

Volume 12 Issue 15

April 9, 2017

## **WORKING TOGETHER**

We are extremely grateful and excited to begin our gospel meeting with Tim Henderson Tuesday night. It is a wonderful opportunity to not only experience a great boost of encouragement from being together throughout this week in praise and worship of our merciful God, but also for the words of the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ to be poured out into the hearts of lost men and women God is seeking to save. "'Whoever will call on the name of the LORD will be saved.' How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent?

Just as it is written. 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things!" (Rom. 10:13-15). While we appreciate the diligent work Tim will be engaged in this week, let us do our part to work together in the proclaiming of the gospel, and be fervent and busy in prayer. "First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth...Therefore I want the men in every place to

pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension," (1 Tim. 2:1-4,8).

## Pray...

 For Tim to speak boldly and for courage to challenge us with the truth of God's word.

"Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; praying at the same time for us as well...so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ...that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak," (Col. 4:2-4). "With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit...and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel...that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak," (Eph. 6:18-20).

> For lost souls to be present and willing to listen to and obey the truth of the gospel.

"Devote yourselves to prayer...that God will open up to us a door for the word..." (Col. 4:2-3).
"When they had arrived and gathered the church together, they began to report all things that God had done with them and how He had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles," (Acts 14:27).

 For further spiritual growth to take place in our lives as we assemble this week.

"And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God," (Philip. 1:9-11). "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power

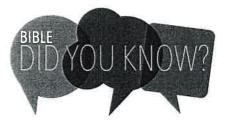
through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God," (Eph. 3:14-19).

• For the proper humble disposition needed to give God the reverent honor and worship He is worthy of, that all who assemble me be in awe of the Awesome God we serve!

"The heavens will praise
Your wonders, O LORD;
your faithfulness also in the
assembly of the holy ones.
For who in the skies is
comparable to the LORD?
Who among the sons of the
mighty is like the LORD, a
God greatly feared in the
council of the holy ones, and
awesome above all those who
are around Him?" (Ps. 89:6-

7). "Praise the LORD!
Praise God in His sanctuary;
Praise Him in His mighty
expanse. Praise Him for His
mighty deeds; Praise Him
according to His excellent
greatness...Let everything
that has breath praise the
LORD. Praise the LORD!"
(Ps. 150:1-2,6).

- Daniel Ruegg



God loves us so much He doesn't want to hold on to a single memory of any of our sins! "He delights in unchanging love. He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities under foot. Yes, you will cast all their sins into the depths the of the sea," Micah 7:18,19

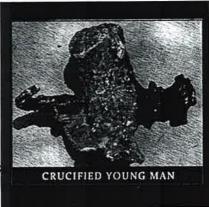
"I, even I, am the one who wipes out your transgressions for My own sake, and I will not remember your sins,"
Is. 43:25

## People, Places, and Things of the BIBLE

## The Crucified Man

The Assyrians were masters of psychological warfare. They would impale their victims, or just their heads, on wooden poles for the public to see. This barbarity would bring terror to those around them. People would tremble at the thought of the Assyrian Army. Crucifixion was developed / perfected for similar psychological power. Crucifixion was often performed to terrorize onlookers into submission. Victims were left on display after death as warnings. Crucifixion was usually intended to provide a death that was particularly slow, painful (hence the term excruciating, literally "out of crucifying"), gruesome (hence dissuading against the crimes punishable by it), humiliating, and public, using whatever means were most expedient for that goal. In 1968 construction workers were working on a project in a suburb north of Jerusalem called Giv'at ha-Mivtar. To their surprise they accidentally uncovered a Jewish tomb dating to the first century. Inside the tomb was a stone ossuary (bone box) bearing the Hebrew name John. Inside the ossuary were found the skeletal remains of a man in his twenties who had been crucified. How did they know the young man had been crucified? The man, stunningly, still had a nail driven through his right heel. The iron nail measured 11.5 centimeters (4.53 inches) in length. Why was the nail still in his heel? The end of the nail was bent. It looks like what

happened is while the nail was being driven into the cross the nail hit a knot in the wood. With the tip of the nail bent it would have been difficult to pull the nail out of the wood. The people burying the man just left the nail in place. The bones of this young man from Jerusalem have no "Top Ten" significance apart from the death of Jesus by crucifixion. This man helps us put the form of death by crucifixion in the exact time mentioned in the New



Testament, giving more historical reliability to Jesus' death on the cross.