

"Do I not fill the heaven and earth?" Saith the Lord" (Jeremiah 23:24). Yes, God can dwell in both places, and many more.

Concerning the execution of Christ, John records the words of Jesus' enemies. In one passage, they say, "We have a law, and by our law he ought to die" (John 19:7). But just a bit earlier, they are recorded as saying, "It is not lawful for us to put any man to death" (John 18:31). Another contradiction! How could the same people say both things? They could easily do so if they were talking about two different laws, which they were. The first law they are referring to is the law of Moses. They considered Jesus a blasphemer which was a sin for which the Law of Moses

prescribed death. However, Judah was not an independent nation at the time Jesus was crucified. By Roman law, the Chief Priests did not have the authority to execute those they deemed as criminals. For this reason, they had to secure the Roman governor's permission, which they did. Once Pilate granted the permission, the roadblock of civil law was overcome and Jesus was crucified.

There are others, but you get the picture. Rather flimsy, weren't they? How sad that so many have heard that there are some "discrepancies" in the Bible, and use that as an excuse not to believe, but never take the time to investigate the charge. One must not let Satan win the victory so easily. Examine the Scriptures

daily! (Acts 17:11) ~



# NAVARRE MESSENGER

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## The Power of Prayer

I had a car accident. It was minor, but it was my fault. It wrecked my whole week. It was all I could think about. Until my daughter had to get three stitches in her upper lip after a close encounter with a sea-saw. She became my world at that mo-



ment. Staying in touch with people is critical when critical times come. We keep them informed, we update them on any progress, we let them know what we are feeling. But we must not forget the superior form of communication, one where there is no limit on the number of minutes used, no access fees or connections charges. It is a free access to God that man has enjoyed from the beginning. Long before there were cell phones, email, and the combination thereof, there was prayer.

Until the next morning when we got the call about Teena Harris. Her father, Glenn, had just finished teaching a class on the Miracles of Jesus. "We could use one right now," he said in the somber, subdued waiting room.

ing right or one of the appliances needs to be replaced, you are shocked out of selfishness by something that has real value. In a moment, all of the trivial things that seemed important at the time are thrown aside so that your mind and heart can give full attention to the matter at hand.

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Life has a way of reminding you of what is truly important. Just when you have fretted over the fact that your team didn't win the big game or your car is not work-

Since life is so uncertain and can change so quickly, it is also a subtle reminder that you have little control over what happens.

What is it about prayer that it can lift the heaviest of loads?

Prayer reassures us that the Lord

We meet on James M Harvell Rd next to the public library in Navarre. Call for directions and more information (850) 939-8109



### Assembly Schedule Sunday

Bible Class for all ages \_\_\_ 9:00 AM  
Morning Worship Service \_\_\_ 10:00 AM  
Evening Worship Service \_\_\_ 6:00 PM  
Wednesday  
Bible Class for all ages \_\_\_ 7:00 PM

### VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

If you know of someone who would like to receive this publication, please let us know.

For a free Bible correspondence course by mail, call us.

Navarre church of Christ  
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Navarre, FL 32566

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is listening. David prayed, "Hear the voice of my supplications when I cry to Thee for help, when I lift up my hands toward Thy holy sanctuary" (Psa. 28:2). Like a little child who raises his hands to be picked up by his father, David was certain that the petitions he was raising were being heard by his Father in heaven. But David was not the only one who had the ear of God.

The Father was listening to all the prayers offered in all the assemblies of His children today. He was listening to all of the families who bowed and "returned thanks" around their dinner tables. He heard every cry from every waiting room, emergency room, and back bedroom. How incredible to think that He who created all the world cares about what's going on in mine. Our Lord listens.

Prayer reminds us that God can handle what is out of our hands. Psalm 28 was David's call for help. But he did not strap on his armor and attempt to fight his enemies on his own. The Lord had delivered him from the paw of the lion and bear that threatened his sheep. The Lord brought him a victory over Goliath. The Lord's power would prevail over the enemies of His anointed. "The Lord is my strength and my shield," David confessed (Psa. 28:7). No other weaponry was necessary.

There will be occasions when our safety is threatened by the seemingly impossible, a situation that makes us admit, "I can't do anything about it." But God can. No

matter how scary the lion or bear, no matter how tall the giant, no matter how many the enemy, no matter how bleak the diagnosis, no matter how great the difficulty. This is still our Father's world. Trust in His strength to control what you cannot.

Prayer enables our hearts to hold nothing back. In his cry for deliverance from his enemies, David pleaded for the Lord to "requite them according to their work and according to the evil of their practices" and "according to the deeds of their hands" (Psa. 28:4). He was not calling for personal vengeance, but for the Lord to punish those who did not honor His work or His will. In any case, David did not hide the most intimate feelings of his heart.

God wants to hear from His people, but He is not interested in the mere repetition of meaningless phrases that do not originate from the heart. He wants us to pour out our cares before His throne, to make all our "wants and wishes known." He will never betray our confidence; our faith in Him will never be disappointed. When David did that, he could boast, "my heart trusts in Him, and I am helped" (28:7). Perhaps our help has not come because we are still withholding from Him from Whom nothing is hidden.

I never know what to say to someone in the wake of a disaster. But I've learned that it's not as important what you say at those times, but Who you say them to. ~

**Bubba Garner**

### Just in case you're interested...

The Navarre church of Christ offers free Bible studies by mail. Call 939-8109

### And just so you'll know...

All of our Navarre Messenger issues are available online at

[Navarrechurchofchrist.net](http://Navarrechurchofchrist.net)

Recordings of most of the sermons delivered at our assemblies are available on CD by request, and some may also be found on the above website.

### Here's something else of interest...

On Sunday nights at 6pm we are presenting a series called *Rightly Dividing* which is intended to give a complete overview of the Bible and its natural divisions. Ever wonder why there is an Old Testament and a New Testament in your Bible?

# What About All Those Mistakes In The Bible?



It is quite amazing to me that a common complaint made about the Bible is that it has so many contradictions and mistakes.

It is not surprising that such a charge would be made by some unbelieving scholar who will investigate the Bible's pages and turn logic on its ear in order to force a mistake into it here and there. The surprising part is that so many will use such alleged mistakes as an excuse not to obey its teachings, but when asked for an example simply do not have a single one.

Most want you to think that they have made a careful examina-

tion, and only after months of painstaking search have reluctantly come to the conclusion that the Bible is not reliable because of all the mistakes they have found. But when asked to show one, it is quickly apparent that no such examination has taken place, no specific error is in mind, and it is all an excuse. "Oh, I just heard that mistakes are in there...."

But what of the "scholar" who has investigated and does have a list of contradictions? Well, each alleged mistake has to be treated individually. We have to consider whether it has merit, or

is just an unfair attack on the Bible by an unbeliever who is either ignorant or malicious.

I have several books in my library that deal with such matters. If it were not so serious a matter, some of these "mistakes" would be funny. For example, a passage which says God dwells in heaven (Psalm 123:1) and another which says He dwells in Zion (the mount upon which the temple was built in Jerusalem) (Psalm 9:11). He can't dwell at both places, can He? Contradiction! But only if one ignores the omnipresence of God, a characteristic that is taught throughout the Bible.