

Kihei Baptist Chapel
"Good News Messenger"

1655 S. Kihei Rd.
or
P.O. Box 693
Kihei, Maui, Hawaii 96753

We're on the web!
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WEEKLY LINE-UP

Sunday:

8:00 Worship Service
9:00 Sunday School
10:00 Worship Service

Wednesday:

6:00 Hula Practice
7:00 Worship Practice

Thursday:

6:30 Bible Study

Friday:

5:30 Feed the Homeless
(1st Friday / monthly)

The **Good News Messenger** is published monthly by Kihei Baptist Chapel. All articles must be received by the **20th** of the month. No submissions will be accepted after this deadline.

Copies are sent bulk mail. You may request an e-mail version at newsletter@kiheibaptist.org, or you may view the newsletter monthly on our website:

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ADDRESS LABEL HERE

***We are a growing church in a growing community.
Come grow with us as we share the Son on Maui!***

FAITH FOR THE FUTURE

This past week our construction crew accomplished a lot that is not open to the eye. The under-floor electrical and plumbing rough is now in place, sand and gravel have been moved to the site to bring the floor up to grade, the sewer line was laid, and additional meetings with the county and architect were held. This coming week we will do a final leveling of the floor with required additional rock, sand, and vapor barrier; install and tie the rod for the floor; and begin pouring the cement for the floor.

Your prayers are needed for the continued support for the construction of our church worship center. This is financed through our Faith for the Future Fund. God has been blessed by the giving toward this program. We are still in need of raising an additional \$500,000 as the building is being built for parking lots, lighting, landscaping, and other items that are required by the county.

Thank you for praying, caring and giving.

~ Glenn

Kihei Baptist Chapel

**April
2008**

GOOD NEWS MESSENGER

"Go into all the world, and give the Good News to everyone." (Mark 16:15)

HEAVEN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE!

April

- 4 Feed the Homeless 5:30
- 6 Communion 8:00 & 10:00
Council Meeting 11:00
- 13 Worship 8:00 & 10:00
- 20 Worship 8:00 & 10:00
Potluck 11:00
- 26 Seder Banquet 11:00-1:00
- 27 Worship 8:00 & 10:00

Happy Birthday!!

- 4-04 Glenn Armstrong
- 4-05 Marcos De Franceschi
- 4-08 Chris Owens
- 4-08 Bob Flabetich
- 4-10 Iris Werling
- 4-13 Tony Ventura
- 4-15 Mike Phillips
- 4-17 Matt Parpart
- 4-18 Katelynne Rich Pimentel
- 4-20 Jewel Lalim
- 4-21 Doug Kenney
- 4-22 Geoff Mickelson
- 4-22 April Parpart
- 4-23 Grace Bell
- 4-25 Vicki Owings
- 4-25 Kawika McMillan

Happy Anniversary!!

- 4-22 Jay & Debbie Armstrong
- 4-27 Rick & Rita Morse

A Look Inside

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- Faith for the Future 8

Rev. Glenn Armstrong, D.D.
March 19, 2008

INTRODUCTION: While the gospel can never change, the motivation to receive Christ seems to be in constant change and flux. In the western culture it is hard to get a congregation together unless you are promising a myriad of miracles or a Mercedes; wealth without working; health and happiness as believers are taught to continue to live like the world. All this without any repentance before God!

I have weekly opportunities to meet Christian leaders from many countries of the world. In one recent conversation I listened while the pastor told of thousand of people coming to his services each week. They have to stand in the hot sun to listen to the gospel and receive Christ. This conversation stands out because the gospel was presented to people who had very little in life and knew they would most likely lose what they did have if they became believers in Christ. I asked the man why they would receive Christ if such a cost was attached. His reply was, "Don't American preachers present the gospel and make it clear that becoming a Christian has a cost to it?" My answer was, "No! Our people want to know what they get with the gospel or they don't even come to church. If they do, they move down the street to a church that promises them anything they can dream of having here on earth." He just couldn't understand wanting more than forgiveness and heaven instead of hell.

