salvation has been granted. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, we are able to have our sins washed away through obedient faith; we are freed from slavery to unrighteousness! And because of his resurrection, we can have confidence that, having been saved, we will also be raised to eternal life in His presence! Indeed—"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing," Rev 5:12! 

# I am not ashamed...

*By Kris Vilander*

Those in the state and federal governments are not the only ones to be providing resources to combat the Coronavirus pandemic; private citizens are doing their part as well. Cascade Lacrosse is making face shields for medical personnel, rather than the sport helmet and protective gear they specialize in; Nieman Marcus employees will be

manufacturing scrubs from materials donated by Joann Fabrics & Crafts. And on Monday, 3/30/20, President Trump invited MyPillow CEO Mike Lindell to talk about his contribution at the daily press conference. He announced that, although his company had already begun to manufacture 10,000 medical masks per day, he was now

going to dedicate 75% of his manufacturing capacity and ramp up to 50,000 masks per day.

You would expect that all Americans would get behind him—but immediately, he was mocked by folks like CNN reporter Jim Acosta; MSNBC anchor Ali Velshi; Miami Herald reporter Julie K. Brown; and "Morning Joe" co-host Mika Brzezinski. Why? Partly because they would be dismissive of anything that the President would endorse; but I think also because Mr. Lindell didn't stop by simply noting his role in producing masks. He went on to say, "God gave us grace on November 8, 2016, to change the course we were on. God had been taken out of our schools and lives, a nation had turned its back on God. I encourage you to use this time at home to get back in the word. Read our Bible and spend time with our families."

While some ridiculed him as both a Trump supporter and the "MyPillow guy," there were many that also scoffed at his open belief in God. These would have been the same ones that derided Vice President Pence for having opened his Covid-19 task force meetings with prayer. As for me, I find it refreshing and a real blessing to hear men speak openly of the Creator of the Universe; particularly those that are in authority. And there are other men in the current

administration that behave similarly, such as Secretary of State Mike Pompeo; or head of Housing and Urban Development, Dr. Ben Carson; or US Attorney General William Barr. It almost non-existent in politics, unless it will gain you votes—and I don't believe that is the case with these men. I think they are simply unashamed. And of course, there is nothing found in Christ of which we ought to be ashamed.

Judah had become corrupt, from the common man on the street, even to the priest that was supposed to be leading them spiritually. As a nation, they had committed spiritual adultery by serving false gods, but rather than calling the nation to repentance, the priests were more interested in money, and were telling the people that everything was alright. They were saying, "peace, peace," but there wasn't peace—not with God! So God asked, "'Were they ashamed because of the abomination they have done? They were not even ashamed at all; they did not even know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; at the time that I punish them, they shall be cast down,' says the LORD," Jer 6:15.

There are some things for which we should be ashamed; our sin would certainly be chief among them! Paul wrote, "For when you