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UPDATE

We are always excited to hear of churches that are growing and experiencing God's blessings. This can take many different forms but one of the most exciting is when they are able to either build or buy a facility they can call home. Two Northern Colorado churches are in the process of doing this right now.

The first is City Lights Church in Greeley. This church started five years ago and has been renting from the Seven Day Adventist Church. Recently they signed a contract to purchase a building of their own and hope to move in around August or September.

Congratulations, City Lights Church!

The other is Citipointe Church in Loveland. This exciting growing church started 13 years ago and recently purchased a building in the Factory Outlet stores by I-25. Renovations are currently underway with a projected move-in date set for sometime in the first quarter of 2024.

Congratulations, Citipointe Church!

FEATURE ARTICLE: "The Rest Of The Story"

WARNING: You are entering the "TRUTH ZONE". You may not like what you read. At times it may make you feel uncomfortable. That is not my goal. My goal is to speak truth that will provide spiritual guidance for you and your family in a time of great spiritual darkness. You can be sure that what you read here will be TRUTH!

When I was much younger my favorite news commentator was Paul Harvey. His syndicated radio broadcast came on each day at noon and I seldom missed it. He usually ended with a segment entitled. "The Rest Of The Story." In this segment, he would tell about something most were familiar with but then would add something few had ever heard. Then he would conclude by saying, "And now you know the rest of the story."

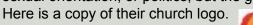
In this article, I want to use this approach to bring us a spiritual truth many are missing today. I find it interesting how certain things become popular trends in the Body of Christ. They start small but soon everyone is jumping on the bandwagon and teaching the same thing. In fact, it becomes so popular that often churches use it on their websites when they describe themselves to those who may be searching for a church.

The narrative goes something like this: "We are so glad you found our church and we believe you will be comfortable here because we are a church made up of flawed people who know it is not our place to judge anyone. God is the only one qualified to judge. That is why all are welcome here no matter where they may be on their spiritual journey."

Am I making this up? I will let you decide. Here are two examples I copied and pasted word for word from the websites of churches right here in Northern Colorado.

EXAMPLE 1:

"We welcome the LGBTQ+ community as well as those of any nation, age, ability, ethnicity, belief, economic class, gender and others who have been hurt, estranged, or made to feel outside the family of God. We remember that what holds us together is not uniformity of thought, doctrine, race, gender, sexual orientation, or politics, but the grace of God."





EXAMPLE 2:

I'M LGBTQ, CAN I COME?

"Absolutely yes! While we hold the view of human sexuality that we believe the Bible teaches, we are not here to judge, we're here to love and respect all, regardless of someone's beliefs or lifestyle."

At first glance, this all sounds so good and so filled with the love of Jesus. I mean, how can you argue with it? You can't, but what is the rest of the story? The rest of the story should be: Yes, all are welcome in our church and because we are all sinners we do not judge anyone. God is the only true righteous judge. But, (And here is the rest of the story)

God will judge!

Psa 96:13 KJV

13...for he cometh to judge the earth: he shall judge the world with righteousness, and the people with his truth.

ACTS 17:30-31 KJV

30 And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness.....

Hebrews 13:4 KJV

4 Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Someday we will all stand before God and be judged. On that day the only merit we can bring will be our faith in Jesus and His finished work on the cross. But, to claim such faith and yet continue to live in the sins of your past life is total deception. Having attended a church where your sin was not judged will have only paved your road to hell.





blessed to live in a place that provides so many amazing opportunities to go hiking. But even though hiking is great for both mind and body, it is not

We have learned to be careful where we step because even though a rock may appear to be solid, it may not be and nothing is worse than putting your weight on a rock only to have it slide out from under your feet.

Lately, I have been thinking about this and have been reminded that this is how we should approach life. I am very sure everyone knows that the Bible refers to Jesus as the "Rock of our salvation." (Psalms 95:1) What you may not know is that twenty-two other times in scripture our Lord is referred to as a "Rock".

Psalm 31:3 KJV

3 For thou art my rock and my fortress; therefore for thy name's sake lead me, and guide me.

Psalm 18:2 KJV

2 The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

"He Is Our Rock!"

John and I feel so without its dangers.

Psalm 62:6 KJV

6 He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence: I shall not be moved.

Yes, He is our Rock, and if we build our lives upon Him and His Word we will never be moved no matter what we face.

In spite of this, it appears that today so many are relying on other things to help them get through the tough issues of life. Here is a good example: We often hear people say, "You must believe in yourself." The Lord wants us to have self-confidence, but some carry this way too far and in doing so set themselves up to experience disaster at some point in the future. Others seek help from an endless list of counselors, life coaches, fitness gurus, and yoga instructors. While some may be helpful, we need to ask ourselves if any of them can provide a solid foundation that will never be shaken. You and I both know the answer to that question. So why are we doing this?