Maybe our preaching should center on heaven rather than earth. In forthright opposition and contradiction to the mood of the moment, God's Word does not promise believers a life of ease here on earth. Jesus certainly did not include comfort and convenience as ingredients of the gospel. (I know all the arguments against what I just wrote, but I also know the lies that accompany those arguments; and I know the clear teaching of the scriptural passages used in the arguments.)

While we do not have a lot of details about heaven, here are some references that suggest with is ahead for believers.

I. HEAVEN IS A PROVIDED, PLANNED AND PREPARED PLACE, John 14:1-6

One of Jesus' last statements was that He was going to prepare an eternal place for believers. He also stated He would come again and receive all who trust Him into this prepared, planned place. The text teaches that Jesus is not only the provider, but He is also the only way to heaven.

II. HEAVEN IS A PERCEPTUAL AND PERSONAL PLACE, Acts 7:54-56

The last thing Stephen saw before his assassination was the glory of God. He saw Jesus standing with outstretched arms waiting to personally receive him into heaven. Saul saw the reflected glory of God in Stephen's face and remained under deep conviction until his personal conversion.

(continued on page 2)

HEAVEN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE!...continued

III. HEAVEN IS A PARADISE AND PARADOXICAL PLACE, II Corinthians 12:1-4

The Apostle Paul is the only person who was shown what heaven is like. Yet, he could not describe or write about it. He said it was “paradise” and paradoxically “unspeakable”. Those who claim they have been to heaven and write books about it are as deceptive as they are unbiblical.

IV. HEAVEN IS A PERFECT PLACE, I Corinthians 2:9

All human imaginations by definition are finite and incapable for expanding to anything infinite. When one tries to think about heaven, words, ideas, and anything we have seen or heard will still leave him without an understanding of heaven. Even the most grandiose thoughts of the heart are incapable of identifying the greatness and glories of heaven.

V. HEAVEN IS A PERPETUAL PLACE, Ephesians 4:8-10; Acts 1:11; I Thessalonians 4:16, 17; Revelation 4:1; 21:2

Our lord ascended above the heavens to fulfill the plans and purposes of God for eternity. Immediately following the ascension of our Lord into heaven, God made the promise that He would return from heaven to earth again. The Apostle Paul wrote his first letter assuring all believers they would be raptured into heaven. God gave the Apostle John a vision of an eternal heaven from which a holy city will descend.

VI. HEAVEN IS A PROVIDENTIAL PLACE, Revelations 21:22-27; Jeremiah 23:24

Heaven is spoken about in terms which we can understand, at least in part. It is a place where the Lord God Almighty radiates His glory in a way that overpowers the sun and stars or any need for normal light. Nationalities will interact in perfect harmony and evil will not exist. While heaven is the base for God, He nonetheless is clearly aware of all things, everywhere and at all times.

VII. HEAVEN IS A PERCEPTUAL PLACE, Psalms 53:2; 121:1; Luke 9:31; Revelation 6:9-11

God, while spoken of as being in heaven, still has total awareness of the behavior of man on earth. He knows that by nature the unregenerate person does not seek to know Him. Instead, they replace God with religions and

theological concepts of their own. Jesus spoke to Moses and Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration indicating that, at least on this one occasion, individuals in heaven had access to earth. It may be wise not to make a general conclusion from this particular situation. (The particular does not argue for the general.) However, it is clear that individuals exist in heaven with perception and understanding. Saints in heaven know the state of human condition on earth and wonder why God delays intervening.

VIII. HEAVEN IS A PRICELSSS PLACE, Revelation 21:19-21

Heaven is spoken of existing with costly and precious materials. There is no reason to take this any way but literally. In fact, it would not have meaning unless taken as actual fact.

IX. HEAVEN IS A PAINLESS PLACE, Revelation 21:4

Heaven exists in perfection. Tears, death, sorrow, crying, sickness and pain will not exist in heaven. Even the continuance of remembering these situations will be “wiped away”.

X. HEAVEN IS A PERMANENT PLACE, Hebrews 11:8-10; II Corinthians 5:1

Abraham is used in the scriptures to illustrate faith in the eternal word of God. He lived nearly 2200 years before Christ, yet he knew that heaven always existed in the mind of God and literally existed since creation. He looked forward by faith to seeing a place where the “foundations and buildings” were made by God. God’s word teaches that when a believer dies they have a place “not built by hands, eternal in heaven.”

