

The Cordova Connector

...Connecting our community to Christ

A Publication of the Cordova Church of Christ

Romans 16:16

Connecting to Life

When Life Doesn't Make Sense: Part 1

Allen Webster

The Bible warns us that "evil" days will come (Ecclesiastes 12:1; Matthew 6:34; Ephesians 5:16). Job observed, "Man born of woman is of few days and full of trouble" (Job 14:1; cf. Psalm 73:14, 21). At times, there will be events, situations, diagnoses, tragedies, and conditions in our lives that will not make sense. The Psalmist wondered aloud, "Why standest thou afar off, O LORD? why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?" (Psalm 10:1).

There are mysteries in the New Testament that are not explained: ¹

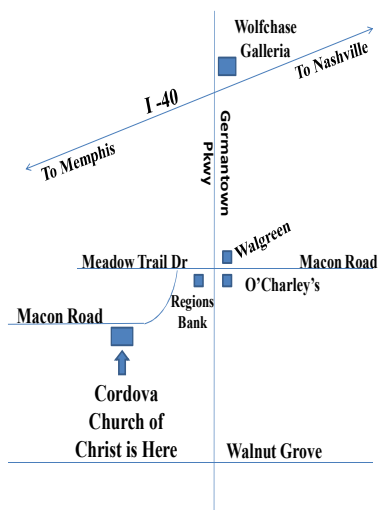
- James, the brother of John was martyred for Christ, but on the same occasion Peter was delivered from prison and spared from the same ruler (Acts 12:1ff). Why? Surely the Jerusalem Christians puzzled over this matter.
- Four companions in the gospel—Paul, Silas, Timothy, and Luke—arrived in the city of Philippi to do mission work. Two of them—Paul and Silas—are whipped and thrown into prison. The other two were untouched. Why?
- Epaphroditus, Paul's helper in Rome, became desperately ill but recovered (Philippians 2:25-27). Paul, however, was afflicted with a grievous "thorn in the flesh" that was chronic (2 Corinthians 12:7-9). Why?

At such times, our faith will be tested. And, in such storms, there are foundation stones that cannot be moved.

We can trust God in the dark

Corrie Ten Boom, popular author and Holocaust survivor, wrote, "When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throw away the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer." So it is in life. We can trust God farther than we can "see." Solomon wrote, "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding; in all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He will make thy paths straight" (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Continued on page 2...



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Connecting to Jesus

A Traveler's Guide to Heaven

Accommodations: Arrangements for accommodations must be made in advance ([John 14:2](#)).

Passports: Persons seeking entry will not be permitted past the gates without having proper credentials and having their names registered with the ruling authority ([Revelation 21:27](#)).

Departure Time: The exact date of departure has not been announced. Travelers are advised to be prepared to leave on short notice ([1 Corinthians 15:52](#)).

Tickets: Your ticket was purchased by a Friend named Jesus. It should be claimed by learning the gospel, believing in Christ, repenting of sins, confessing Jesus, and having sins washed away in baptism ([Romans 10:17](#); [Acts 2:38](#); [Matthew 10:32](#); [Acts 22:16](#)). Keep its promises firmly in hand ([John 5:24](#); [Hebrews 5:8-9](#)).

Luggage: No luggage whatsoever is needed or allowed ([1 Timothy 6:7](#)).

Immigration: All passengers are classified as immigrants, are taking up permanent residence in a new country. There is no maximum quota, so all are invited to come ([Hebrews 11:16](#); [Revelation 22:17](#)).

Air Passage: Travelers going directly by air ([1 Thessalonians 4:17](#)).

Vaccinations: Not needed, as there are no diseases there ([Revelation 21:4](#)).

Currency: Deposits may be forwarded to await passenger's arrival. Make deposits as large as possible ([Matthew 6:20-21](#)).

Clothing: A complete and appropriate new wardrobe is provided for each traveler ([Isaiah 61:10](#)).

Reservations: Booking is now open. Since departure time is unknown you should apply at once. If you wait, it may be too late ([2 Corinthians 6:2](#)).

To learn more, please consult the Holy Bible. — Arthur Pigman, Evans, Georgia

House To House Heart To Heart, Volume 15 #3

Connecting to Life continued ...

When we hurt, we really have only two choices:

- We can hurt with God, or
- We can hurt without Him.

We need God more in suffering than ever before. Losing faith will not remove our pain. It rather adds a second problem, and of the two, Jackson notes, "infidelity is of far greater consequence."² Job trusted in spite of unheard of suffering. When all of his children died, his possessions were lost, and his means of livelihood removed, he said simply, "The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD" (Job 1:21). When he soon also lost his health and suffered months of agony, he remained unfazed: "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him" (Job 13:15).

Wayne Jackson advised that a period of suffering is a time to "immerse ourselves in the evidences that builds faith in the integrity of the Word of God" (Psalm 19; Romans 10:17). It is absolutely paramount that we establish confidence in the testimony of the Scriptures. Unless we are convinced that the Bible is true, and we can trust its message, there is nowhere to go for any meaningful resolution; we will fall into the devil's trap of doubt.

Endnotes

1 This section adapted from Wayne Jackson, [Christiancourier.com](#)

2 [Christiancourier.com](#)

Glad Tidings of Good Things
Archives [06-06-13](#)

Connecting to God's Word

1. Read Matthew 5.
2. Which beatitude presents the most difficulty in your life?
3. If someone asked you if you knew you were going to heaven, what would you say?
4. What is one question or observation you have over this chapter?
5. How can this chapter help in family relationships?
6. What is one action step you will take in your life based on today's reading?

Connecting to His Church

7801 Macon Road ~ Cordova, TN 38018

Monthly Youth Challenge for Teenage Youth Group every
month

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship	10:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship	1:00 P. M.
Wed. Bible Study	7:00 P. M.
(Attended nursery at all services)	

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