



Pastor's Reflections-

A Man of God in Four Portraits In Psalm 119:33-40



As pastor of Shoreline Baptist Church my vision is always first, to minister to the members of the church by personally getting to know you and your needs. Additionally, I focus on preaching God's Word for the purpose of teaching and instruction in order that we might all continue to grow in our walk toward being more like Jesus. Below are four ways that God through Psalm 119 has taught me that we can become more like Jesus.

This Psalm paints four portraits of a true man of God. He is seen as a Sojourner, a Soldier, a Servant, and a Saint.

1. **The Portrait of a Sojourner vv. 33-34:** God's Word makes it perfectly clear that those who truly follow the path of the Lord are Sojourners simply passing through this world. Our home is in Heaven.
2. **The Portrait of a Soldier vv. 35-36:** Life is a battle, a very serious battle. The Psalmist realized that if he were to keep his life in line with God's statutes, it was going to be a battle, and he was going to be disciplined in this struggle that faces him.
3. **The Portrait of a Servant 37-38:** In verse 37 the Psalmist asks, "Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity, and quicken thou me in Thy way." Remember Satan used Eve's eyes to lure her into sin. Here the Psalmist is displaying his servanthood attitude and clearly placing himself at the Master's authority by petitioning the Master to give him victory over sin by assisting him in turning his eyes from sin. So many times when we stumble and fall it is because we did not turn from looking at temptation.
4. **The Portrait of a Saint: 39-40:** The Psalmist knows that God has requirements for those who He calls Holy and the Psalmist has a craving to live his life in holiness. Obviously, the Psalmist knows the essence of the Mosaic law in which God demanded "Be ye holy for I am holy."

May each of us live out these "FOUR PORTRAITS" as men and women of God. Meditate on Psalm 119 for the New Year and intensely reflect on verses 33-40. How does your life reflect the four portraits in your home and in your church? I encourage each of you to let 2023 be the year that your family, friends and neighbors see the Sojourner, Soldier, Servant, and Saint in you.

Since reaching the world with the Good News of Christ is one of my passions, this year in addition to leading the church in sharing our faith locally, I am making final preparations to lead our team of 17 people to mission work in Thailand this February. Please be praying for us as we attempt to reach Thailand for Christ.

Would you be in prayer about how you can become more involved in the ministry and life of this great church? We have many places of service that need to be filled. I will be sending out an updated email with specific requests.

My prayer for each of us at Shoreline is that 2023 will be a year that each of us grow closer to Jesus than ever before.

Blessings as we enter 2023.

Pastor Ed

Article-Awaken O Bride; are *YOU* awake?

The Bible, both Old and New Testaments, point to God's Redeemer for mankind. Jesus—Yeshua means *Yahweh saves*.

We just celebrated Jesus' First Advent. Our focus in this article is on Jesus' soon return for His Church; the Rapture. The Greek word *harpazo*, in the Latin is the word *rapturo*, which means to "snatch away." This is not the same as His Second Coming; they are two different events.

We are going to explore a bit about the timing of when Jesus will take His Church home. The Bible says we can't know the "day or hour" of His coming. But we can have an idea of Jesus' coming. Let's look at what the Bible tells us.

Matthew 24 tells us we will witness wars and the possibilities of wars. Nations will rise and threaten other countries. "But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pains" (vv. 6-8). Do we not see this with Russia and Ukraine? Iran threatens Israel and the U.S.. China has invaded India and N. Korea threatens everyone. Indeed massive citizen uprisings are occurring or have occurred in China, Iran, Brazil, Turkey, Holland, and others. We are also told the occurrence of famines and earthquakes will be on the rise (v.7).

In the Parable of the Fig Tree Jesus declares "when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right* at the door" (v. 33). Then Jesus says "But about that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone." Don't gloss over that and decide *you can't know at all*. Verse 36 doesn't say that; it says we cannot know the *exact day* or *exact hour*, correct? Keep that on the tip of your brain.