Death never means ceasing to exist. It is rather always separation. When a believer dies the body and soul are separated with the body going to the grave to wait for its resurrection and the soul going to a permanent place, heaven.

XI. HEAVEN IS A PRAISE PLACE, Revelation 5:13

We do not know all that we will do in eternity. Most likely we will enjoy all of God’s creation; and for sure we will be overwhelmed by the vastness, complexity and beauty of it. Praise to our great God will be automatic.

“J” FOR JESUS

Hi, all. I just finished First Step here, the potential staff training class, and had my interview for missions internship with Bob Bland, the Founder and Director of Teen Missions. He just returned from Africa with malaria, but is fervent that we should get more workers there as well as starting a base in Greece and getting more boot camps for South Africa, Madagascar, and possibly a youth hostel in Germany—should God provide the contacts and land.

I didn’t think he would let me choose where I would serve my year-long internship, but he did! (an answer to prayer) Since the base in Greece isn’t even signed on the paperwork yet—similar to getting building permits on Maui—it looks like I will be able to go to Canada instead. This is a good thing because it will give me more experience on living in a foreign country and what costs are involved. I already have friends about an hour away from the Teen Missions base in Windsor, Ontario, so at least I can get connected with churches and tips for ministry easier.

Teen Missions in Canada mainly promote their ministry, evangelize and travel to missions conferences, occasionally lead adult teams to Africa—which we’ll have to see about—and they do return to the Florida boot camp to lead summer teams...so that is a plus. Right now, Dave and Shirley Charron are the coordinators there (elderly couple). Bob Bland is confident I’ll do a good job and we’ll get more youth with me there, but only God knows. Please pray that I’ll be able to know what to do, how to do it, when to counsel kids, and exactly where to look for contacts. I’ve heard mixed reports from Canadians that have come to the Florida boot camp and am praying that possibly this could be a breakthrough for them.

I’d like to thank Founder/Director Bob Bland for his confidence and support by painting a picture of him. I’ve noticed Teen Missions does not have any pictures of him and it is common to see pictures of founding directors proudly framed and displayed in other organizations. I’ve talked with him about re-opening an Art Department. He is willing to, but wants more experienced photographers and videographers here to adequately staff the department. It would provide another venue of ministry that many youth are attracted to.

This summer I am scheduled to go to France with a team of 18 or more teens. Swiss debrief will be a lot of fun with my fellow BMW (Bible/Ministry/Works) students as leaders. I need to start arranging speaking sessions for my deputation for my internship next year in Canada since I graduate from BMW at boot camp in June. The staff manual says I can now watch what I want, listen to what I want, dance at home freely, have more freedom in my schedule, and choose what teams I would like to serve on.

It also says that I need to have 225 names on my mailing list, a minimum of 16 prayer partners, and be able to receive about \$600 - \$1000 a month for bills and food/clothing. My calculations tell me that I’ll probably need in the \$900 area, which is less than most, because I am frugal and hardly go out or buy anything at all—but, yeah—I still need food and clothing..... and some money for bills.

That’s my recent update. Thank you for your prayers!

~ “Joyful” Joy Flabetich

RUNNING THE BASES

How many times have you watched a baseball game and felt like sometimes that is how life can be? Running around trying to get to home plate. You try to hit a ball past all the waiting players on the opposing team. Once you get it far enough, you run; you did not quite hit it too far, so you only make it to the first base. Next time it is hit, you run ahead and make it to third; closer but not quite. Finally after many attempts, you make it to home plate, your final goal. That was a God thing you say and celebrate.

Proverbs 4:25-26: *Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you. Ponder the path of your feet and let your ways be established.*

In baseball you have your tools—helmet, uniform, bat, gloves, etc. In life you have your “faith” steps—prayer; worship; and a heart with love for God, for he will see you through. You hope in getting to your goal you remain true to His word, His ways. You have a purpose; He also has a purpose that is much greater than we could ever think.

Proverbs 19:21: *There are many plans in a man’s heart, nevertheless the Lord’s counsel will stand.*

You step up to the plate; you’ve got your task at hand. You know what you need to do. You have been provided the tools, the physical needs to get the job done; now remember your faith tools and ask God to help you reach your goal. He does know better, and may even get you there easier than you had thought.

