

**ATTENTION!!**

**Help in a Chaotic World**

*“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”*  
Philippians 4:8

*“So then, while we have opportunity, let’s do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith.”*  
Galatians 6:10

**Visiting Needs**

**Jesus Said... “I was sick, and you visited Me...”**  
Matthew 25:36

**June Birthdays**

9 Debbie Pescador

**June Anniversaries**

5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman

# Indio Informer

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## The World Has Gone Completely Crazy

By Doug Dingley

The world has gone completely crazy. If you don’t think so, just switch on the news for a second or two. Whether it’s someone who decides they don’t like their doctor’s prescription so they’re going to shoot him and anyone else who stands in their way; someone who decides to tauntingly murder a classroom full of innocent schoolchildren; some dictator who decides to invade and level a foreign country simply for no other reason than his own personal ego; or someone who wants to remove guns from the hands of law-abiding citizens, while at the same time, seeking to make secure through law, that abortionists are able to both legally hang onto and unleash their deadly weapons of mass destruction daily (which have, by the way, taken the lives of more than 63 million innocent pre-born people over the past five decades), the world has, as I said, gone absolutely nuts.



But this is precisely what happens when you deny God’s existence and remove His wisdom from the masses (Psalms 2). This is also exactly what the Apostle Paul described by divine inspiration to the first-century church of Christ (Romans 16:16) that worked and worshipped together in Rome, saying of such: *“Their throat is an open tomb; with their tongues they have practiced deceit”; “The poison of asps is under their lips”; “Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.” “Their feet are swift to shed blood; Destruction*

**Regular Meeting Times**

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

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

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

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*and misery are in their ways; And the way of peace they have not known*” (Romans 3:13-17). If that doesn’t describe what’s going on in the news today, I don’t know what does. Paul also said it would get worse and worse as people would become more and more “*lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, [and] lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God*” (2 Timothy 3:1-4). No question about that!

It is against this backdrop, in such a world gone mad – with so many satanically-intoxicated by their own self-serving and sinfully exaggerated sense of self-importance – that I am so very grateful, to be a blood-bought, fully forgiven, and hope-filled New Testament Christian. One who can experience peace every day, despite whatever is going on around them (Isaiah 26:3; John 14:27, 16:33; Romans 5:1-11, 8:6; Philippians 4:4-9). One who is part of a world-wide family that – totally unlike the world around them – is devoted to unconditionally loving, serving, accepting, and working together with one another, no matter what; and even directly in spite of our many different backgrounds, perspectives, talents, and opinions at times (Romans 12:3-21, 14:1-19, 15:5-7; Galatians 3:26-29, 5:13-6:2; Ephesians 4:1-6, 29-32).

It is learning, loving, living, and exhibiting this type of Christian love, unity, family, and acceptance – so distinct and opposite from the world around us – that sets us apart; both from the terrifying madness, as well as the eternal destination, of those engulfed in and swept away by such evils and atrocities. Now, aren’t we glad to be Christians?

## **Counseling God**

By Jack Critchfield

Most of us have taken on the role of counselor in one form or another during our lifetime, whether as friends, coworkers or even parents. Counseling, in the broadest sense, includes many different

aspects, among which are listening to identify difficulties, trying to help the individual realize his or her own problems and/or giving advice. However, a problem can arise when we become so confident in our abilities and intelligence that we carry this over into religious matters. In Romans 11:34 Paul wrote, “*For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor?*” We were not given the capability to understand every “in and out” of what God does. So, we are not qualified to give Him counsel. Unfortunately, this does not keep some from trying.

Some try to counsel God regarding how our worship or service to God ought to be. How often do we hear remarks made to justify an action such as, “I don't see anything wrong with it” or “It doesn't say not to do it?” While these comments may be directed toward another person, the counsel is in reality being made toward God. Whenever we find ourselves deciding “Well, I know it says that, but it means this,” we need to reevaluate exactly what we mean and whom we think needs to hear it. When we start questioning the wisdom of God's Word, it amounts to an attempt to instruct the Almighty in the way he should have designed Christianity. We may couch it sayings things like, “Times have changed.” But it still amounts to giving God counsel he does not need. Others try to act like any time we apply God's Word, it amounts to opinion. This is simply an attempt to skirt the issue and give God counsel. “*Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father*” (Colossians 3:17).

Some people go further, saying that God did not tell us all that he intended and that we need. A young lady once told this writer, “The bible is fine as far as it goes. It just doesn’t go far enough.” What is meant by this statement is that God did not tell us everything. So, we--and He--must rely upon our own revelation. Evidently, people who feel this way have not read Peter's words, “*seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence*” (2 Peter 1:3). Since God has given all, there is nothing left for men to offer, making those who attempt unwise counselors indeed.