

# Connecting God and Teeth



**by Dawn Reed  
E. Ky. Columnist**

Working at a dental office, I see so many connections between God and teeth. Bear with me...

Lidocaine and God's Word have more in common than you might think. Both prepare the way for important work to be done.

If you've ever had a filling, you most

likely know how it all works. There is a numbing process. Without an injection, there will be intense pain that will leave a mark, not on your mouth but on your mind. Long after the work is done, you will be regaling the tale of "the worst thing that ever happened to you".

At many dental offices, the hygienists, besides their other duties, are the ones who do the numbing. They study and train to be effective and helpful to their patients in that crucial role. Michelle is our hygienist (a.k.a. the One who Numbs) and she is a dandy.

The kids may not want it, but they NEED her to anesthetize their mouths! The dentist (Dr. Boyd) can't get to work without it! Michelle speaks with tender, caring words as she does her job, usually petting each child's head in a comforting way. She has a nurturing spirit and loves kids. (Picture a Fairy Godmother!) She puts her heart into her work, praying as she administers the all-important Lidocaine. It's not her nature to inflict pain but she knows it is necessary-and important-to prepare the way for Dr. Boyd to do the work.

While Michelle wants the experi-

ence to be completely pain free, sometimes it just hurts to get a pointy thing poked in your mouth, especially if a tooth is in bad shape. At the least, it tastes bad and is uncomfortable. Lidocaine is good medicine, even though it may sting.

The Bible is also good medicine, but it too may cause discomfort.

At times, this medicine tastes sweet when I take it in: "The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you. He will quiet you with His love. . ." **Zephaniah 3:17.** I hold my Bible to my heart and look heavenward. God's Word is truly alive and so comforting.

But on occasion, the Bible stings, penetrating to the joints and the marrow, making me uncomfortable: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others," **Philippians 2:3-4.** Though it is good for me, I don't always like it. The Bible causes me discomfort. It requires action.

Cavities and sin have much in common. Cavities don't just go away. Un-

treated, they will grow and reach the nerves. It can lead to infection affecting the whole body. Some symptoms that a cavity has reached the nerve: toothache, sensitivity, swelling/tenderness.

Unaddressed sin also affects the whole body. Some signs are ungodly speech, discontent, sensitivity, bitterness. David described it in **Psalm 32:3-4:** "When I kept silent, my bones wasted away . . . my strength was drained."

There are daily habits that can prevent cavities: brushing and flossing. Everyone knows it in their head. But people get busy, pulled in many directions. Suddenly, usually in the night, there is an indescribable ache that signals a problem.

There are also daily habits that can keep sin away: praying and reading God's Word. Everyone knows it in their head. But people get busy, pulled in many directions . . . Suddenly, there is pain that signals a problem. But there is hope! God is on call 24/7! No appointment necessary!

No matter what our past patterns have been, we can choose TODAY to have better routines that are good for our spiritual and dental health!

## OBITUARIES Continued from Page 6

Friday, October 3, 2020

### Shirley Mae Walters, 78

Shirley Mae Walters, age 78, of Irvine, Kentucky, passed away Friday, October 2, 2020 at her residence.

She was born October 29, 1941 in Irvine to Tolby and Lucille Roberts Horn. She was a homemaker and a member of the Bethel Christian Church.

Mrs. Walters is survived by her husband of 56 years, Steve Walters of Irvine; a son, Jeff Walters (Amy) of Winchester; two daughters: Taresa Barnes (Tim) and Pam Walters, both of Irvine; four grandchildren: Matthew Barnes, Sabrina Perry, Tanner Walters, and Hagan Walters; and two great grandchildren: Arabella Perry and Preston Perry.

She was preceded in death by her parents.



**Shirley Walters**

Funeral services were held at 12:00 Noon, Monday, October 5, 2020 at the Grayson Funeral Home Chapel, 3905 Richmond Road in Irvine, with Bro. Bill Curtis officiating. Friends visited Sunday, October 4th from 6 until 8 p.m.

<GraysonFuneral.net>

Monday, September 28, 2020

### Mark Ansel Watts, 55

Mark Ansel Watts, 55, husband of Robin Boyd Watts, passed away, Monday, September 28, 2020. He was retired from Clark Energy as foreman, after 26 years of service.

A native of Clark County, he was born February 6, 1965, the son of Evelyn Hudson Watts and the late John Kenneth Watts.