Isaiah 55:8-9: *For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor, are your ways My ways says the Lord, For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.*

Waiting on what will happen, the anticipation can sometimes really challenge us. There are so many situations that waiting seems to be the only thing we can do. Health, job, education, and the list can go on and on. As you wait to see what happens when the pitcher throws, you wait to see what will happen in everyday life. Each day is filled with “what will happen”. God has a reason for all He does in our lives. We need to be sure we are doing the right thing and remain faithful.

Ezekiel 14:23: *And you shall know that I have done nothing without cause that I have done in it, says the Lord God.*

While running your bases of life, watch your steps, keep moving forward, seek God in all you do; He will run with you the entire way!

Hebrews 12:1-2: *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

So Go Out And Do Your Best To Hit A Home Run!

Happy Spring! May God bless you and your family.

~ Beth Wright

HEAVEN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE!...continued

XII. HEAVEN IS A PEACEFUL PLACE, Revelation 21:27

Nothing will enter heaven that promotes evil or contains lies. Nothing will defile a perfect peaceful existence.

XIII. HEAVEN IS A “PASSED AWAY” PLACE, Revelations 21:1 cf 4

Harmful and hurtful circumstances will be passed away, and both earth and the heavens (sun, moon, stars) will be made new. All former things contaminated by sin will be “passed away.”

XIV. HEAVEN IS A PEOPLE PLACE, Philippians 1:23; Revelation 21:3

People in heaven will be in the presence of God. Believers will be called “His people”. He will be their God and He Himself will be with the believers. The Apostle Paul’s desire was to be with God in heaven, which he said was “far better” than anything here on earth.

XV. HEAVEN IS A PRESENTATIONAL PLACE, Revelation 21:11-22

Heaven is presented as a wonderful place in terms beyond anyone’s imagination. John described what he saw, in vision form, in terms that we will be able to experience for all eternity. Heaven is not some spiritual experience; it exists in matter and material that can be seen, touched, measured and valued. John recorded that heaven and the existence of the Lord God Almighty so surpassed the fine, costly temple that there was no longer any purpose or need for a temple.

XVI. HEAVEN IS A PERSONAL PLACE, Matthew 8:11 cf I Corinthians 13:12

While we are not told everything we may want to know about heaven, we are told that it exists for any person who believes in Christ as the Messiah. Jesus said the Roman centurion had greater faith than anyone He found in Israel. He then added him to great believers of the Old Testament like Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as people who were in heaven. We are also told that while we only know information in part now, we will in heaven, know information as clearly as we know truth about ourselves.

XVII. HEAVEN IS A PARA-PHYSICAL PLACE, John 20:26

While the scriptures clearly teach that Jesus rose in a physical body, it also teaches that following death the body is more than physical. It has extra non-earthly qualities. Jesus had abilities He did not use before His death and resurrection. The text above does not record that Jesus walked through a closed, locked door. Yet, it does seem to be the reason for recording that the door was locked. Jesus clearly had access to both heaven and earth following His resurrection. A fair understanding of the information recorded about life after death is that believers are not totally limited to a natural body.

XVIII. HEAVEN IS A PERFORMANCE PLACE, Luke 19:17-19; Matthew 19:26

The best I can understand about individual believer’s relation in heaven is that it is not all equal. Jesus taught that faithfulness on earth defines the capacity to enjoy the benefits of heaven. I take it to be different for each person. God expects us all to live up to a high degree of what He has called for us to accomplish. The issue is not being in heaven—that is fully the result of God’s forgiving grace; rather, it is our capacity to enjoy what heaven is all about. Our life here on earth includes attitude as well as actions.

XIX. HEAVEN IS A PROMISED PLACE, Hebrews 4:9-10; 12:22-23

We are told to labor to enter into rest. The “rest” in the Hebrew passage is not heaven, but is our rewards that accompany our eternal existence. Heaven is promised as a place for believers to enjoy God and His blessings. All believers are listed in heaven as justified people covered by the blood of Jesus’ substitutionary sacrifice in a new covenant. This covenant is between the Trinity. God the Father agrees to give eternal life when His justice is satisfied by His Son’s death, and the Holy Spirit agrees to give spiritual life to all who receive the Son.

