



Campus Chronicles

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The Strength that Comes with a Positive Outlook, by Andrew Guthrie

Proverbs 17:22 says, “A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones.” This brings up an interesting point: the way we think can determine the outcome of a situation. For example, when we are faced with an illness, if we feel as if we are not going to recover quickly, the illness will last longer. As philosopher Rene Descartes once said, “I think, therefore, I am.” This can be applied to our Christian walk as well. If we set our minds on a negative outlook and tell ourselves that this is the way it’s supposed to be, we tell God that we don’t want Him to work because we assume the outcome. If we have a positive outlook and let God work in our lives, we will see how much more quickly we recover from the illness.

Another example: if we are going through a

tough situation, we tend to think of the worst possibilities. If we continually focus on those negative situations, we will fill our thoughts and hearts so much that there is no longer room for the reassuring thoughts that God gives. He gives us thoughts and words of encouragement and then we see Him work in our lives. When we see the best possibilities along with God’s reassuring words, we accept the possibilities that may not be what we expect. Since we are reassured of God’s greatness, we rest in His joy. We see all possibilities and can then let go of our negative thoughts for the possible outcome. When we have a positive outlook, we can embrace a positive outcome.

URGENT HOUSEKEEPING NOTICE: There is to be NO FOOD or DRINK, other than water, in any on-Campus areas. The only exclusions are Trinity Café and the Faculty offices. We are here at the largess of Trinity Life Church and wish to be good tenants. In addition, please limit your access at the facility outside of classtime to the library, the student lounge, and Trinity Café.

I Am Because Christ Is, by Andrew Johnson

...for all things in heaven and on earth were created by him— all things, whether visible or invisible, whether thrones or dominions, whether principalities or powers— all things were created through him and for him.
Colossians 1:16 NET



The question of “being”

and “reality” has been the main problem philosophers have wrestled with throughout the history. When Paul spoke to the philosophers in Athens, he gave them the answer to this quandary. God created the world and everything in it. God made, from one man, all the nations of the world, and He determined their times and boundaries. It is God who gives mankind life, breath, and everything. Quoting one of their poets, Paul made this statement, “*In him we live and move and have our being*” (Acts 17:28).

Parmenides, a pre-Socratic philosopher, is known for saying, “What is, is.” We may take this statement further and say, “What is, is *because* God is.” In Col 1:16 Paul unfolds reality further still: “*all things* in heaven and on earth were *created by him* [i.e. Christ].” What is, is because it was created by Christ. We may recall the words of John’s prologue: “All things were created by him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created. In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind” (John 1:3-4 NET). Reality, the apostles testify, is grounded in God. Reality must be, by God’s design, comprehended in Christ, “in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge” (Col 2:3 ESV).

Paul’s purpose in Colossians is to orient Christian thought towards this comprehension. All things, whether *visible or invisible*, whether *thrones or dominions*, whether *principalities or powers*: all things were created *through* Christ and *for* Christ. Paul’s list is purposeful. First, it is meant to convey exhaustively that Christ is the creator of everything. Second, it follows from the first point that Christ is before and above all *thrones, dominions, principalities, or powers*. The occasion for Paul’s letter to the Colossians was the intrusion of a heresy that portrayed Christ as merely an emanation of deity, just another principality. Paul’s rebuttal is loud and clear: *all* principalities and powers—visible or invisible—were *created by Him and for Him!*

Whatever exists, whatever is real, is because God is. Whatever exists, whatever is real, is because it was created by Christ and for Christ. Whatever exists, whatever is real, is to be comprehended in Christ. He is the beginning of reality, He upholds reality, and He is the end—the goal, the purpose—of reality.

The Matchmaker, A Play by Thornton Wilder is at T.H.E. Actors’ Workshop & Integral Theater in Folsom Thursdays – Sundays, now through November 7th. Thursday – Saturday performances are at 8:00 PM with Sunday matinees at 4:00 PM. Audiences of all ages will enjoy this comedy: the basis for the musical “Hello Dolly.” For more information, and to order tickets on line, go to www.actorsworkshop.net.

Love is the Key, by Paulina Quesada

The impact of God's blessing upon our school has produced a tremendous growth in enrollment: 80% over the last 4 years. We have outgrown our current facility and looking for a new place to allow for continued growth. In all honesty, many of us are unsure of what exactly is going on with the campus, what with classroom changes, and all. The multiple changes have been the result of growing pains, and the staff has worked diligently to balance student needs with facility adjustments. Our time here is a privilege and an honor and should never be taken for granted. God cares about our school: each student, and every faculty member. Our faculty and staff are doing everything possible to make the transition smooth.

