

## Quotations about Time

*"Time is what we want most, but... what we use worst."*

- William Penn -

*"You may delay, but time will not."* - Benjamin Franklin -

*"The best use of life is love. The best expression of love is time.*

*The best time to love is now."* - Rick Warren -

## August Birthdays

**Note:** previous bulletins inadvertently left out the birthday of Nick Hoffman; sorry.

4 Noah Perales	16 Nick Hoffman
6 Gigi Zamarripa	18 Keith Lovelady
12 Debbie Hoffman	25 Pat Limburg

## August Anniversaries

2 Buddy & Dolly Cashion    12 Barrett & Rhea Hoffman

### Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.  
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Preacher:**  
Mike McKnight

**Church of Christ**  
81-377 Ave 46  
Indio, CA 92201  
(760) 342-1859

(Address Service Requested)

# Indio Informer

Vol. 26 No. 35

August 23, 2015

## Musings in a Graveyard

(From *Mind Your Faith*, 5/18/2014)

A cemetery is a sobering place to wander. Sometimes it is better to saunter there and have fellowship with the dead than to walk in the companionship of the living. You see, we can sometimes learn more from the silence of the dead than from the speech of the living. I have walked among hallowed monuments and ornate gravestones in luxuriant gardens and read the epitaphs of the wealthy of the earth. I have stumbled among the rocky and weed-grown graves of country folks whose burial sites are all but forgotten. I have read beautifully inscribed words on polished granite. I have deciphered poorly printed messages from handmade stones of clay. But all of these have one thing in common whether among the rich in their stately tombs or the poor in their pine boxes: death is no respecter of persons. It comes to all.

I am impressed also by the fact that while sometimes the epitaph written may well describe the person beneath, that the destiny of the dead is not determined by the beautiful words written on the tombs. That person's own acceptance or rejection of the truth will determine his or her destiny. God will be the judge in all cases, and what man writes will have no bearing before His judgment throne. But epitaphs are interesting to say the least.

In the Bible there are many epitaphs. To me a strange but interesting and instructive one is found in 2 Chronicles 21:20. It is spoken concerning Jehoram the king of Judah who died at the age of forty. *"He departed without being desired."* Now Jehoram had a wonderful opportunity to be a truly great king. His father was Jehoshaphat, one of the best kings ever to rule over Judah. *"He did right in the sight of the Lord."* But Jehoram did not follow in his father's footsteps. He was a cruel man and of all the men to fear, he is the one to fear the most. He was an idolater. He bowed before a heathen shrine and forced others to do so also.

However, if there is any one thing we learn from reading the Old Testament, it is that God rules in the kingdoms of men. And God would not tolerate an ungodly king like Jehoram. *“So after all this the Lord smote him in his bowels with an incurable sickness. Now it came about in the course of time, at the end of two years, that his bowels came out because of the sickness and he died in great pain”* (2 Chron. 21:18-19). When he died, there were no mourners in Judah. *“He departed without being desired.”* What a sad epitaph!

But what about your epitaph and mine? Could it be that mine could be just as sad? What is our legacy? I wonder who will be in Heaven because of me? Or because of you? Will you be able to look around in Heaven and shake hands with people whom you led to Christ? What about your life? When you die, will people say, *“We sorely miss him or her. Theirs was such a beautiful and useful life.”*

Someday, somewhere, someone will be walking in a cemetery. They will come upon a stone that will say, *“Forrest D. Moyer.”* I don’t know what other words my surviving family may choose to write on my stone.\* But one thing is for sure. God will write the final epitaph with His finger and the sands of time will never remove it. My life now will determine what God will write. *“Oh, Great and Sovereign God; help me to walk in your way now that I may live with You forever!”* - Forrest D. Moyer (1989) –

\*On the grave marker of Forrest D. Moyer are the words  
from 1 Timothy 1:5:

*“love from a pure heart, a good conscience, and sincere faith.”*

## **Turning Tribulations into Pearls**

(From The Daily Walk)

Pearls come from oysters. They have a hard shell that protects them, but sometimes a small grain of sand gets inside the shell and causes discomfort for the oyster. God has given the oyster a way to ease that pain. It dispenses a liquid that coats the grain of sand and then hardens. The oyster does this over and over until the grain of sand no longer causes pain. This produces the pearl. Something that started out painful turned into something beautiful and valuable. Sometimes something comes into our life that causes a lot of pain. When this happens, if we ask Him, God dispenses His love to us to ease our suffering, creating a beautiful and valuable character (Romans 5:3–5).

## **The Dash Between**

by Ron Tranmer©

I knelt there at the headstone  
of one I love and cried.  
Name, with dates of birth and death  
were perfectly inscribed.

I pondered these two dates  
and how little they both mean  
when compared to the tiny dash  
that lies there in between.

The dash serves as an emblem  
of our time here on the earth,  
and although small, it stands for all  
our years of life, and worth.

And our worth will be determined  
by how we live each day.  
We can fill our dash with goodness,  
or waste our life away.

To ourselves, as well as others,  
let’s be honest, kind and true,  
and every day, live the way  
we know God wants us to.

May we look for opportunities  
to do a worthy deed,  
and reach out with compassion  
to those who are in need.

For if our hearts are full of love  
throughout our journey here,  
we’ll be loved by all who knew us  
and our memory they’ll hold dear.

And when we die, these memories  
will bring grateful, loving tears,  
to all whose lives were touched  
by the dash between our years.