There is a verse in Deuteronomy that might shed some light on this question.

Deuteronomy 32:15 KJ21

15 But Jeshurun waxed fat and kicked; thou hast waxed fat, thou art grown thick, thou art covered with fatness. Then he forsook God who made him, and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation.

Someone has said,"It is much harder to deal with success than to deal with failure." I completely agree.

"He Is Our Rock!" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

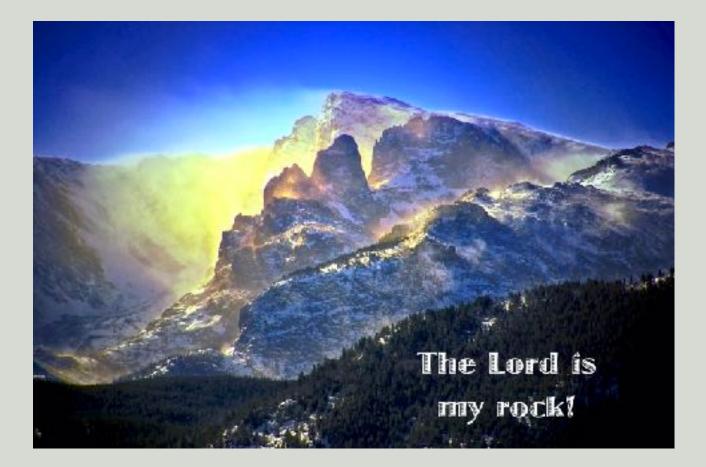
Nothing will cause us to lose our sense of dependency on God like success and nothing will drive us to seek His face more than failure. And if the truth were known, in spite of all the things we complain about today most of us still live very comfortable lives; comfortable enough that we may not feel a need to desperately seek the Lord.

There is something else I want to point out that you may have never considered. Throughout our lives, John and I have lived with a deep sense of dependency on the Lord. This was not caused by poverty or lack, but rather because the things God asked us to do always appeared to be far beyond our abilities. At the top of the list was when God gave us a mandate to start a Christian school. Never had anything looked so impossible, and never had anything caused us to seek God's help more. We knew that without Him, it could not and would not happen!

I ask you, how long has it been since God gave you a task that you knew was impossible without His help? Has that ever happened to you? A person who has no mandate from God will find it easy to go through life never seeking His help. However, at some point, he will realize what a tragic mistake he has made because everything he has built his life upon will be exposed as nothing more than shifting sand. Build your life on Jesus the solid rock, seek His face, submerge yourself in His Word, and when the storms of life come you will stand firm and solid.

Psalms 61:2 KJV

2 From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I.



"Star Date: 2050"

Recently I came across an article about what scientists are saying our world will look like by the year 2050. Needless to say, it was not the type of thing you would want to read if you were looking for encouragement. It covered the possibility of an asteroid impacting Earth, a nuclear war, and a pandemic that could wipe out a billion people. Add to all this the devastation they say we will see as a result of ongoing global warming and it did not paint a very optimistic picture of our future.

The only reason I even mention it is because I want to compare it with what the Bible tells us will happen during the great tribulation. Obviously, some of the words used are not the same because words used today were not yet invented when the Bible was written. But, the events they describe are astonishingly similar.

Starting in Revelation 8 we read of a great earthquake followed by one-third of the vegetation on Earth being burned. (Global warming?) This is followed by an asteroid impact that results in onethird of the sun's rays being blocked. The chapter ends with a warning that this is but the beginning of sorrows.

Chapter 9 speaks of what will probably be some sort of plague that will claim the lives of about two billion people. In spite of this, it tells us that men will not repent of their evil deeds. As we continue to read we find that Satan will take advantage of this chaos and destruction by revealing the anti-christ and the final conflict between God and Satan will commence.

One hundred years ago people reading the Book of Revelation probably would have had a hard time imagining how such things could possibly happen, but today none of this seems so impossible. Today we can read Revelation and then read articles written by scientists that describe the same things and basically tell us that this is what the near future of planet Earth will look like.

I share this amazing similarity because I want to point out that without a doubt, we are living in the time prophesied in the Book of Revelation. Even our scientific community is telling us that these things are what we can expect in the next 30 years. **Having said that, I will also tell you that none of this causes me to have even a particle of fear.** I know my redeemer lives and I know what He has promised to those whose faith is in Him.

Revelation 3:10-11 KJV

10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee **from** the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Luke 21:35-36 KJV

35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth.

36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted **worthy to escape all these things** that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

The bridegroom will not beat the bride up and then come to get her for the wedding. He has specifically told us to be watching for His return, not the great tribulation or the rise of the antichrist. Any who live today and have not made Jesus the Lord of their lives are either willfully ignorant of the times or are determined to live in rebellion to God.

How foolish!

Do not ignore the warnings! Today is the day of salvation!