

## Big Evidence from a Little Inscription

As many of you know, I have a great interest in biblical archaeology and try to keep up with current discoveries. Recently in a periodical called *Biblical Archaeological Review* a report was made of a discovery that will likely make liberal theologians change at least some of their views.

For several decades liberal theologians have claimed that Israel came out of Egypt about 1200 BC during the reign of Pharaoh Rameses (just like in the movie, "The Ten Commandments"). The problem is, however, that the Bible tells us that Israel came out of Egypt about 1450 BC (see 1 Kings 6:1 calculating from Solomon's reign; also consider Judges 11:26 and others).

Evidence already existed in what is known as the Merneptah Stele that mentions Israel in the 1200's BC as already an established power in the region of Canaan (aka. "the Levant"). Now a new Egyptian inscription (the image to the right) has been found dating to about 1400 BC, which also lists Israel as a military power over which Egypt had enjoyed some success.

The bottom line here is that this inscription demonstrates that Israel had already left Egypt, wandered in the wilderness, conquered Canaan, and left God to the point that God had allowed them to be punished by Egyptian victory. The Bible is always proven right historically; and if it is always historically correct, prophetically correct (and it is), and morally correct (and it clearly is), is it not also reasonable to believe that it is correct in things that we cannot so easily check (reports of miracles, teachings about spiritual reality, etc.)?

It's not a huge thing, but put together with the multitude of other evidences, the Christian can know that his faith is not a blind one, but an informed and carefully considered one — a faith more certain than any other in the world. So, "...Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life," (Revelation 2:10).



Park Linscomb

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I hope your new year has been a good one so far. For some of our congregation it has meant some sorrow and some scary moments. Please be praying for the Peacocks and the Potters in particular.

This Sunday morning's sermon will continue in the series of "Now and Later" (a study on what comes after this life). We'll be studying "Judgment" — it's a little scary, but don't you want to know?



Park Linscomb, our minister

Sunday evening in our congregation features small groups, which meet together mostly in homes, but one meets at the church building. If you don't have a place where you regularly go on Sunday evenings, let me encourage you to come to the building. We usually have a short devotional, complete with a communion service, if you weren't able to make the morning worship services. Afterward we enjoy a period of Bible study — currently the book of 1 Thessalonians.

# Our Family

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,  
just as in fact you are doing."  
1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV

## NOTE FROM THE ELDERS:

You never know when, where or how Jesus will speak to you. The question you have to ask yourself is will you be listening? Have a great week!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### January 9 Monday Night for the Master

6 pm dinner Ham and corn chowder, sandwich bar, and cobbler for dessert.

**January 15 New Adult Sunday school classes start.** "Christian Apologetics & Evidences" in the auditorium. The Ladies class will resume downstairs.

**January 15 Elder & Deacons Meeting**  
3:30

**January 15 Third Sunday Potluck 5pm**  
**Devo led by the Merrimack small group**

**January 21 Singing Small Group** at the Evans' 6pm dinner (rsvp) 7pm singing

**February 18 Deacons annual status presentations**

**February 18 Third Sunday Potluck**

## Menu for Jan 11

Meat loaf. Baked potatoes,  
Carrots, Broccoli,  
Dessert

## NEWS

**Congratulations** to Lindsay Allen on graduating from UNH Manchester in Communications & Business.

**Congratulations** to Serena (Scarlett) Briarhome on the birth of Alexander Orion Scarlett on Dec 30.

**Darlene Chamberlain** has started her virtual walk from Oregon to Alaska. (She is doing this by walking at work.) She plans to make it to Anchorage Alaska by 01/01/13

Christmas Cards & letters from Darby Coss and The Winsteads are on the foyer bulletin board.

**Please stop by and read them.**

**Did you know** that there are handouts for kids in the foyer by the bulletins? Crayons and coloring books are also available on the foyer shelves to the left of the window. **New phone (cell)** for Deniza Chase 603-591-3175

**New Address** for April Cetoute:

453 Maple St. #4

Manchester NH 03104

Same phone, cell, 820-0410

## OPPORTUNITIES to SERVE

**Visit those sick or shut in.**

**Cook for a Wednesday night supper.**

## The Pantry is in need of YOUR help.

We get a lot of requests this time of year so please bring donations of food (Place in boxes under coat rack.) Cash donations can be given to the Skerrys.

## PRAYER CONCERNS:

For the Peacock's. Stuart's mom died this morning.

Katie Paul: applied for new job at Disney (coordinator of ed with animals) Pray for an interview.

Gerry Millette: post retirement job

Mark Brown & his daughter

Mark's fiance, Jennifer, & her two girls

The Chase family: guardianship. Court date continued to March 1

Cory Roukey faith and guidance

Brenda, Lee's sister, Court/

grandchildren's custody

Gary Chase's job

Marie Abbott (job loss, needs insurance)

Bonnie Witham

Valentina Sanchez

Jerry Ellis Job needed.

Family of Fred McKinnon Lost everything in a house fire.

For the Glasses. Traveling to TX to visit family on Friday.

