

The DEFENDER - November 2018



“... defending the faith once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3)

A monthly publication of the
IN DEFENSE OF TRUTH radio broadcast.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK: Are You Thankful?

As we celebrate another official Thanksgiving Day this month, I have two questions I'd like you to ponder. The first is, what are you thankful for? And the second is, at what cost? As believers, the number one item on our list every day of our lives should be our salvation. This is truly a gift, as we could do nothing to earn it. “We are saved by grace, through faith, and that not of ourselves. It is the gift of God, and not of works, lest any man should boast” **Ephesians 2:8-9**. Are you not thankful that you have been saved by Christ's sacrifice from eternal damnation, which is the consequence of your sin? “Sing praises to the Lord...” David said in **Psalms 9:11**, “declare among the people His doings.”

Living in America is as good as it gets this side of heaven. And because of the doctrine of predestination, we can thank God for that too. None of us had a say in where or when we would be born. Or to whom. Who's to say, to paraphrase Esther's cousin Mordecai, that we weren't born here in America for such a time as this? Millions worldwide want to come to the United States. We have our faults, for sure, but we are still the land of opportunity. And those of us who are here as Christians should thank God often for His blessings. But shouldn't we also thank Him for the opportunities He sends our way? Opportunities to witness our faith to others. After all, that's our high calling.

We should be thankful for the freedom to worship and evangelize that our founding fathers have given us. At great cost to themselves and their families they secured independence from the Crown of England and gave us a Constitution which said that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. Thomas Jefferson said, “I consider the government of the United States as interdicted (prohibited) by the Constitution from inter-meddling with religious institutions, their doctrines, discipline, or exercises.” That's religious freedom! James Madison added, “There is not a shadow of right in the General (Federal) Government to inter-meddle with religion. The subject is, for the honor of America, perfectly free and unshackled. The government has no jurisdiction over it.” That's religious liberty!

The price paid for our salvation was Christ's sacrificial death on the cross, the shedding of **His** blood for you and me. The Apostles and Reformers were persecuted and martyred for their faith and the opportunity to witness it to others. Because of the price they paid, they are vivid testimonies still to this day. Our nation's founding fathers and patriots were willing to die for the right to live free and worship God in their homes, churches, and public square. But what about us? Are we thankful enough for what others have died for to continue to be a witness and a testimony to it and for it? Time will tell. But don't ponder too long. The opportunity may soon come for you to take a stand and prove it.

Rev. David Lewis

Defending Biblical Creation Part IV – Conclusion

By Robert Luthardt, Sr.

“And the servant of the Lord must ... be gentle unto all ... instructing those that oppose themselves ... that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil ...” (2 Tim.2:24-26). “Answer not a fool according to his folly” (Prov. 26:4-5). “The fool has said ... there is no God ...” (Ps. 14:1, 53:1). “Be ready always to give an answer ... of the hope that is in you ...” (1 Pet. 3:15).

The Bible provides the reason unbelievers must rely on God’s created-order. What may be known of things visible and invisible is “manifest in them” – clearly seen – God “showed it ...” (Rom. 1:19-20).

Mankind, at birth, are “hardwired to sinfulness” (Jer. 17:9; Ep. 2:1-3) but also enabled to readily use God’s Laws. Christians learn “not to walk as Gentiles,” in the futility of their thinking and in spiritual deadness (Col. 2:13; Ep. 4:17-18; 1 Tim. 5:6). Some are willfully self-deceived adding increasing darkness to their understanding (James 1:22-24). Others pridefully ridicule scriptures that clearly state that God created the universe in 6 literal, 24-hour days. Yet this could not be written more plainly in Genesis chapter one (Gen. 1:5b, 8b, 13, 19, 23, 31b). Those denying these scriptures (radical textual critics or “Old-Earth Creationists,” etc.) must recognize they are declaring their conclusions to be superior to God’s Word. If the critics of Genesis are correct, God was unable to preserve the written word from inaccuracies if chapter one (and others) contain myths. To attempt to soften the attack upon the Bible with statements such as, “The Bible shows the way to go to heaven, not how the heavens go,” fails because the bigger question is, “Why should anyone want to read or rely on any book that has error in the very first chapter?” If it is not true there, where does it begin to be true? Are there other places where it again becomes untrue (see Exodus 20:11)? Can we trust the gospel since there are also New Testament critics? Who decides whether all scripture is truly profitable or not (2 Tim. 3:16)?