Several times over the past few months, I have heard many of fellow students speak out against our faculty and our school. We do not have the right to be judgmental towards our beloved school. There is a difference between viper-tongued gossip and honestly trying to resolve a problem. Here at EPIC, we are part of a family. Words that proceed out of our mouths have the potential to encourage, or to hurt, and offend. Anger and frustration are not excuses for speaking negatively. Remember, God sees and hears everything!

The Bible says, my dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, (James 1:19.) If you are feeling an overwhelming sense of frustration, take a moment to listen before responding. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you keep your emotions in check and ask Him if you have inadvertently expressed distaste for our temporary situation. Ask yourself, are the words you speak coming from a heart of love, or one of selfishness? *Proverbs 18:21 says, "Your tongue has the power of life and death. Those who love to talk will eat the fruit of their words."* Be certain that you speak without malice and without intending to invoke anger or negative emotions in a situation.

As Bible college students and Christians, we have the potential and responsibility to shift the atmosphere by understanding the value of our words using wisdom. Positive and effective communication with those you come in contact starts with you! **I feel in my Spirit that the Lord is saying to choose your words wisely and walk in love at all times and considering another person's feelings before speaking for this is a sign of spiritual growth and maturity of a Christian.** Instead of complaining and gossiping, we should walk in a Spirit of humility and be praying for our school and faculty. When you have the love of God and His Word on the inside of you, it will show in your attitude and behavior toward others, particularly in the use of your words.

Meditate on scripture, so that when you face challenging situations with others, you can rely on the Spirit of God to guide your speech and your choice of words. That way, you have every opportunity to respond in love, with words that please our Lord. I encourage you to communicate in love and watch the change happen; you will see and feel a difference right away. You are not without assistance. God is there to help you master your words. Make the most of your conversations with others, and keep your heart pure. Remember, love is the key to kingdom living.

Note from the Editor: *If you have a problem with a staff or faculty member that cannot be resolved one-on-one, EPIC has a grievance policy, as stated in your Student Handbook. Your Academic Advisors [including the Dean of Men, Terry Oakley, and Dean of Women, Tana Colburn] are also available if a formal grievance is not appropriate, or if you just wish to talk. We are here for you and supporting you 100%.*

Passover, Part 2, by Jordan Hulog

There is a multi-faceted demonstration of God's power seen in the Passover (past, present, and future) event. To the ancient Israelites, the feast represented a very tangible interaction with God, whereby his angel of death spared all of those whose dwellings were covered with lamb's blood. "In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness" (Heb. 9:22). In the past, Passover (Pesach) was actually one of God's prescribed methods for obtaining forgiveness. That is, when Israel kept the feast, the virtual "blood bath" that took place as a result of every family offering a sacrifice was sure to remind them of how they were once slaves in Egypt and the severity of God's requital against sin. In the present and future, the Passover lamb has been revealed in Christ. The blood of bulls and goats no longer suffices. There are certain elements of Passover that are quite conspicuous. Perhaps no greater theme runs through the entire Pesach season than repentance.

There is, in turn, no element that is so closely associated with repentance as water. When God destroyed the earth because of iniquity (except for Noah and his family) God's method was to send a flood. Whenever a person entered the temple they first had to immerse themselves in water. John's baptism was one of repentance by water. Immediately surrounding the week of the Passover and crucifixion, we see water mentioned several times. The first is Mark 14:13-14 where Yeshua tells his disciples that a man carrying a pitcher of water designates the place where they should prepare the Passover. The second is when Yeshua demonstrates true servanthood and

washes the disciples' feet. The third is when Pilate symbolically washes his hands of the guilt of Yeshua's execution. The last is in John 19:34, when the Roman soldier pierces Yeshua's side and blood and water flow out. There is no historical connection between Passover and water, but the symbolic correlation is interesting nonetheless. With Passover, the emphasis is on repentance.

In Matthew 26:2, Yeshua clearly states that in two days Passover is to occur and that he would be crucified. Matthew 26:3-5 and Mark 14:1-2 show that the chief priests and scribes sought to kill Yeshua. These passages are sure to mention that the religious leaders wished not to do it during the feast so that the people would not become riotous.

