

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Excuses

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Pray for Abby St Clair concerning her surgery. Terri Douthitt , Peggy Beebe needs our prayers. Pray for Herb and Jean Watson.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers. Aubrey and Henly are traveling.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly.

Women's Study: The women's study will begin on Saturday October 12 at 1:00 PM at the Building

Evangelism: There are several bible studies ongoing. Check the web-site and attend if you can.

Today's Scripture: "And they all with one *consent* began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused." **Luke 14:18 (KJV)**

Wisdom for Today: "Sinners won't have an excuse on the day of judgment, and they won't have a place with the people of God." **Psalms 1:5 (CEV)**

Attendance Last Sunday 98/76: Our Record: 107
For more detail, please go to the web site.

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October 6th, 2019 BULLETIN for the



God's Plan of Salvation

Hear..... Romans 10:17
Believe..... Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
Repent..... Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess..... Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise & Walk in Newness of Life Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes: 10AM
AM Worship: 11AM
PM Worship: 5PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study: 7PM

OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Excuses

All of us have either given or been the recipient of excuses, or both, in the past. Parents are used to hearing excuses. Kids can come up with some unique and, frankly entertaining, excuses when approached about something that they did or didn't do. How many of us have heard the excuse that the dog did it? This excuse has been used for everything from why they didn't have their homework done to who tracked the mud across the carpet and who spilt the food on the floor. We all have heard the favorite excuse of our younger kids, the other one did it. And who here with teenagers haven't heard their favorite excuse, everyone else is doing it.

But perhaps the most famous excuses of all are found in the Bible. Beginning with the first man and woman, excuses were something that they used when they were caught having done something that they knew that they shouldn't have. This is the account that Moses gives to us: ⁹ And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? ¹⁰ And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself. ¹¹ And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? ¹² And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. ¹³ And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat." **Genesis 3:9-13 (KJV)**. In this case there are two excuses, Adam blamed Eve and Eve blamed the serpent when both knew full well that the blame fell squarely on each of them because they disobeyed God.

Then like his parents Cain tried to escape his responsibility in Abel's death claiming ignorance by asking God "Am I my brother's keeper?". Abel and Cain each offered sacrifices to God, Abel's sacrifice was accepted by God while Cain's wasn't. Cain became incensed and killed Abel rather than taking responsibility for his own shortcoming. When God asked him about this, he offered the excuse in the form of a question (Genesis 4:3-9). Later God came to Abram when he was 99 years old and told him that he would have a son through Sarai, his wife. Abram didn't believe God, and used his age as his excuse (Genesis 17:15-19). Sarai did the same when she was told that she would have a son (Genesis 18:9-12). Later, God destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah and had Lot and his family flee to a neighboring city. Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt during their escape. When Lot and his daughters were safe, the daughters, using the excuse of continuing their family line, committed fornication with their father after getting him drunk (Genesis 19:30-37). Jacob used the excuse of obeying his mother when he lied to his father about his identity and stole the blessing from Esau, his brother (Genesis 27:6-29). Laban used the excuse of tradition when he gave his oldest daughter, Leah to Jacob after he had served Laban for seven years for the hand of Rachel (Genesis 29:15-26). Joseph's

By: Bill Beebe

brothers used the excuse of a wild animal killed him when they had sold him into slavery to explain why Joseph didn't return home with them (Genesis 37:31-33)

Perhaps the most famous set of excuses in the Old Testament are those of Moses when God told him to go back to Egypt and bring the Israelites out of bondage and into their promised land. These are found in Exodus 3:11 to 4:17. Moses's excuses were wide ranging, but God had a solution for each one and in the end Moses went back to Egypt to bring the Israelites out of bondage and into the promised land. However the most innovative excuse in the Old Testament can probably be attributed to Aaron. Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt and was called by God climb to the top of Mt. Sinai to receive the commandments. This is the account told by Moses: ¹ When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, "Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." ² So Aaron said to them, "Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." ³ So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴ And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. **Exodus 32:1-4 (ESV)** When God sent Moses back down the mountain Moses saw what the Israelites had done he broke the tablets on which God had written the commandments, ground up the calf mixed the gold with water and made the Israelites drink it. Then he asked Aaron why he made the calf, Aaron's answer is a classic excuse: ²² And Aaron said, "Let not the anger of my lord burn hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil." ²³ For they said to me, 'Make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' ²⁴ So I said to them, 'Let any who have gold take it off.' So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf." **Exodus 32:22-24 (ESV)**

What is your excuse for not reading your bible on a daily basis? What is your excuse for not becoming a Christian? What excuse will you give to Jesus on judgement day if you fail to follow him now? Will it be the same one given in **Matthew 25:44 (ESV)** ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?'" In other words, if we had seen you in this situation we would have certainly acted, but all we saw were people.

Remember this; excuses are reasons you give your self for not doing the right thing or for doing the wrong thing and getting caught.