When Jesus gave the parable of the “Rich Man and Lazarus,” He directed His hearers to “Moses” and the prophets. He made no mention of the alleged mythologies (Luke 16:29-31). When the Lord used the phrase, “In the beginning,” He made no reference to the “Big Bang” NOR did He admit that Adam and Eve were fictitious (Matt. 19:8). The atheistic idea that the universe created itself or the Old-Earth creationist concept that the 6 days of Genesis are 6 long periods of millions of years would necessarily mean that millions of men and animals lived and died before Adam and Eve and before they rebelled and sinned bringing death and the curse (Gen. 3:17-19).

Those who disbelieve God’s Word and accept “billions of years” (which is a main tenet of the religion of evolution) should not hope to lead an evolutionist or atheist to faith in Christ’s gospel from a book even they agree contains myths in the very first chapters. If God did not create Adam a few thousand years ago, then there was no fall into sin, no “seed of the woman” (Gen.

3:15) and with no “original sin,” then no need for innocents to suffer and die (from lambs to the “Lamb of God that taketh away sin ...” - John 1:29) for the guilty.

This evisceration of Old Testament history also defiles New Testament truth. Consider, “As by one man, sin entered ... and DEATH by sin ... death reigned from Adam to Moses” (Rom. 5:12-14, 17-21).

If the universe were really billions of years old, living beings have been dying eons before Adam’s sin brought God’s curse and more than the first eleven chapters would contain falsehoods. Major doctrines of Christianity would lose their foundational support. God’s creation could never have been “very good” (Gen. 1:31) with millions and millions of years of death and dying. The rebel Cain could mock God who said, “Abel’s blood crieth out to me” by saying, “How can you hear it above the cries of the billions of men and animals already dead? God’s Biblical framework of redemption requires a literal garden, a real Adam who was history’s first man and who did rebel against God. The very real “second Adam,” the prophesied “seed of the woman” (Gen. 3:15) paid the penalty for the sins of all who call upon His name in the power of God’s quickening Spirit (Rom. 5:12-14, 19-21, 10:9-10, Ep. 2:1). It makes little sense for an Old-Earth Creationist to speak of a “last” or a “second” Adam when he agrees with the evolutionist that there was NO first Adam (1 Cor. 15:45-47) he has become “like him” (Prov. 26:4).

Dr. Jason Lisle pronounced a simple strategy from Prov. 26:4-5 which he calls the, “NO Answer, Answer.” This procedure is to immediately disregard an unbeliever’s “folly” using this proverbial framework. By example, we might assert our status as “Sons of God” (John 1:12) and saved by grace (Rom. 5:15) through the sacrifice of the Son of God. We could tell them of our promised home in heaven (John 14:1-3) and most important of all we KNOW we have eternal life (1 John 5:13). All who believe will be saved (Acts 16:30-31) and in fact are adopted by God into His own family as sons and daughters by His power alone (John 1:13; Ep. 1:4-11). This was further confirmed by God the Holy Spirit through the Apostle Paul (Rom. 10:9-10, 13; 1 Cor. 3:16; 2 Tim. 1:14).

To use an absurd example in further demonstration of Dr. Lisle’s, “NO Answer, Answer” to taking the offense as the best defense and not answering a “fool according to his folly,” consider a contrarian who says, “I don’t believe in words so prove God exists without using words.” Instantly we would know to totally ignore this “folly,” for the standard for debate is lacking the pre-condition of intelligibility. Dr. Lisle’s ultimate proof starts with our one true and living God (1 Thes. 1:9) whose WORD provides the pattern for the transcendent entities of the Laws of Logic and of the uniformity He imbedded in nature. Since He created us all in His image, we inherently possess good sense (Rom. 2:15; 1 Tim. 1:5) and reliable memories. From such a solid foundation, we can do the Lord’s bidding with an unbeliever with, “Come now, let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow” (Is. 1:18). This is the love God expects from His children (Ep 5:1-2).

