



Two moose on an airplane? Sounds like recipe for disaster

America's Heartland
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You may remember the story about the two hunters who chartered a plane to fly into the Alaskan wilderness. A week later when the pilot came to pick them up, he saw that they had bagged two moose.

"I told you fellows I could only take you and one moose," the pilot said. "You'll have to leave the other behind."

"But we did it last year in a plane this size," one of the hunters argued, "and the other pilot let us take two moose."

"Well, okay," the pilot said. "If you did it before I guess we can do it again."

So the hunters loaded the two moose and the plane took off. But the plane, with all that weight, had trouble gaining altitude. It crashed into a mountainside. The men climbed out and looked around.

One hunter said to the other,

"Where are we, anyway?"

His buddy surveyed the scene, and said, "I think we got about half a mile farther than we got last year."

Perhaps you've heard said that "insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." Well, those two hunters would be classic examples of that kind of insanity.

I'm really glad that in our part of the country, most people learn quickly that if something doesn't work, you don't do it over and over again, expecting different results. Oddly enough, that's true in our homes, on the farm and in the workplace, but it's not so true in our churches. Have you noticed that many dying churches do the same old thing over and over again, day after day, week after week, year after year? They're expecting that, any Sunday now, what they're doing will begin to work and their sanctuaries will again be full.

Worship in our area has changed dramatically over the past couple centuries. The first worship services in this area were outdoors, in the shade of trees. At some point, folks decided to build shelters to gather in. That was a cutting edge idea at the time. Then, they came up with the idea of wooden benches to sit on. How

radical was that? Those benches later became pews and yet later padded pews. They used to sing nothing but Psalms straight from the Bible. Someone came up with the idea of singing hymns in the church. You talk about controversial. Some saw that as outrageous. Those hymns were the contemporary music of the day.

Just about every improvement the church has made over the centuries has been met with resistance on the part of well-meaning people whose personalities just happen to be such that they don't like change. There are people who want things to remain the same, no matter what.

If those folks had their way, we'd still be plowing with mules, riding horses and buggies and doing laundry on a washboard. In the church, we'd worship on hard benches with the windows open while waving those cute little paper fans to try to stay cool, because those folks were opposed to air conditioning.

Can't we be silly at times? Church folks really can be like the hunters trying to get both their moose on the airplane, even though it didn't work last time?

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How Far Are You Willing To Go For Christ?

Sunday, August 30th 2020 Morning Message
Bro. Warren Rogers, Ivory Hill Baptist Church

"But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only. ³⁷But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. ³⁸For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, ³⁹And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. ⁴⁰Then shall two be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. ⁴¹Two women shall be grinding at the mill; the one shall be taken, and the other left." Matthew 24:36-41

Popularity is extremely important to most Americans. It is human nature for us to want to be liked and popular; and there is nothing wrong with that; but how far as you willing to go for that popularity?

This is one of the things that plague our churches. We spend more time trying to please man than we do God. The battle of following God or man has been a struggle for thousands of years and will continue to be so until Christ returns.

In Genesis 6 we find a man named Noah who came from a very Godly family. His great grandpa was Enoch (one of the men who never died but was taken straight to heaven). His grandpa was Methuselah (oldest man to ever live on earth). His father was Lamech, (the Bible does not say much about him but we have to assume that he was a Godly man because the Bible does not say otherwise.)

The world around Noah -- the population was growing rapidly, the women were marrying whomever, apparently the women had found the sons of God to be just what they wanted. Who were the sons of God? Most Bible scholars would say that they were the fallen angels. The offspring of these marriages were the Nephilm giants.

"And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart." Genesis 6:5-6
Man had become so wicked that it grieved God that He had made man.

Our sin hurts God. How bad are we hurting God today? Many believe that because we have so much wickedness in the world today that we are living in the last days. I too believe that the end of this world as we know it, is nearing. You don't have to look far to find evil. There has always been sins of some kinds, that was and is caused by Satan. I am 73 years old and the changes that I have seen since I was a young boy are overwhelming. We never heard of abortion until the last few years. If someone was a homosexual, it was sinful; now some embrace it, making excuses. Drugs and alcohol use has grown fast and furious. Our society is much like the days of Noah.