For Paul Mosier's mom traveling to be with her mother.

## Health:

Dwaine & Virginia Gray, Susie's dad had surgery yesterday to remove a tumor.

Tests show it was malignant & had metastasized. Keep them in prayer as they deal with this devastating news.

Dick Potter heart catheterization went well yesterday, Elliot

Jennifer, Mark's fiance She collapsed in the airport on her way home from visiting NH. Tests show she has carotid artery dissection. Pray they can treat it successfully.

Brian Glass swollen jaw & headaches still from beating

Pete Steffensen

Paul Mosier's grandmother (hospice)

Penny's brother continued healing from surgery

Leslie Davis' mom

Cathy, Marge Simon's niece, has cancer

For Larry, Linda C's co worker. Facing difficult cancer treatment decisions.

Barry Fogal

Manley Jones

Marge Simon

Eileen Wasserstrom

Aaron Abood

Dotti Carty (Beth King's mom)

Jean Cottrell, (Preston's mom starts radiation treatments in January)

Brittany Uchitjil (recovering from bone marrow transplant)

Darlene Chamberlain

John Matthew Davis surgery Jan 12

Gina Marcoux Johnston, brain tumor.

Laura (MS) & her brother (brain tumor)

Marie Levesque (job needed)

Jill Sullivan (heart attack)

Isabella (5yr old with cancer)

Heather for smooth pregnancy

Ansar Rana (brain tumor)

Cory Mixon (elbow to heal)

Geneva Baum's family

Matt (cancer)

Lennie Hooper has Wegner's Disease (attacks immune system) Dolores

Hooper breast cancer surgery

Diane Dunagan (cancer)

Alex, (foot pain) treatment in CA

Dana Greenlay (Back injury)

Barbara, Freda's daughter

Penny's dad. COPD & dementia

## THANKS

Brittany Uchitjil's platelet count is up to 135,000! (normal is 150,000-400,000) Asher Ellis doing well after tubes inserted in his ears.

Thank you card on bulletin board from a Thanksgiving basket recipient.

## TEENS

**Youth Rally Planning:** There will be two times that we will meet to discuss our youth rally this year. The first will be for parents and teens during the Bible class time (10-10:45) this coming Sunday morning (1/8/12) in the double classroom. For others in the congregation who are interested in volunteering or finding out more about the rally, we will have another shorter meeting next Sunday (1/15/12) in the double classroom during the refreshment break.

**FUSE:** This Saturday (1/7/12) from 2:00 - 5:00 pm. Place: TBA

**Feast/Famine Lunch:** Next Sunday (1/15/12). More details are located on the youth board.

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# A 12 STEP PROGRAM FOR SUNDAY MORNING STRESS

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“By the time I get to church, I don’t even want to be there.” These words spoken by my friend Vicki, came right from the heart. The mother of two young boys, Vicki was a dedicated Christian. Yet she no longer enjoyed attending worship services. Why do Vicki and so many other Christian women feel such burnout?

Like most mothers, Vicki had more on her than she could handle without feeling stress. Church attendance had become just another chore instead of a blessing, and she began to wish that she could simply stay home and avoid the additional stress that faithful attendance brought. As a mother of three, I also have felt the strain of trying to be faithful in a hectic world, and I have known the depressing feeling of not getting what I wanted and needed from the worship hour.

The guidelines here are offered to help you truly enjoy and benefit from worship services:

