

The Welfare of The People

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Jeremiah 38:3-4, "Thus saith the LORD, This city shall surely be given into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which shall take it. Therefore the princes said unto the king, We beseech thee, let this man be put to death: for thus he weakeneth the hands of the men of war that remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, in speaking such words unto them: for this man seeketh not the welfare of this people, but the hurt."

The prophet Jeremiah spoke the word of God to the people of Israel. He didn't, and couldn't, say whatever he wanted to, he had to speak only what the Lord told him to say. The people of Israel were being punished by God for their sinful ways. That was why the enemy had attacked them and lay siege to their cities and especially the capital, Jerusalem. The People refused to consider that they had sinned against God and so they didn't believe what Jeremiah told them was the truth.

They thought that if he was a true prophet he would tell them that everything would be alright. When he told them to surrender to the army of Babylon they called him a traitor and wanted to kill him.

They said that his words weakened the spirit of the defenders and helped the enemy. Although they didn't understand, or believe it, Jeremiah was telling the truth and their only hope lay in accepting and obeying God's message. They refused to do this and saw their city destroyed and thousands killed, along with many thousands carried away into captivity. All of this would not have happened if they had only listened to God's warning.

It is sad to see that the people didn't really know what was good for the welfare of the people. Naturally they want things to be pleasant and good for the nation. Talking of war and being overcome by the enemy didn't sound good at all. They couldn't see that the sins that was common in their lives was causing such troubles and would bring even more hardships on them. They were living according to their own wants and thought, or at least told themselves, that God was pleased with them. There was a big difference between what God wanted them to do and what they wanted to do.

They saw Jeremiah as a troublemaker who said things to discourage the people, notably the soldiers. They would have been pleased if he had been able to tell them that God was going to destroy the invaders and bless them with victory just as he had many times before. They couldn't see their sin and therefore

didn't see where they needed to make any changes in their lives. Where they saw Jeremiah as a traitor who supported the Babylonians, he was actually doing what God had called him to do. Unknown to the Jews, Jeremiah was working for the welfare of Israel. If they had repented of their sins and turned to God with a sincere hearts they would have been blessed.

Today there are many ministers who preach God's word. Some have great followings, and some are treated as troublemakers and are heard by few. "Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached," **Phil 1:15-18a**. It is still the same today as Christ Jesus is preached in various ways. It is up to us to search the scriptures and to know what is true and what is in error.

Looking at the examples in the bible we should realize that just because a message is strong and as some have said, "It stepped on my toes," doesn't mean that it wasn't what God wanted us to hear. None of us lives so good that we don't need to hear the Lord correcting us at times. He loves us enough to correct us when we need it. I do - how about you?

Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

RAVENNA Food Mart
314 Main Street
Ravenna, KY
Phone 723-6333

Owl Head's Grocery & Feed
Phone 723-7473 South Irvine, Ky.
Novelties - Open 7 Days A Week
Donald & Katherine Dixon, Owners

Advertise Here!
Call 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

Hardy Oil Company, Inc.
74 River Drive
Irvine, Kentucky
Phone 723-3664

CASH IN A DASH Payday Loans
Buy Gold-Silver
Phone 723-0799
(Irvine, next to Bunt Gross)

Advertise Here!
Call 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

Gum Springs Church of God
Highway 213 (Furnace Junction)
Call 723-4180
Church Services
Sunday School 10 am • Morning Worship 11:15 am
Sunday Night 6 pm • Wednesday Night 6 pm

Advertise Here!
Call 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

Advertise Here!
Call 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

419 **Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI**

Copyright © John A. Lehti, National Representative, Dial Advertising Service, P.O. Box 10278, Goldsboro, NC 27532

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the book of I Samuel intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

DAVID'S fighting courage
KING SAUL, FEARING THAT DAVID WILL TAKE THE KINGDOM FROM HIM, HAS ENTICED DAVID WITH A PROMISE OF MARRIAGE TO HIS ELDER DAUGHTER MERAB, TO GO OUT AND FIGHT THE PHILISTINES, HOPING DAVID WILL BE KILLED IN THE BATTLE...

BEHOLD, MY LORD, DAVID AND HIS WARRIORS HAVE FARED WELL AGAINST OUR ENEMIES!

BUT NOW DAVID AND HIS MEN RETURN VICTORIOUS...

YEA, ABNER! MY EYES CAN SEE THAT—AND MY EARS CAN HEAR THE CHEERS OF THE PEOPLE FOR DAVID!

WHAT NOW WILT THOU DO, MY LORD—FOR DAVID HAS RETURNED WITH VICTORY, BUT THOU HAST ALREADY GIVEN MERAB IN MARRIAGE UNTO ADRIEL THE MEHOLATHITE!

I KNOW NOT!

AH! IT IS SO, IS IT NOT?!

MY LORD, LET NOT THY HEART BE TROUBLED OVER THIS MATTER—FOR IF, INDEED, DAVID CAN NOT HAVE MERAB TO WIFE—BEHOLD, THY YOUNGER DAUGHTER, MICHAL, IS SICK WITH LOVE FOR DAVID!

NOW THEN, MICHAL SHALL BE A SNARE FOR DAVID—AND HE SHALL YET DIE AND THIS WILL MY KINGDOM BE SAVED FOR MINE OWN HOUSE!

SEND FOR DAVID—WE SHALL SETTLE THIS MATTER ONCE AND FOR ALL!

Next Week - Chr Bargain

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

Lewis-Abner Home For Funerals
Since 1929
www.lewisfh.com 224 Main
Irvine, KY
Pre-Need Services Available 723-2151

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church
322 5th St., Ravenna, KY
Sunday Mass 9:00 am
Wednesday Mass 6:00 pm
Thursday Mass 6:00 pm
Contact: Father Al Fritsch, S.J.
(606) 723-4705

Inner Beauty Hair, Nails, Salon & Day Spa
363 Richmond Road, Irvine
Phone 723-0118
Joanna Jernigan
Owner & Master Stylist
Stephanie Isaacs
Master Stylist & Nail Tech
Sherry Harrison
Master Stylist
"For All Your Salon & Spa Needs"

Honchell's Men's & Boys' Clothing & Shoes
Tuxedo Rental Available
West Irvine Plaza
Irvine, Kentucky
Phone 723-7316

Advertise Here!
Call 723-5012
The Estill County Tribune

Prayer Circle at Knowlton Church
Call for Prayer
Kenny - 606 723-7451
606 614-5711
606-614-9340
Benny - 859 404-8224
Betty - 859 432-0939
Dallas - 859 582-9752
Willie - 606 454-8794

SAVE-A-LOT
1290 Richmond Road
Irvine, Kentucky
Phone 723-6372

Roadside Mission Church of God
Welcomes You!
A Bible Teaching Church
Furnace Junction Ravenna, KY
Sunday School & Morning Worship, 10 am
Sunday Evening Evangelistic Service, 6 pm
Wed. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study, 6 pm
Radio Ministry
Sundays, 2:00 p.m. WSKV 104.9 FM

Emmanuel Baptist Church
Now at 106 Tyler Lane
Irvine, Kentucky 40336
Pastor: Sherl Thomas
Services
Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday Worship 11:00 am
Sunday Evening 6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm
Established September 12, 1999

Warren F. Toler Funeral Home
Family Owned and Operated
99 Cedar Grove
www.tolerfuneralhome.com
Phone 723-2183
Obituary Line Phone 723-4242