God's solution: *"And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them."* Genesis 6:7
But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Noah found favor because of his faith. Grace -- that unmerited, undeserved favor from God.

God came up with a plan. He told Noah it was going to rain and for Noah to build an ark. People did not understand what a flood would be. Noah had to do this on faith, believing what God told him. What is faith? Faith is believing something that none of your senses can pick up on. You can't taste it, smell it, or hear it but yet you still believe.

Noah was popular with God because of God's grace and Noah's faith. Noah was being obedient, and that is what God expects of us.

What do you think the other people thought of Noah? I'd say they said things such as, 'He's crazy,' 'Noah have you lost your mind?' 'Noah, what's a flood?' 'We've never done this before, Go ahead and waste your time, we are going to have some fun.' I don't believe Noah was popular with those around him. Let me ask you a question. Who are you seeking to please? Man or God?

If you are reading this and don't know Jesus as your savior, remember, if you die or Jesus comes back, you will be destroyed. You may be popular here on earth but that doesn't mean anything. Noah had faith and believed God would save him, but he still had to get on the ark. You might be saying, 'I believe in God,' but you don't know him as a personal savior. You must not only believe but surrender your life to him.

Our world is in the shape it's in because too many people are trying to be popular with the wrong ones. We have preachers that preach a 'feel good religion.' They are trying to be popular so their church will grow and they make more money. Who cares if the lost say, 'Those fanatics have lost their mind.' We need to live our Christian walk with God so that people can say what Paul did in 1 Thessalonians 1:2-4

My Friends, if you find yourself not following God as you should and you need to talk, call me at 606-481-0444. If you don't have a home church, you are invited to Ivory Hill Baptist, Rt. 89, North of Irvine.

Until next week, May God bless you!

Bro. Warren

THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets. A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord God has spoken! Who can but prophesy?

Amos 3: 7, 8

"His Royal Highness" by Herbert Dicksee (1892)

Mercy Health – Marcum and Wallace Hospital encourages preventative care during the pandemic

Have concerns about COVID-19 caused you to put off your annual screening mammogram or colonoscopy? You're not alone and experts nationally fear a rise in later stage cancer diagnoses as a result of the pandemic. It's important to remember that the earlier the diagnosis, the better the outcome and there are options available for safe cancer screenings.

Consider having your annual screenings and preventative care at Mercy Health – Marcum and Wallace Hospital which offers safe and convenient healthcare. You can feel

safe to come to the hospital campus. Following CDC guidelines; our providers and care teams are doing everything possible to ensure your safety and well-being.

Please note, most screenings and preventative care may be covered by insurance, for best coverage, please verify with your insurance carrier. If you are uninsured or underinsured (have high deductibles), we have financial need-based assistance programs available to help you. Talk with your doctor about when you should have a screenings and preventative care.

I Am Ashamed

I asked the Lord to take my pain,
When they told me it would really hurt.
I must have shots put in the sole of my foot;
I really was not that tough.

I began to pray and talk to God;
I needed Jesus to be by my side.
For the pain, they said, would be severe;
Then I remembered how Jesus had died.

He took my pain on Calvary,
When they drove the nails in His hand.
His sides were bruised,

His head full of thorns;
And here I was, asking him again.

Jesus, please take my pain for me,
I cried with a broken heart.
When I realized what I had said,
It really hit me hard.

Jesus had shed His precious blood,
And bore his pain so I could live.
I was asking Him now to take my pain;
Just what was I willing to give?

Then I bowed my head
And thanked my God,
For His Son who died for me.
I asked Him to please help me bear my pain,
For He already gave His life for me.

Madalene Wasson, April 2002

Traveling Time

CHORUS

Well, it is traveling time again
I have got to start moving
Which way I'll go I can't really say
But as long as I can see another horizon
Traveling time will never
Stop coming my way

Over mountains, thru valleys, down rivers
They keep coming without end
But as long as I can see another horizon
Then down each pathway my feet I'll send

Blue skies or gray skies
It doesn't matter

Winter days or summer days
They are all the same
For when my feet yearn to start moving
I must give in, for them I cannot tame

Who can say what waits for me
Over each hilltop
I don't know, I don't care, and if I did
There would come a time

When I'd start traveling
And it would mean another farewell to bid

Written by Price J. Rawlins

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