Our salvation may be by grace alone (John 6:44; Col. 2:13; Rom. 8:11, John 1:13; Titus 3:5, 7) but in sanctification we have responsibilities besides giving an “answer” of our hope to all who ask (1 Pet. 3:15) but also to be ready to lead a lost one to Christ with a gospel message (Rom. 10:1-15) because we may be the one the Lord has in place when He opens the eyes and ears and heart of a lost one (Matt. 13:14-16; Acts. 16:14, 30-31; 2 Cor. 4:4). “He who winneth souls

is wise” for the reward will be great (Prov. 11:30; 1 Cor. 2:9, 3:11-14).

We have the opportunity (and the duty) to put on “the whole armor of God” (Rom. 13:12; Ep. 6:11-19; 1 Thes. 5:8) and His promise to NEVER leave nor forsake us (Matt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5). So, when the “truthy” post-modern skeptics come with their brand of folly, we may fearlessly speak from “all the counsel of God” and making it the only basis of any discussion or debate as to origins or anything else regarding the basis of our allegiance to our Savior and our Lord (Acts 20:27). What we, as children of God, have and what we know, is the exact thing an unbeliever does not have. We have the “peace of God which passeth all understanding” (Phil. 4:7). We have the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit (1Cor. 3:16) and we can gladly testify that “one thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see” (John 9:25).

Fortunately, our responsibility does not require us to amass mountains of scientific evidence to support our belief in creation in order to challenge ANY unbeliever, evolutionist, atheist or misguided professing Christian. Having done all, we stand (Ep. 6:13-14) wielding the “Two-edged sword” of God’s Word, holding fast our profession (Heb. 4:12, 14; Rom. 10:9-10). Failure is not to be feared because it is God that pulls down “strongholds” (2 Cor. 10:3-4) by the power of His Word. So, we “speak the word” ... in season, out of season ... (2 Tim. 4:2).

Keep looking up.

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The Ultimate Proof of Creation

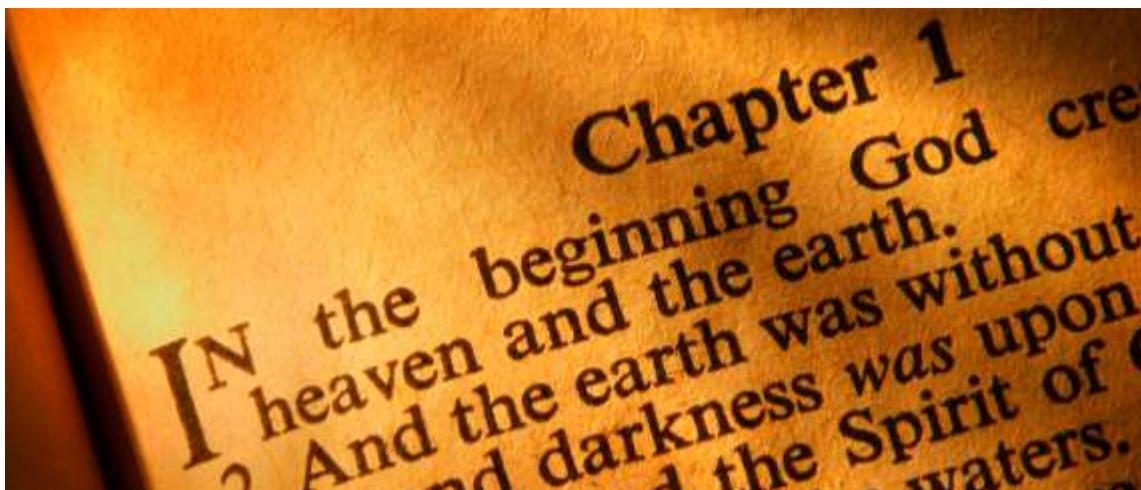
Dr. Jason Lisle

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God's Blessings

By Nancy Long

Psalm 40:5a – *“Many, O Lord my God, are Thy wonderful works, which Thou hast done”*

Psalm 103:1-2 – *“Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits.”*

Eph. 1:3 – *“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.”*

Romans 8:28 – *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose.”*

Blessings

“We pray for blessings, we pray for peace,
Comfort for family, protection while we sleep
We pray for healing, for prosperity,
We pray for Your mighty hand to ease our suffering.
All the while, You hear each spoken need,
Yet love us way too much to give us lesser things.

Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops,
What if Your healing comes through tears,
What if a thousand sleepless nights, Are what it takes to know You're near,
And what if trials of this life are Your mercies in disguise.

We pray for wisdom, Your voice to hear,
And we cry in anger when we cannot feel You near.
We doubt Your goodness; we doubt Your love,
As if every promise from Your Word is not enough.
All the while, You hear each desperate plea,
And long that we'd have to believe.

When friends betray us, When darkness seems to win,
We know the pain reminds this heart,
That this is not, this is not our home It's not our home!

Cause what if Your blessings come through raindrops,
What if Your healing comes through tears,
And what if a thousand sleepless nights,
Are what it takes to know You're near,
What if my greatest disappointments or the aching (s) of this life,
Is the revealing of a greater thirst this world can't satisfy?
And what if trials of this life,
The rain, the storms, the hardest nights Are Your mercies in disguise."

Words and Music -- by Laura Story

When we think of the word, **Blessings**, thoughts usually go toward something promoting happiness, anything which is very welcome, goodness, well being, or prosperity. Webster defines it, in part, as "*bringing happiness, pleasures, good fortune, stroke of luck*", even using the words: "*godsend, miracle, manna from heaven*", but never applying negative terms such as: *obstacles, hindrances, impediments, difficulties, hurdles, delays, handicaps, or setbacks!* Blessings, as we'd like to think, are good things right?!

How then, do we come to grips with the fact that Christians, those of us who know God personally, as Lord and Savior, experience all types of troubles here on this earth? Scripture tells us, "*In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world*" (John 16:33b).

The secret of happiness, or better said, perhaps the secret of "**joy**" is to count your blessings one, by one, by one!!!

I had a friend, who, in 2016, died from cancer, shortly before her 60th birthday. She kept a "blessing journal", writing in it every time she saw the hand of God in her life. The Lord had saved her! She knew that! She **believed** that!! She was looking forward to an eternity in heaven **with** Him, but God was sending His gifts to her, each and every moment, of each and every day. She sometimes though, had to look for them. My friend was in pain most of the time, but found even her pain to be a blessing in disguise.

Not to be redundant, but you see, very often when we hear the word "blessing", we think of something that "feels" good, something that's welcome, a miracle from God Himself! However suffering, affliction, discomfort, and hurt, are the means that are often used to see God's greater spiritual blessings His mercy, His constancy, His faithfulness, His more than amazing grace!!

I loved my friend!! We memorized Scripture together! Two days before God took her out of this world and into the next, we completed the final verse of Psalm 103,

“Bless the Lord, all His works in all places of His dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.”

“There is a blessedness that comes through waiting on the Lord. There’s an intimacy that comes in our walk with the Lord through walking through that valley. There’s a reliance on His word that we only know when everything else fades away” Laura Story

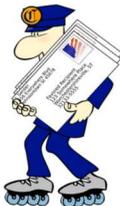
Bless the Lord, O my soul: and ALL
that is within me,
BLESS HIS HOLY NAME.
Psalm 103:1

From Our Mailbag

Men, be a hero to your family, be that knight in shining armor,
Stand firm and shield your wife from all that would hurt or harm her,
Train up those children God entrusted to you, and lead them to the Lord.
Lead them by precept and example and share with them God’s Word.

Don’t allow friends or neighbors to lead your treasures astray.
Lead them towards heaven’s gate, that is the perfect way.
Don’t allow fame or prestige to dilute their morality.
Instill in them values and standards that all the world may see.

Ask God to direct your endeavors and for the grace to reach
Those He placed into your keeping to love, nourish, and teach.
Stand tall and strong, trust His promise, hold His banner high.
Be the hero you were created to be. You are not alone, He is always nigh.



By Hank Arthur, Defender

Regression Therapy: A Blast From the Past

By Michael Anthony

Normally, I do not think it is a valuable practice to attack a person on a personal or emotional level. Rather, it makes more sense, and yields more fruit, to attack the principles behind a person's actions and thus avoid the inevitable criticism of posing an ad hominem argument. Since the allegations thrown at Judge Kavanaugh involved such a baseless attack on his character, however, I've decided to go for the jugular.