1. **PURPOSE IN YOUR HEART BEFOREHAND.** When Daniel was still a young man the Bible says that he purposed in his heart to serve God. If you wake up on Sunday asking yourself whether or not you will go to services this morning, you immediately create inner tension. Make up your mind now to be faithful to God, and end the questions and the stress for good.
2. **AVOID THE “I CAN DO IT ALL BY MYSELF” SYNDROME.** Like many of us, Vicki was trying to do it all by herself. If your Sunday mornings have become a test to see how much you can do and how quickly you can do it, then stop! Explain to your family what must be done, and give everyone a particular task. If your children are older, make it clear that they are responsible for themselves, which means they must find their own shoes and Bible. If your children are younger, enlist the aid of an older child or your spouse.
3. **PREPARE THE NIGHT BEFORE.** Take time Saturday night to straighten the house so that when you rise on Sunday morning, you only need to make beds. Place Bibles, coats etc. near the door, and have everyone pick out the clothes he or she intends to wear to services. This one thing alone will make your Sunday mornings smoother and more pleasant.
4. **PREPARE FOR BIBLE CLASS DURING THE WEEK.** No one looks forward to going into a class unprepared, so we tend to avoid this discomfort by not participating in class, being late for class, or simply not going to class at all. Whether you teach a class or are a student, being prepared will enhance your confidence — and confidence brings enjoyment and learning.
5. **GO TO BED EARLIER SATURDAY NIGHT.** Sunday should be the most important day of the week for Christians, but we cannot be in the best frame of mind for worship unless we are sufficiently rested. Enjoying services is difficult when you have stayed up too late the night before and you are tired, sleepy and grumpy.
6. **GET UP EARLIER SUNDAY MORNING.** Not only will you get more done, but you will have time to relax with a leisurely breakfast or cup of coffee before leaving for worship. Even a small amount of quiet, unrushed time in the morning is enough to erase any tension that may have begun to develop.
7. **SET A TIME TO LEAVE FOR CHURCH.** Make that time early enough to get to class at least 10 minutes early. (You do attend class, don’t you?!). When even the smallest children knows that 9:15 is when everyone leaves for services, she or he will be ready. Soon promptness will become a habit.
8. **LEAVE THE TOYS AT HOME.** This may sound like bad advice to young parents, but I have observed many children over the years. The children who are not allowed to play with toys during the service seem to be the best behaved, and their parents are the calmest. Parents who bring toys spend the entire service trying to keep their children from dropping, throwing or making noises with the toys. This is such a distraction that they harassed parents cannot hope to get anything out of the worship hour. Children who have always been taught to sit quietly during services will continue to do this naturally as they get older, thus allowing their parents the freedom to participate fully in the worship hour and insuring that the children will learn to participate in worship, too.
9. **BRING A FRIEND.** The more you share your faith, the more the worship services will mean to you. A casual attitude is nearly impossible when you know that a friend or relative may be visiting services that day. Likewise, the class or sermon will have more meaning, when one you love is perhaps hearing it for the first time.
10. **SIT CLOSE TO THE FRONT.** The back of the auditorium nearly always has more movement and noise. Sitting close to the front makes you feel more involved with the messenger and the message.
11. **HAVE A PLAN FOR SUNDAY DINNER.** Getting ready, preparing breakfast and starting a fancy dinner all at the same time is very difficult. End this stress by trying one of the super-simple, one-pan meals which can be popped in the oven so they will be hot and ready when you get home. You could also prepare your dinner Saturday night, budget to eat out, pick up dinner on the way home, or change the time of your meal.
12. **PRAY ABOUT YOUR CHRISTIAN GROWTH.** We should go to our Father for help and guidance in all things that concern us, and certainly having the proper enthusiasm for worship is of paramount importance to Christian growth. Some reasons for any problems you may now have could be revealed only through meditation and prayer.

These are just a few suggestions. Add your own to this list. Your enthusiasm can be renewed, and you will once again awake Sunday mornings with a feeling of joy and anticipation.

Cynthia K. Jones  
from *Christian Woman Magazine*

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Happy Birthday Linda Paul	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Happy Anniversary Walter & Marcia Franklin	9 <b>Monday Night for the Master 6pm dinner</b>	10	11	12 Happy Birthday Penny Ranger	13 Happy Birthday Priscilla Jones	14
15 <b>Third Sunday Potluck 5pm Devo</b> led by <b>Merrimack small group</b> <b>Elders &amp; Deacons meeting 3:30</b> New adult Sunday School class starts "Christian apologetics & evidences" Happy Birthday to Nicole Mosier & Tom Allen Happy Anniversary Heidi Huddleston & Greg DePerry	16	17	18	19 Happy Birthday Susie Peacock	20 Happy Birthday Colby Chaffin Happy Anniversary Doug & Linda Paul	21 <b>Singing Small Group</b> at Evans 6pm dinner rsvp 7pm singing Happy Birthday Aaron Abood
22	23 Happy Birthday Emilee Kerrins	24	25	26 Happy Birthday Jacob Devoe	27 Happy Birthday Dayne Dumas	28

8:30	WORSHIP LEADERS	11:00	<b>Stats</b> Sunday morning attendance:.....126 Sunday morning contribution.\$5566.63 Weekly budget.....\$3710.00 Pantry served 1 family this week.
Brandon Hombs	<b>Songs</b>	Gary Diaz	
Stuart Peacock	<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Rich Therrien	
James Cryan	<b>Scripture</b>	Rick Gordon	
Larry Glass	<b>Lord's supper</b>	Pete Steffensen	
Stuart Peacock	<b>Coordinator</b>	Ken Simon	
Eve: Mark Evans	<b>Songs</b>	Wed 11: Mark Evans	

**The Manchester church of Christ**

603.623.5559 [mht\\_church@comcast.net](mailto:mht_church@comcast.net)

**Elders' Link: January**

Lee Davis 547-8876 [leeadavis73@comcast.net](mailto:leeadavis73@comcast.net)

Larry Glass 887-1741 [larrycalling@yahoo.com](mailto:larrycalling@yahoo.com)

If you have any concerns that the elders should be aware of, or need to speak with them, please contact Larry or Lee this month.

**Deacons**

Finance: Tony Casella

Small Groups: Stuart Peacock

Education: Doug Paul

Maintenance: Peter Steffensen

**Our Worship Services**

Sunday AM: 8:30 & 11:00

Bible Class: 10:00

Sunday PM: 6:00

Small Groups:

West Side: 5PM at Doug Paul's house

Merrimack: 5:30PM, contact Stuart Peacock

Wednesday PM Devotional/Bible Classes: 7:00

Contact David Skerry with Benevolence/Pantry needs.