

# Could There Be A Connection?

For years it was illegal to teach the Bible in the Soviet Union. Violators risked being subjected to "re-education." If Soviet children were taught to revere anything, it was the Soviet State and its leaders.



But things are changing, as you know, in the former "Evil Empire." Thousands of Bibles are being distributed in Moscow's Gorky Park, in prisons, and in schools.

School children are given Bibles in St. Petersburg. "We've had the Bibles in the classroom for one month," enthuses the mayor, "and have already seen a change among the children." Children are given a Bible to read, and their behavior improves. This is about as shocking as hearing expletives in rap music!

And here's the irony. While Russia begins to allow Bibles into classrooms, America appears to increasingly view the Bible as contraband literature. And we, too, see the ill effects of this philosophy. High school children bring guns to school for their own protection. Over half of sixteen year-olds are sexually active, and as a consequence, the 21st Century's most fearsome plague runs riot. Over sixty percent of our children see nothing wrong with cheating on tests.

*"If my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and forgive their sin and heal their land."*

**(2 Chronicles 7:14).**

The rise and fall of nations has less to do with weapons and technology, and more to do with worshiping God and teaching His will. The Soviets demanded re-education; what we need is to undergo *rededication*.

- Stan Mitchell, Hinesville Church of Christ, Hinesville, GA, via *Bulletin Digest*

## FROM THE HEART

A desert wanderer found a crystal spring of unsurpassed freshness and decided to bring some to his king. Barely satisfying his own thirst, he filled a leather bottle and carried it many days beneath the desert sun to reach the palace. By that time the water had become stale due to the old container in which it was stored. But the king tasted it with expressions of gratitude and delight, and sent away the loyal heart filled with gladness. After he left, others sampled it and expressed their surprise at how bad it was. "Ah!" said he, "It was not the water I tasted, but the love that prompted the offering."

What we bring to God is marked by multiplied imperfections, but He looks beyond that to our motives. We may think our singing voice is "stale and rank," but God listens with delight. Our prayers may not be filled with eloquence but God wants to hear what is on our hearts. Could our worship be better sounding, better looking? Perhaps! Yet God is primarily looking for the love that prompted the offering.

**"... the LORD looketh on the heart" - 1 Samuel 16:7**

- Glad Tidings of Good Things, Jacksonville, AL

**God created Adam out of dust — then He created Eve to settle him.**

## News & Notes

**CARE & SHARE BEARS:** Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

**PANTRY:** Spaghetti & sauce.

**LADIES WORK DAY:** Saturday, March 29th, 9:00 a.m. at the Multipurpose Building. This is to prepare "care" baskets.

**BABY SHOWER:** For Kathy (Collins) Hissam, Saturday, April 5th, 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Multipurpose Building. Given by Sue & Bobbie Collins. All ladies invited. Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

**REMEMBER THESE SHUT-IN'S:** Dan Williams, Bertha Seman.

**SICK:** Weirton Medical Center: Marlene Evans. UPMC, Pittsburgh: Gary Evans. AT HOME: Linda Parkes, Claudie Pierson (Jackie Parsons' sister), Tim Adkins, Michelle Hanlon, Mary Helen Riley, Harry & Imogene Nice, Ruth Brewer, Geraldine Barrett. Fox Nursing Home: Lloyd Ferrell. Calcutta Health Care: Virginia Clutter (Eva Stefl's sister-in-law). The Willows of Presbyterian Senior Care: Bertha Sprague (David Malcomson's aunt), 1215 Hulton Road, Oakmont, PA 15139. Check the bulletin board for others who also need to be remembered.

## MEETINGS

CHESTER	March 16-20	Eddie Cooper
Sandyville	March 23-26	F. Higginbotham
Hanoverton	April 6-10	F. Higginbotham
Southern Hills	April 13-16	F. Higginbotham
Weirton Hgts.	April 20-24	Will Montgomery
East Liverpool	May 4- 8	Steve Snider
Mooresville	May 4- 9	F. Higginbotham

## LESSONS FROM NOAH

- ◆ Don't miss the boat; we're all in the same boat.
- ◆ Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.
- ◆ Stay fit. When you're old, someone might ask you to do something REALLY big.
- ◆ Don't listen to critics, just get on with what has to be done.
- ◆ Build your future on high ground.
- ◆ For safety's sake, travel in pairs. Two heads are better than one.
- ◆ Speed isn't always an advantage; the snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- ◆ When you're stressed, float awhile.
- ◆ Remember the ark was built by an amateur; the Titanic was built by professionals.
- ◆ Remember that woodpeckers inside are a larger threat than the storm outside.
- ◆ No matter the storm, when you're one with God there's a rainbow waiting.

- Author Unknown -



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