

The Goodnough



Gazette

The Newspaper of Grace Presbyterian Church
August 21, 2011 Vol. 17, Number 8. Gig Harbor, WA. Price: Zip

FROM THE PASTOR *Larry*

Psalm 1:2 his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

So we plod on through the book of Revelation...

more than twenty five Sundays by the time we are done. But of such stuff is made the following question. ??? **Are readers of the Bible ever done with Revelation?** Are they ever done with Genesis, Jeremiah or James? **Is not each book of the Bible intricately and unremittingly bound with all the others?**

Take another look at the passage quoted at the top of "from the pastor". Now add the previous verse

Psalm 1:1-2 *Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers:*

but

his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

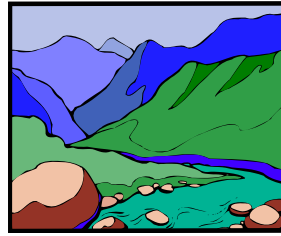
More than a mite bit of Revelation, eh!. The Bible is about many things in specific. In general its books (Psalms, Revelation and the sixty four more) are clearly about choice. Will God's people (me, you) choose the dark and breakable glasses of a **secular world view*** or the clear 20/20 (or better) vision of a **Biblical world view?**

I recently took Annie's challenge offered during her Wednesday night study on *worship*". Commit to reading as much of Psalms as you can in the remaining weeks of July. Immerse yourself in Romans 12. Try to memorize a passage or much more from Romans.

And when I took that challenge I saw more than ever the unity and cohesion of a Biblical World View.

Here's one for you. A teaser. Try Romans 12:1-2 on for size and see if it doesn't eerily line up with Psalm 1:1-2 and with the entire message of Revelation. I will use today's early issue of the Gazette to build on the theme of Biblical unity and to call you to Annie's challenge.

**of which there are about seven billion competing ones – one for each person on the planet*



Echoing a
Timeless
Invitation
through the
Canyon of *Time*

Come to me,

- all who labor and are heavy laden,
- and **I** will give you rest.
- Take **my** yoke upon you,
- and learn from **me**;
- for **I** am gentle and lowly in heart,¹
- and you will find rest for your souls.
- For **my** yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (Mat 11:28-30 RSV)

THE BIBLE: ONE BIG BUNDLE OF "COME UNTO ME"

Just Coincidence?

Themes in Psalms, Romans, Revelation

Refuge and strength in God

(Psa 56:3-4 RSV) In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust **without a fear**. What can flesh do to me? (try on Psalm 27:1 and many more)

(Rom 4:20-22 RSV) **No distrust** made him {Abraham} waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² That is why his faith was "reckoned to him as righteousness."

(Psalm 56:3) **When I am afraid**, I put my trust in thee.

Certainty of a believer's persecution

(Psa 119:150 RSV) **They draw near who persecute me** with evil purpose; they are far from thy law.

(Rom 12:14 RSV) **Bless those who persecute you**; bless and do not curse them.

(Rev 1:9 RSV) I John, your brother, **who share with you in Jesus the tribulation** and the kingdom and the patient endurance.

more "coincidences(?) p.2

MORE STUDENTS WELCOME
ANNIE'S GREAT CLASS ON WORSHIP
GIG HARBOR PARK WED, July 20, 27. 7 PM

HOMEWORK for Gracers: Read Psalms, special attention to Psalm 119, immerse in Romans 12, memorize a significant verse (or more) from Romans 12 - all by Labor Day.



Thoughts from Silent Cal (Coolidge)

Still relevant 87 years later

From a speech to the *Holy Name Society* September 21, 1924

Title: Authority and Religious Liberty

- There are no human actions which are unimportant, none to which we can be indifferent. All of them lead either towards destruction and death, or towards construction and life.
- One of the greatest needs of the present day is the establishment and recognition of standards, and holding ourselves up to their proper observance. This cannot be done without constant effort and it will meet constant opposition.



Nothing new
under the Sun
Ecclesiastes 1:9

- We live in an impatient age. We demand results, and demand them at once. We find a long and laborious process very irksome, and are constantly seeking for a short cut. But there is no easy method of securing discipline. It is axiomatic that there is no royal road to learning. The effort for discipline must be intensive, and to a considerable degree it must be lifelong. But it is absolutely necessary, if there is to be any self-direction or any self-correction.

A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.

Theodore Roosevelt

After I set out to refute Christianity intellectually and couldn't, I came to the conclusion the Bible was true and Jesus Christ was God's Son.

Josh McDowell

All the miseries and evils which men suffer from --vice, crime, ambition, injustice, oppression, slavery and war, proceed from their despising or neglecting the precepts contained in the Bible.

Noah Webster

Put your nose into the Bible everyday. It is your spiritual food. And then share it. Make a vow not to be a lukewarm Christian. Kirk Cameron {see Rev. 3:16

more "coincidences?"

Repentance

(Psalm 32, 51)

(Rom 3:23 RSV) All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

(Rev 2:5 RSV) Remember then from what you have fallen, **repent** and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. {eleven references to *repent* occur in the gospels and ten in The Revelation. It seems Christ holds the concept in some high regard}

Vengeance is mine says the LORD

(Psa 94:1 RSV) O LORD, thou God of **vengeance**, thou God of vengeance, shine forth!

(Rom 9:22 RSV) What if God, desiring to show his **wrath** and to make known his power, has endured with much patience the vessels of wrath made for destruction

(Rev 18:2 RSV) And he called out with a mighty voice, "**Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!**"

Peace

(Psa 119:165 RSV) Great **peace** have those who love thy law; nothing can make them stumble.

Romans 5:1 (RSV) Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have **peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Rev 1:4 RSV) John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and **peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne.**

PSALM 119 WORDY & WISE

The longest chapter in the Bible. It's a word play!

1. Each set of eight verses begins with a consecutive Hebrew letter of the alphabet. (22 sets)

2. Something very special in the way of life counsel is going on in every couplet. Figure out what it is...and live in it!

Tie all of 119 back to Psalm 1.

Consider the great counsel in this passage and rest of the Old Testament and you get an idea why Jesus wept over Jerusalem - and weeps over His people through the ages