I'm not a prophet in the biblical sense, but I predict that there will be a lot of disappointed liberals next March if Dr. Blasey Ford doesn't win the Oscar for her performance as best supporting actress in a political conspiracy. There will probably be a TV miniseries on "Nut-Flix" next year featuring Charlize Theron as Dr. Ford. Ms. Theron is probably the only actress who can pull off the—from beautiful adult to disheveled helpless child; I don't remember anything—role. It was not surprising that the "Me Too A Victim" movement believed Dr. Ford's performance, but listening to some analysis by supposed Christian conservatives on the subject was horrifying.

Besides the stupidity of ignoring the obvious, that is, that a person should be considered innocent until proven guilty, many Christians bought into the belief that the therapeutic methodology used to generate Dr. Ford's scattered memories was scientifically valid. Unfortunately, the premise that regression therapy is a legitimate and accepted form of therapy in psychology was not challenged.

Regression therapy is not universally accepted by the psychological community as being valid. In fact, it is highly criticized! "Anxiety disorders, mood disorders, and gender dysphoria have all been treated using life regression therapy by some doctors on the assumption that they reflect problems in past lives. Although it is not supported by psychiatric associations, few medical associations have actually condemned it as unethical" (Gabriel Andrade 2017).

As Christian believers, we are charged with the duty to try and test every spirit and to that which is true, hold fast (1 Thess. 5:21). Dr. Ford's testimony should have immediately been questioned once the technique of regression therapy was revealed. Regression therapy believes in reincarnation, true Christians do not! Let's say for the sake of argument, however, that reincarnation is possible. The question then becomes from which of Dr. Ford's past lives was she recalling? Was she abused in a past life? If so, then by whom? There is no scientific way of attributing a past life memory accurately. Unprovable memories, no matter how strong or emotional, are not facts.

The greatest risk in past life regressions is that the hypnotist may implant false memories in the subject, and due to suggestibility, the subject may come to feel them as quite real. This implantation of

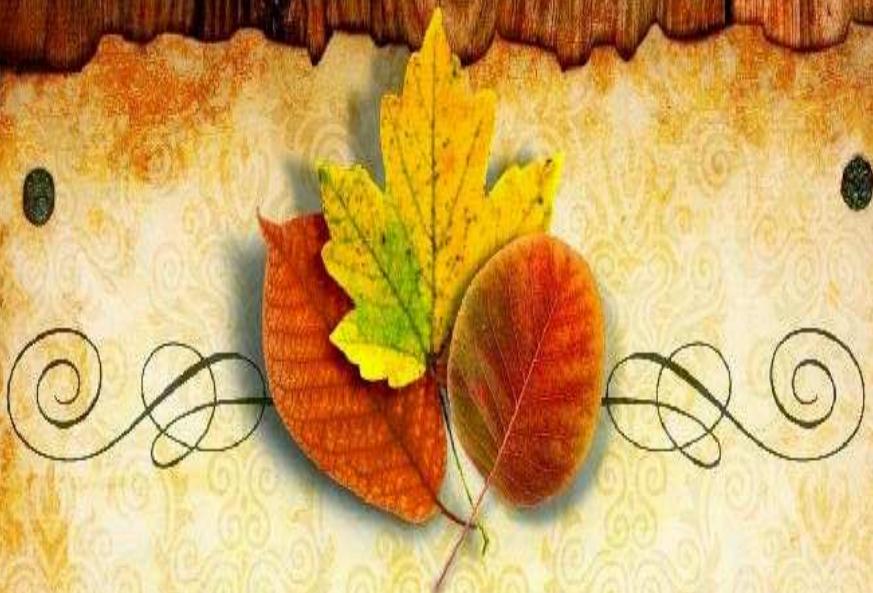
false memories need not even be intentional. The therapist may ask a question, such as “Were you ever a soldier in the American Revolution?”, and the subject, inasmuch as she desires to fulfill the role that the therapist apparently expects of her, elaborates on the details. If the hypnotist asks a leading question that may suggest a traumatic experience to the subject, even if that traumatic experience never actually happened, it may actually become quite real for the hypnotized person.

