

Upcoming Events

NO BUSINESS MEETING TODAY

**Revelation class: Today at 2:30**

*The Beast: "666"*

**Tuesday Meet Up Class**

**August 10 at 7:00 p.m.**

77682 Country Club Drive A-2

Palm Desert

**Biblethoughts.blog**

Check out the latest article: *The Church is the Kingdom*

Very interesting and important points

**August Birthdays**

4 Noah Perales    12 Debbie Hoffman    12 Noemi Critchfield  
16 Nick Hoffman    25 Pat Limburg    31 Andrea Chandler

**August Anniversaries**

24 Jack and Noemi Critchfield

# Indio Informer

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## Prayer

### The Prayer of an "Old Preacher"

By Dan Jenkins

We may not think of that shepherd boy as a preacher, but perhaps we should. When David arrived at the battlefield, almost every word he spoke proclaimed the power and majesty of God. His words give great insight into the heart that God described as being like His own heart. David's older brother saw him as a youth who had abandoned the sheep and said David was filled with pride and was insolent in his heart (1 Samuel 7:28). But he was wrong.



That young man had seen the providence of God when he killed a bear and a lion who were ready to kill a helpless lamb. David knew God's nature and the challenge of Goliath had to be answered. He was not concerned about how big that giant was, for he knew how big God was!

As a youth he had also faced sin's temptation and dealt with it. He showed how a young man could cleanse his heart "by taking heed according to Your word" (Psalm 119:9). It was in the sheepfold

**Regular Meeting Times**

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

**Church of Christ**

81-377 Ave 46  
Indio, CA 92201  
(760) 342-1859

**Preacher:**  
Jack Critchfield

(Address Service Requested)

that he learned of God's green pastures, still waters, the rod, the staff and the cup overflowing with oil.

Yet he was not always a young man. His words in Psalm 71:17-18 give us great insight into the devotion he had first as a youth and the devotion he had in his old age. Look at the words of that psalm.

*“O God, You have taught me from my youth;  
And to this day I declare Your wondrous works.”*

David knew God from his youth and he had declared God's glory to others. He knew God and he unashamedly taught others about Him. What was he like as he grew old?

*“Now also when I am old and gray-headed,  
O God, do not forsake me,  
Until I declare Your strength to this generation,  
Your power to everyone who is to come.”*

David understood that the truths which he had used to cleanse his young heart were the same truths that following generations needed to cleanse their hearts. They needed them because God's words are eternal, and truth does not change. David said, *“The entirety of Your word is truth and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever”* (Psalm 119:160). He had taught those truths as a young man and now as he grew old, he asked God to continue using him.

Read his words again. Every generation needed God's words, and David emphasized that that needed the entirety of His words—every single one of His righteous judgments. Mankind does not change. The needs of every generation are the same. God's remedy for sin does not change.

It was an older generation who taught young David. He owed them a great debt. The same is true of us!

## **Behold, I Thought; Now I Know**

By Joe Slater

Despite being a leper, Naaman the Syrian army commander retained his pride. Didn't his status merit a dramatic healing ceremony from Elijah? *“Behold, I thought, ‘He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy’”* (2 Kings 5:11). Instead, Elijah had sent a servant to instruct Naaman to dip seven times in the Jordan River. How undignified! But when he set aside his prideful anger and obeyed, the cleansed leper's *“Behold, I thought”* became *“Now I know”* (v. 15).

This wasn't the first time someone's think-so turned out to be wrong. When Abraham and Sarah journeyed to the Philistine city of Gerar, Abraham told King Abimelech that Sarah was his sister (just as he had done in Egypt many years earlier). Abimelech promptly took Sarah into his harem, but the Lord just as promptly ordered him to return her to her husband. The indignant king demanded an answer from Abraham: *“Why have you done this thing?”* Abraham's excuse was, *“I thought surely the fear of God is not in this place, and they will kill me on account of my wife”* (Genesis 20:1-11). Yes, he thought – but was dreadfully wrong.

Looking back at the time he had been a Jesus-hating abuser of Christians, Paul said, *“Indeed, I myself thought I must do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth”* (Acts 26:9). Like Abraham and Naaman, Paul had to come to grips with how utterly wrong he had been.

What a difference between *“Behold, I thought”* and *“Now I know”*! The line of demarcation: Learning and obeying God's will.