The Hebrews observe seven feasts. We in the West refer to them as the "Feasts of Israel." They are really the **Feasts of the Lord** and meant for we who are grafted in as well. Jesus has and will fulfill all the Feasts' of the Lord including the Rapture and His 2nd Coming.

His last week on earth Jesus followed God's Spring Feasts design to the letter. Necessarily the remaining Feasts must be fulfilled by Jesus as well. Prior to the Passover, on *Nisan 10*, a lamb *without blemish* must be selected and inspected for five days. Likewise Jesus rode into Jerusalem on *Nisan 10*.

- ✚ Jesus died on the Passover (14th of *Nisan*)
- ✚ Was buried on the Feast of Unleavened Bread (*Nisan 15*; **Separation from Sin**)
- ✚ He rose on the **Feast of First Fruits** (*Nisan 17*; **Firstborn from the Dead**)
- ✚ The **Feast of Pentecost** or *Shavuot* (*Sivan 6*) is the Church Age. Jesus is the **Cornerstone** of the Church.(Ephesians 2:19-21).

The Fall Feasts begin on the Hebrew month of *Tishrei*:

- ✚ **Feast of Trumpets** or *Yom Hateruah-Tishrei 1*
- ✚ **Feast of Atonement-Tishrei 10**
- ✚ **Feast of Tabernacles** or **Booths-Tishrei 15** to the 21st

I believe God will continue to follow His plan. In the Lunar calendar the beginning of each new month is determined by the new moon; celebrated by *Rosh Chodesh* (lit. "head of the month"). The Feast of Trumpets (above) is a one or two day celebration held at the new moon. In Jesus' time Rosh Chodesh was "declared by the Jewish court only after two credible witnesses testified they had seen the new moon (excerpted from Chabad.org)."

I believe the next fulfillment will be when Jesus comes for His Church—the Rapture. Are you ready? The Bible tells us, ". . . be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming" (Mt. 24:42). This remains the case even though we know the season of His coming for His disciples. Even now **JESUS IS AT THE DOOR!**

D. D. Edwards

Bible- *Now I say this, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God . . . Behold, I am telling you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. 1 Cor. 15:50-52.*

Welcome Aboard-

***Eric & Jill
Helm***



Prayer Requests

1. Ashley Schuff
2. Harland Peaslee
3. Gary Peterson
4. Mark Scott
5. Brian Carroll
6. Tonya Carroll

Hanging of the Greens

featuring
Anne Basden, Cavanaugh and Katie Mims

The HANGING OF THE GREENS is a service for the first Sunday in Advent. It readies the sanctuary and church members for celebrating Jesus' birth. Martin Luther is credited with encouraging people to decorate their homes and churches with evergreens. The evergreens were a symbol of the unchanging nature of God and the everlasting life that Christians receive through Jesus Christ.





Cumbee/Anderson Christmas Musicale

with
Pam (Meme), Elise, Hannah, and Phoebe Cumbee
Braelyn and Ella Anderson

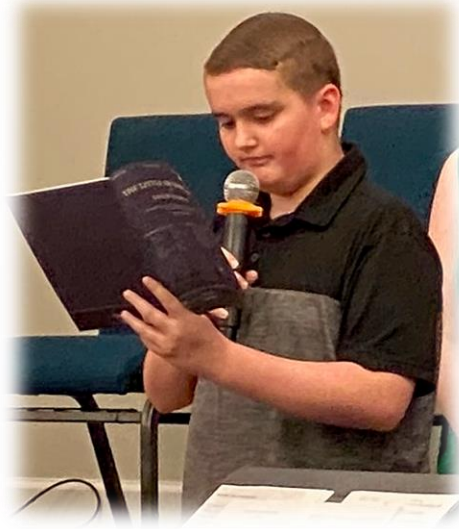






Williams Family~Shoreline Choir Christmas Special







And the Word became flesh, and dwelt
among us; and we saw His glory, glory as of the
only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Maranatha



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Pastor. We <https://www.shorelinechurch.org/>. Church Office (910) 457-1909
or E-mail office.shorelinechurch@gmail.com