



# Prime Timer's Newsletter

Mission Statement: Provide opportunities for the senior members to be involved in the fellowship, service and evangelism activities of Meadow view, assisting the congregation in its outreach and growth.

Volume 9 Issue 2

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## God Honors Righteousness

**Bible thought: "Do not conform any longer to this pattern of the world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Romans 12:2, NIV).**

As a boy raised in a devout Christian family, I was thrilled to hear stories of the Bible. Few captured my imagination more than the one of Noah and the ark.

Noah faced a godless world. Do you despair over the disregard for God, spiritual values, justice, morality, peace, and mutual respect in our culture?

The sobering news is that God does hold people accountable for their sinful choices. There will not be another universal flood, God promised Noah, but rejections of God and immorality in lifestyle will have natural consequences of punishment (Romans 1:18-32).

Great news is drawn from the story of Noah as well as from numerous other biblical narratives and teachings: God always recognized and honors righteousness wherever He finds it. Noah and his entire family found favor with God.

No matter how sinful one's society or culture, "God does not show favoritism, but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right" (Acts 10:34-35).

-Perry C. Cotham  
Brentwood, TN



## I Saw the Lord

Throwing rocks is a reasonable pastime for a Bedouin shepherd whose day is spent watching goats scrounge the desert hillsides searching for sprigs of grass. Rocks are plentiful where the Judean hills rise up with eyesight of the barren Dead Sea shoreline.

We've all heard the story of how the shepherd heard the clinking of the earthen jar he broke as he threw rocks into the cave just above Qumran. When he investigated, he found ancient scrolls hidden there for safekeeping 2,000 years ago as the Roman army was invading.

Among the seven original Dead Sea scrolls found, the most significant is the "Great Scroll" of Isaiah. It contains all 66 chapters, with only bits and pieces missing. Discovery of the scrolls (and there were more caves and scrolls) is often considered the greatest archaeological discovery of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

This copy of Isaiah's prophecy is now housed in the Shrine of the Book Museum in Jerusalem, along with the other scrolls. Four decades ago, I saw it there. After all these years, the sense of awe remains.

Recently, I "virtually" unrolled the scroll and saw the Hebrew sentences neatly arranged in columns. Fortunately, Isaiah's words are translated

into sever modern languages, including the one I can read. With a few mouse clicks, any of us can now access this scroll, photographed from the original with over 200 times the resolution of consumer cameras.

I scrolled to Chapter 40: "Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith you G-d." This is a Jewish translation, and they build in protection against pronouncing the name of God, lest they speak it in vain. They do not pronounce G-d, whose Hebrew name in English is YHWH (or Yahweh, but the biblical Hebrew was written with consonants only – no vowels).

We had the book of Isaiah in our Bibles before that shepherd threw his rock. It's wonderful, though, to have that ancient copy, which is about a thousand years older than other manuscripts of the Hebrew Bible and validates what we've had all along. And we respect our Jewish friends for being concerned about using the Lord's name in vain.

And we thank Him for the blessing of His word.

By John Comer  
"The Christian Appeal" magazine (Jan 2012)

**March Activities:**

**Rapha International / Healing Hands: Thursday the 8th @ 9:00 a.m.**

Meet at the building at 8:45 a.m., leave at 9:00 a.m.

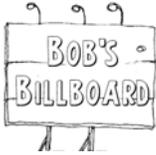
**Steering Committee Meeting: March 19th @ 2:00 p.m.**

**Sweet Shop USA Day Trip: March 22nd**

Meet at the building at 8:15 a.m., leave at 8:30 a.m.

Cost is \$5.00 for lunch

Sign up at the information desk



**Appreciation:**

Some people make a great fuss over a comet in the sky or a total eclipse, but never notice a sunset.

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