GO THE BENEDICTION

11/18/05

Circumcision (Romans 2:28-29)

Back then circumcision was of the foreskin so that one's protection was not by flaunting the relationship as was common with covenants among men.

It remains an intimate thing--known only between God and his man, hidden from others except for the blessing.

Woman knows only superficially at first, then through true knowing.

Joshua 5:7-12 (KJV) And their children, whom he raised up in their stead, them Joshua circumcised: for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them by the way. {8} And it came to pass, when they had done circumcising all the people, that they abode in their places in the camp, till they were whole. {9} And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day have I rolled away the reproach of Egypt from off you. Wherefore the name of the place is called Gilgal unto this day. {10} And the children of Israel encamped in Gilgal, and kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the month at even in the plains of Jericho. {11} And they did eat of the old corn of the land on the morrow after the passover, unleavened cakes, and parched corn in the selfsame day. {12} And the manna ceased on the morrow after they had eaten of the old corn of the land; neither had the children of Israel manna any more; but they did eat of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year.

Animals (2 Samuel 6:12-15)

No "Thank You's", only taking and using, scurrying around with little care for others, thinking themselves responsible for their blessings, using the blessing of speech for self-glorification.

Catering to appearances; nothing unseemly, no praise amidst the congregation, no dance--so unlike David.

The Clutter (Hebrews 12:1)

Halting about with head down to avoid relics of efforts past, now impeding and serving to thwart progress in a confirmed direction. Having formerly looked down for shame, eyes must now avoid the

clutter.

The Deal (Matthew 6:32-33)

Let me understand this: I'll look after Your business and You'll look after me? Sounds good to me.

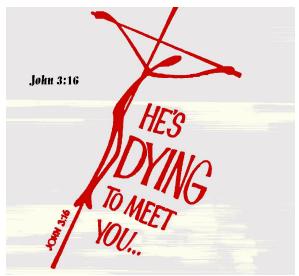
Elect (2 Chronicles 7:14)

As political parties trot out their "men of God" to do battle, parroting their line without regard for God's word, we notice how unbecoming of a people who have only to turn to God to be truly empowered.

The Library (2 Timothy 3:16 -17)

This month our book club stops at the book of Judges. The Hebrew title is Shophetim, meaning to judge, discern, direct, rule, deliver, guide or save. The book covers a period of 335 years after the death of Joshua, during a time when the children of Israel did not know God or His works and fell into personal idolatry. During this period Israel went through seven distinct cycles of sin to salvation; being delivered by God through the hand of one of seventeen judges when they repented and called to Him. Judges ends with the statement, "In those days there was no king in Israel and every man did what was right in his own eyes." Read through Judges this month and see what God reveals to you.

"Whatever you would receive from God, I Am is the way you get it." (John 14:1-7) Pastor John A. Cherry, Full Gospel A.M.E. Zion Church Temple Hills, MD 06/13/94



He's patient--He has all the time in the world. But you don't. So why wait?

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