In fact, this danger became especially acute during the Satanic Ritual Abuse moral panic of the 1980’s in the U.S. Hundreds of patients underwent hypnosis in order to recover memories of alleged sexual and ritual abuses during their infancies. A thorough FBI investigation was carried out, and no evidence whatsoever was found to support the allegations of sexual and ritual abuse. Nonetheless, the hypnotists had asked leading questions, and these false memories had come to be perceived as quite real by the subjects. As a result of hypnotic sessions, these subjects had to face the troubling consequences of having false memories of traumatic events that, in fact, had never happened to them (Gabriel Andrade 2017).

In similar fashion to accepting the validity of regression therapy, and in spite of the fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation does not accept the conclusions generated by a lie detector test as being valid, conservatives blindly accepted the “conclusions” of Dr. Ford’s polygraph test. Once again, conservatives were drawn into the position of arguing against false premises. Perhaps we should have just had Judge Kavanaugh and Dr. Ford appear on the Jerry Springer Show to settle the matter. That would have made more sense given the bizarre nature of this character assassination. In the end, however, it was Dr. Ford who destroyed her own credibility.

In conclusion, the liberals were almost successful in their attempt to destroy Judge Kavanaugh. Their partial success hinged on the inability of Christians to understand and fight the false arguments that were being presented. Time and time again Christians are sucked into the nonscientific, emotional, and irrational arguments presented by the secular humanists. If Judge Kavanaugh had not been appointed, then we would only have ourselves to blame! It’s not enough to simply take a position in an argument and watch from the sidelines. You have to get involved! Yeshua summed this up perfectly when He said, “He who is not with Me is against Me...” (Matt. 12:30).

Reference: Journal of Medical Ethics and History of Medicine: Is Past Life Regression Therapy Ethical?, By Gabriel Andrade (2017).



Offer
Thanks
Unto the Lord

II TIMOTHY 2:15

October 8th—Moment of Truth

We're Still Killing Babies. The Kavanaugh confirmation hearings—in case you really didn't know—were all about abortion. That's all it's ever been about with the Democrats in America. The mask has been ripped off their phony plea for social justice—showing their true disdain for actual justice. Do they really care about women, or are they just using them as a means to an end—an end which puts them back in power? Dr. Christine Ford was nothing more than a pawn in their chess game for control of the Congress. They've used the killing of 30 million women—half the abortions in America—under the guise of women's reproductive rights in order to feed their blood thirsty drive for domination.

Abortion is their vehicle of destruction—whether it's a baby's life or the life of our nation. They don't care about true justice. But I know someone who does. And He will mete out His justice firmly and quickly—and it just may be coming soon—because we're still killing babies. And that's an abomination in the eyes of the Lord.

October 15th—Moment of Truth

America's founders believed in a Supreme Deity—as they acknowledged a Creator in The Declaration of Independence.

Ben Franklin wrote, “Freedom is not a gift bestowed upon us by other men, but a right that belongs to us by the laws of God.” And that right cannot be taken away by the government if it comes from a power “higher” than the government. Yet that freedom is what is under attack by the Deep State—also known as the “permanent administrative state.”

In a recently released Project Veritas video, a GAO auditor identified himself as a communist member of the Democratic Socialists of America. He said a number of DSA people are federal employees who are part of the resistance who use their jobs to help advance their atheistic political agenda. In the process they are able to “slow down” and “mess up” any progress the Trump administration is attempting to make. Our nation will only move forward with the help of God, and if He is removed from our government, then the rights and freedoms based on that system will go with it.

Our mission through the broadcast of In Defense of Truth and the publication of The Defender newsletter is to earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints (Jude 3). Our vision today is just as strong as it was back in 1963 when Dr. John Dekker began this outreach. We pray that you will continue to stand with us as we hold true to God's holy Word.

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WRITE TO US!

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Upcoming Events!

If you are in or around the Baltimore area, we'd love to have you join us for these upcoming events!

Adult & Children's Sunday School	10:15 AM
Sunday Morning Worship & Children's Church	11:00 AM
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study	1:30 PM
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	7:00 PM
Friday Night Youth Group	7:00 PM
Thanksgiving Day Service	10:00 AM