In addition to his wife, Mark is survived by his mother, Evelyn Hudson Watts; one son, Justin Mark Watts (Whitley Anne); one daughter, Rebecca Lopez (fiance' Steven Bricknell); a sister, Angie Miller (Jerry), Parrish, Florida; a brother, Mike Watts, Winchester; eight grandchildren: Weylin Mark, Bailey Brooke, Coleman Avery, Coleman Allen, Leland Wyatt, and Skylar

Mae Watts; Zane Lopez and Stetson Bricknell; and three special brothers-in-law, Joe, Randy and Steven Boyd; also, many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his father, Bro. John Kenneth Watts; and two brothers, John Stephen and David Anthony "Tony" Watts.

Graveside services were on Friday, October 2, 2020, at the Winchester Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Richard Tyree, Preston Nolan, Virgil Hill, Steven Bricknell, Jerry Miller, Mike Watts, Charlie Pasley and Jerry Hale.

Honorary pallbearers were Three Crosses Baptist Mission and members, and Clark Energy Co-Op workers.

Rolan G. Taylor Funeral Home of Winchester, is in charge of arrangements.

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Daniel in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From 2 Samuel 22, who said, "The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer"? David, Samuel, Peter, Solomon
3. 2 Kings 19 and which other book's chapter are almost alike word for word? Deuteronomy 7,

**Answers on bottom of Page 12**  
"Test Your Bible Knowledge," with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in bookstores and online.

## BIBLE WORD SEARCH

by Elie's Spiritual Treasures

ISAIAH 25:9

NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION

In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

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**Bible Word Search Answer on Page 12**

## Stickeler's Puzzle

STICKELERS [sic].  
by Terry Stickels

Here's an alphabetic that does not hold true ... and yet, it does. Remember, no word can begin with zero.

HALF	Let F = 1
HALF	Let H = 9
+ HALF	There is no 6.
-----	Only 7 numbers/ letters are used for this alphabetic.
WHOLE	

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**Stickeler's Answer on Page 12**

## Does It Make Any Difference?

**by BOB CASEY, preacher  
Cornerstone Church of Christ  
70 Bond Street at Camp Avenue in West Irvine**

Do the choices we make in life bring about different outcomes? Most would agree that they do. So, anything that one does in life, should not be jumped into without some forethought and is not wise; because at that, we may end up in some difficult situations in life.

Never is this more prevalent than in matters of religion. With nearly 2600 different churches in our nation, one can see the difficulty this imposes upon one seeking a truth that will save one in the end.

Never is this more discussed than in the matter of baptism, and at what point does salvation come to one. First of all, our Lord set the standard for salvation. In Matthew 3:13-17, Jesus came to Aenon on the Jordan River to be baptized publicly by John. Then John being confused forbade it, but Jesus said, "Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness." **John 3:15** Then God put the endorsement upon him from Heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." **John 3:17**

So, secondly, we can see that God has a purpose for baptism. To complete means to bring to a conclusion. So, then, after one has heard the Gospel, and believed it, they can understand the need to repent, change their manner of life. Then we learn that confession of Jesus before men is required. Then, baptism can take place at this time. Thirdly, so just any form or method of baptism may not fill the purpose of bringing one to Christ. Again, some say, "I can go to Heaven without any form of baptism connected to water; so water baptism will not determine whether I go to Heaven or not."

My point is, in view of the Scriptures, these ideas do not meet the criteria of baptisms in the New Testament. In Matthew 28:18-20 and Mark 16:15-16, our Lord commissions and commands the 12 Apostles, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." **16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.** **Mark 16:15-16**

Then, after a few days, Jesus ascended back to the father, then filling the Apostles with the gift to speak in other languages, do miracles, and yes, to proclaim for the first time the complete plan to save mankind. So, in this day when Pentecost was fully come, the did begin this proclamation that this same Jesus who was crucified that God had made him Lord and Christ. Then, many of them who heard, felt their sinful guilt, cried out, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" **Acts 2:37** Then Peter said, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." **Acts 2:38** That day, about 3,000 responded and were baptized. I ask, "Were they all wrong, did the Apostles lie?" I think not. So, in the midst of world confusion, someone is wrong!

In the rest, I make my appeal to Romans 6, where the Apostle says, "know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?" **Romans 6:3** **John 19:34** reveals that Jesus shed his blood at his death. When we are baptized into Jesus we contact his shed blood which washes away all our sins, so baptism is required by all to be saved by his blood. Just read Matthew 26:25 to see if Jesus shed his blood for many for the remission of sins. So Paul says, baptism is a burial. We can't accomplish this in a fountain or a sprinkle, one must be immersed and for the purpose of obtaining the benefits of scripture baptism. If not, why not? Remember in Hebrews 5:8-9, our Lord also learned obedience and doing so He became the author of eternal salvation to all that obey him.

Sincerely, Bob Casey

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