XX. HEAVEN IS A PASSING PLACE, I Corinthians 15:35-50; II Corinthians 5:8

Heaven is a place where believers pass on to and into. It takes a new changed body to exist in heaven since “flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God.” This change takes place either at death or at the rapture. The confidence

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HEAVEN IS A WONDERFUL PLACE!

given to believer is that this change will take place so rapidly that to be absent from the body immediately places one in the presence of the Lord.

I received Christ by placing my confident expectation in His promise to forgive my sin in 1947. I still have the same confidence in my Lord's trustworthiness.

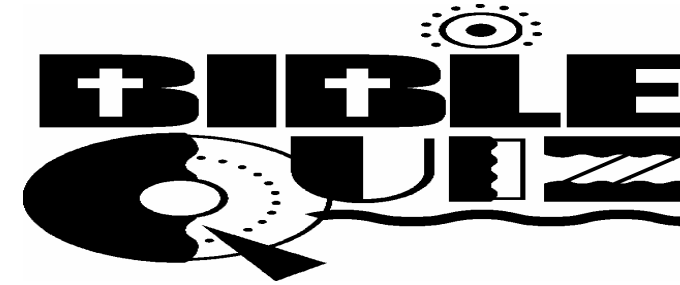
XXI. HEAVEN IS A PLACE WHERE SIN IS ALREADY PARDONED AND ITS PRICE IS ALREADY PAID IN FULL! ADMISSION IS FREE AND MUST BE RECEIVED AS A GIFT

PS. If you have books about heaven that contain more than the Bible, please don't send them to me. I most likely have already had them given to me. They contribute nothing to Bible doctrine and add nothing trustworthy about heaven! Human experience is as unreliable as it is interesting! I'm perfectly satisfied with inscripturalized revelation from God.

This is all I know about heaven. It is not everything I would like to know, but it is enough to make me want to spend eternity there. It sure beats what I know about hell.

Let
Heaven
&
Nature
Sing!
≈

QUIZZES FOR YOUNG & OLD



People quote the Bible even when they don't realize it. Our language is practically saturated with phrases and names from the Bible. Find out just how familiar you are with the Book and its effects on expressions we still use every day.

1. "Fire and brimstone" appears first in the story of what wicked place?
2. "My brother's keeper" was first used by what notorious man?
3. "A house divided against itself cannot stand" is often attributed to Abraham Lincoln, but was first spoken by whom?
4. "Holier than thou" is from the book of which prophet who often called God "the Holy One"?
5. Who recommended "a little wine for the stomach" to one of his protégés?
6. "Sweating blood" is from the story of Jesus agonizing in what location?
7. "Feet of clay" is based on a dream of what famous Babylonian king?
8. Which New Testament book says that "money is the root of all evil"?

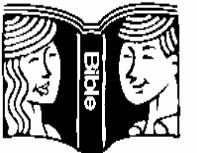
★EXTRA! EXTRA!★ READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Many people read their local newspapers, but Jesus says we should read and share God's Word daily! Below, hidden among the words READ YOUR BIBLE, is a message from Jesus recorded in Mark 1:15, NIV. Circle those words and write them on the lines below. (For extra fun, count how many times the word "Bible" appears in the article!)

LOCAL EDITION BIBLE TIMES TODAY

GOOD NEWS!

READ YOUR BIBLE THE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE TIME HAS READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE COME READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE THE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE THE KINGDOM READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE OF READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE GOD READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE IS READ YOUR BIBLE NEAR READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE REPENT READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE AND READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE BELIEVE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE THE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE GOOD READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE NEWS READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE READ YOUR BIBLE



“ _____ ”

MARK 1:15, NIV

ANSWERS: 1. Sodom (Genesis 19:24). 2. Cain (Genesis 4:9). 3. Jesus (Matthew 12:25). 4. Isiah (66:5). 5. Paul (1 Timothy 5:23). 6. The garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22:44). 7. Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 2). 8. None. 1 Timothy says that "the love of money is the root of all evil."

Answers: "The time has come... The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!" Bible: 48 times