

Mexican Lights

Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you took me in. Naked and ye clothed me; I was sick and ye visited me: I was in prison and ye came unto me. (Matt. 25:34-36)

There is so much suffering in this world, so many who need extra help to experience some good in life. Reflecting God's compassion as disciples of Christ, we support many charities through our donations. Helping orphans saddled with the AIDS virus, providing a helping hand to those seeking Christ in Bangladesh, and reaching out to offer comfort and guidance to young expectant single mothers shouldering the heavy burden of pregnancy alone, are some of the charities the West Valley Church of God supports.

Recently, another very compassionate charity was added to our list. 'Commission to Every Nation' does many things. One branch supports a team of medical experts volunteering their time to help the poorest of the poor in Mexico. Free medical treatment, dental care, free reading glasses and just love and kindness shared with rural mountain villagers who lack the resources and facilities we take for granted.

Recently Susan Thompson volunteered to share her time and expertise on a trip to southern Mexico to help a team provide this assistance. Organized by Dr. Alberto Zamacona, a native Californian who attended medical school in Mexico, 16 team members ranging from dentists, to nurses, to even a well-known muralist, traveled to three remote mountain villages above Oaxaca City. Over 160 patients were seen and given medical assistance, as well as many others who received dental treatments such as extractions, fillings and cleanings.



Many pairs of reading glasses were also given to those who needed help with close tasks such as reading and sewing. The local church received a pastoral mural painted on its front wall as a highlight.

To the Left is a picture of Susan and the group with the mural in the background. A good time was had by all, especially those relieved of a toothache! It is an excellent example even in this

small corner, of serving those less fortunate than us. Many thanks to the congregation for your support and please pray that this effort is blessed and Susan's annual travels are safe.

The Vine

"I am the Vine, you are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without me you can do nothing."
John 15:5

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West Valley Church of God -- "Come worship with us..."

Submissions: TheVineEditor@aol.com

We meet at the Congregational Church of Northridge
9659 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91325

Saturday Service 10:30 A.M. - www.westvalleywgc.org

Prophecy is Designed ...

PROPHECY IS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE HOLINESS

The greatest purpose of the prophetic Word, as designed by God, is the pursuit of holiness by His people. This is everywhere evident in one prophetic passage after another. Check all the passages dealing with the return of the Lord and you will find that, almost without exception, our Lord's return is used as a basis for an exhortation to godliness. This includes living as aliens in His service, living for heavenly treasure, and finding comfort in the midst of suffering and

persecution through the assurance of Christ's return.

Some illustrations:

Philippians 3:15-21 Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you; 16 however, let us keep living by that same standard to which we have attained. 17 Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us. 18 For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ, 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

Upcoming Events

- Bible Studies, Letters and other Events...see Weekly Bulletin and Bulletin Board.

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Prophecy is Designed... (cont.)

keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory. 5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

1 John 2:28-3:3 And now, little children, abide in Him, so that when He appears, we may have confidence and not shrink away from Him in shame at His coming. 29 If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him. 1 See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. 2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Titus 2:9-15 Urge bondslaves to be subject to their own masters in everything, to be well-pleasing, not argumentative, 10 not

pilfering, but showing all good faith that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in every respect. 11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, 12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus; 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds. 15 These things speak and exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one disregard you.

1 Peter 1:13-17 Therefore, gird your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 14 As obedient children, do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance, 15 but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; 16 because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." 17 And if you address as Father the One who impartially judges according to each man's work, conduct yourselves in fear during the time of your stay upon earth;

As we see how prophecy has been fulfilled, as we see it being fulfilled, as we contemplate the fulfillment of future events and their ramifications, and as we remember and live in the light of the coming Judgment (Bema)



Seat of Christ, prophecy should have a special message and appeal for us to live now in the light of the sure and blessed hope of the future.

~~~Bible.org "Study in Revelation"



## Fireworks!!

I found on youtube a program that shows what happens when the sperm and egg unite – FIREWORKS! Researchers have actually caught this on film, it is something special to see. Flashes of light are emitted when life is conceived just like it says in Genesis 1. God is light and the idea that we are created with light is really amazing. God is the light of the world and actually designed life to begin with light. He is incredible!! If you think about the lights in the sky (sun, moon and stars) and then realize that life begins with light you realize you are not the result of random chance – you are so special that when you were created FIREWORKS went off!

~~~ Lil Dratler

Copy direct to browser:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3VExsglclck>

Psalms:127:3: Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.
Psalms:139:13: For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.

Isa:44:24: Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself;

Jer:1:5: Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Stop and Stare

By W H Davies



What is this life if, full of care,
 We have no time to stand and stare.
 No time to stand beneath the boughs
 And stare as long as sheep or cows.
 No time to see, when woods we pass
 Where squirrels hide their nuts in grass.
 No time to see, in broad daylight
 Streams full of stars, like stars at night.
 No time to turn at Beauty's glance,
 And watch her feet how they can dance.
 No time to wait till her mouth can
 Enrich that smile her eyes began
 A poor life this if, full of care
 We have no time to stand and stare.