

Service Opportunities

Announcements: Ted Wheeler
Usher: Delbert Leavens

RECORD

Attendance:

Contribution: \$

Weekly Budget: \$ 2820.00

Thought for The Day

"All that I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all that I have not seen."

EMERSON

Church of Christ of Venice

4301 SR 776
Venice, FL 34293

MORNING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Delbert Leavens

Songs: Marty Wingo

Sermon: Ted Wheeler

Closing Prayer: Bill Burnside

EVENING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Wayne Vowell

Songs: Marty Wingo

Sermon: Ted Wheeler

Closing Prayer: Dale Schwartz

COMMUNION

Tim Simmons Mike Weber

Troy Wheeler Kaden Simmons

Church of Christ of Venice

"A friendly church, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ"

March 4 2007

Volume 17, Number 09

Is The Bible True?

The above question is on the outside cover of the October 25, 1999, US News & World Report. The article by Jeffery Sheler beginning on page 50 reports the discovery of a flattened basalt stone uncovered in excavations of the ancient city of Dan in upper Galilee. The inscriptions on the stone were nothing less than amazing. Recorded in ancient Aramaic letters was a reference to a military victory of the King of Damascus over two ancient enemies. One foe the fragment identified as the "*King of Israel*," the other was "the House of David." As Sheler writes, "The reference to David was a historical bombshell. Never before had the familiar name of Judah's ancient warrior king, a central figure of the Hebrew Bible and, according to

Christian Scripture, an ancestor of Jesus, been found in the records of antiquity outside the pages of the Bible. Skeptics had long seized upon that fact to argue that David was a mere legend, invented by Hebrew scribes during or shortly after Israel's Babylonian exile. Now, at last, there was material evidence: an inscription written not by Hebrew scribes but by an enemy of the Israelites a little more than a century after David's presumptive lifetime."

Continued on page 3

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Please fill out a blue visitor card so that we might have a record of your visit. If needed, there is a **nursery** available at the rear of the auditorium. **Bible classes** for all ages are available Sundays at 10:00 am and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We hope that you will join us for these studies. Please come and worship with us again soon.

Elders

Delbert Leavens
Wayne Vowell
Ted Wheeler

Minister

Ted Wheeler

Sunday Services

Bible Study-10:00 am
Worship-I 1:00 am
Evening Worship-6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 pm.

Church of Christ

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On the Seas of Life

On June 1, 1965, Robert Manry, a 47-year-old newspaper copy editor for the Cleveland (OH) *Plain Dealer* and a Willowick, Ohio resident, left Falmouth, Massachusetts aboard his 13.5-foot sailboat, *Tinkerbelle*, to begin his solo voyage across the Atlantic Ocean. He arrived in Falmouth, England seventy-eight days later on August 17, 1965. At the time of the crossing, the *Tinkerbelle* was the smallest boat to have ever crossed the Atlantic.

During the 3,200-mile voyage, Manry was knocked overboard by big waves, suffered from hallucinations, repaired a broken rudder in mid-ocean, and was awakened one morning by a surfacing submarine.

Finally, after 78 days, when Manry finally approached Falmouth, England, he thought only of tying up to some dock, finding a hotel room, and getting some sleep. But an enthusiastic crowd had other ideas. A fleet of about 300 small boats came out to greet him, all blowing their horns in salute. Forty thousand well-wishers lined the docks, cheering him on. What a welcome he received!*

Manry's precarious journey across the Atlantic provides some important lessons for US about LIFE.

LIFE IS A JOURNEY, AND IT IS QUITE DIFFICULT AT TIMES. Jesus comforted but also warned his disciples: "These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. IN THE WORLD YOU WILL HAVE TRIBULATION; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). There are times in life when the sailing is smooth, but there are stormy times as well.

The GOOD NEWS is that if we will continue to hold to the course that God has provided in His Word, then we will reach a safe Harbor – Heaven, where we will receive a joyous welcome!

JESUS HAS MADE THIS POSSIBLE FOR US BY DYING ON THE CROSS FOR OUR SINS (Ephesians 1:7). The course to Heaven is by Way of God's Son - Jesus (John 14:6), believing in Him (Acts 16:30-31), turning from our sins in repentance (2 Cor 7:9-10), confessing Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10), being baptized (immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38), and following Him faithfully (1 John 1:7).

Life, whether at sea or on land, can be difficult ... But if we remain true to the Course (God's Savior) and weather life's storms, God will bring us to a safe and glorious Harbor. And what a welcome we will receive!

Are YOU on the right course?

David Sargent

The article further states, *"In extraordinary ways, modern archaeology has affirmed the historical core of the Old and New Testaments -- corroborating key portions of the stories of Israel's patriarchs, the Exodus, the Davidic monarchy, and the life and times of Jesus."*

On page 58 is this revelation, *"spectacular discoveries have produced a wealth of data illuminating the story of Jesus and the birth of Christianity. The picture that has emerged overall matches the historical backdrop of the Gospels. In 1968, for example, explorers found the skeletal remains of a crucified man in a burial cave at Giva'atha Mitvar, near the Nablus road outside of Jerusalem. It was a momentous discovery: While the Romans were known to have crucified thousands of alleged traitors, rebels, robbers, and deserters in the two centuries straddling the turn of the era, never before had the remains of a crucifixion victim been recovered. An initial analysis of the remains found that their condition dramatically corroborated the Bible's description of the Roman method of execution."* The article describes the bones preserved in a burial box with an iron nail still lodged in the heel bone of one foot, and that the shin bones were broken, just as John said was the practice of Roman crucifixions.

While we have never doubted that the Bible is true, it is refreshing to know that continuing archaeological discoveries give added proof that the Bible is true. It is accurate, reliable, and will face us on Judgment's morning. Are you taking time to read it daily? Are you ordering your life by its precepts? Think about it.

Ken Willis

Remember in Prayer

DONNA YOUNGBLOOD
LARRY JENSON
KERRY KEATHLEY
JANET WEBER
DORIS WHITE
CLARENCE RIGGENBACH
PATRICA SMITH
FRANK SMALL
IVA & LEM TURNER
PATRICIA FORD
JEANETTE THOMPSON

Mark Your Calendars

- ✓ Mar 4: Fellowship Meal
- ✓ Mar 17: Teen Progressive Dinner. 5-9 pm
Theme: *"The Amazing Race"*. See Tim & Penny Simmons for more details.
- ✓ Jun 3-9: Bible Camp @ Weeki Wachee
- ✓ Jun 14-Jul 9: Ghana Campaign 2007

Sermons:

What Do You See?

Ecclesiastes 11:1-11

Lifting Up Christ

John 12:32