There is a similarity between Yeshua instituting the cup and bread of the new covenant and Abraham's offering to Melchizedek of bread and wine. There is also a similarity between the hyssop branch the Roman soldier put the vinegar sponge upon and the hyssop branch that Moses used to sprinkle blood on the Israelites. Even Yeshua's triumphal entry fits into the biblical calendar of when each Jewish family was supposed to take an unblemished lamb for the sacrifice of sins. Lastly, Yeshua is our Passover lamb because he died on Passover and redeems us from our sin by his own blood. The blood sacrifice practice of ancient Israel was designed as a powerful foreshadowing of the Ultimate Sacrifice found in Yeshua, the Son in the Triune Godhead, Messiah: Jesus the Christ.



Winter Quarter Registration

--for new and returning students is now open. Invite your friends and family to check out your favorite Bible College, and learn more about the EPIC way of training.

Prospective students can contact the office at 916-348-4689 for more information or sit in on a class and chapel with you—to learn first hand how to make an EPIC difference in their world.

This Week in Church History with Pastor Charlie

October 17

1483: Pope Sixtus IV launched the Spanish Inquisition, appointing the Dominican friar Tomas de Torquemada as the "Grand Inquisitor" in charge of removing Jews and Muslims from Spain if they would not convert to Christianity, and investigating Christians suspected of heresy (often under severe torture).

October 18

1662: Birthdate of Matthew Henry, the English Presbyterian pastor who, 300 years ago, wrote one of the greatest devotional commentaries on the entire Bible -- and it's still in print!

1685: King Louis XIV of France revoked the 87-year-old *Edict of Nantes*, which had permitted French Protestants religious tolerance. With Protestantism now illegal, the massive exodus of Protestants from France drained the industrial economy and probably hastened the French Revolution.

October 19

1562: Birthdate of George Abbot, the Archbishop of Canterbury, a leader of the translation of the 1611 King James Version of the Bible.

1849: Elizabeth Blackwell became the first American woman to receive a medical degree.

1868: Birthdate of Bertha Landes, who in 1926 became the first woman to be elected mayor of a major US city (Seattle).

October 20

1828: Birthdate of American lawyer Horatio Gates Spafford. In 1873, upon learning of the drowning of his four daughters following a ship collision in the Atlantic, Spafford wrote the great hymn, "*It is Well With My Soul*."

1906: Doctor Lee DeForest demonstrated his new invention: the radio tube, a key development in electronics and for the development of radio transmission.

October 21

2137 BC: Astronomers in China wrote down the first recorded observation of a total eclipse of the sun.

1751: The first Baptist association in the American South was organized at Charleston, South Carolina, by Pastor Oliver Hart.

1808: Birth of American Baptist clergyman Samuel Francis Smith. Credited with writing over 100 hymns, Smith is best remembered as the author of "*America*" ("*My Country, 'Tis of Thee*"), written at age 23, while a student at Andover Seminary.

1970: In Korea, the cult leader Reverend Moon presided over the marriage of 777 Unification Church couples he had paired together. (Many of the newlyweds had never met before the wedding.)

October 22

451: During the Fifth Session of the Council of Chalcedon, the final form of the *Chalcedonian Creed* was drafted. It became the Early Church's highest and most enduring definition of the person and work of Jesus Christ.

1844: When this latest date, set for the return of Christ by religious leader William Miller, passed without event, the "Great Disappointment" began. Over 100,000 disillusioned followers returned to their former churches, or abandoned the Christian faith altogether. (Miller was one of the originators of the Seventh Day Adventists.)

1899: American Presbyterian missionary James B. Rodgers baptized his first Filipino converts, marking the beginning of Philippine Protestant churches.

1952: The complete Jewish *Torah* was published in English for the first time. A collection of oral and written commentary (dating 200 BC to AD 500) on the first five books of the Old Testament, the *Torah* comprises the basic religious code of Judaism.

1962: President Kennedy imposed a naval blockade on Cuba, beginning the "Cuban Missile Crisis" showdown with the Soviet Union. The earth was never closer to worldwide thermonuclear war than during the next twelve days.

October 23

4004 BC: According to the sacred timeline worked out by Irish Archbishop James Ussher in 1654, God created "the heavens and the earth" on this date at 9:00 a.m. (GMT).

1915: 25,000 women marched in New York City, demanding right to vote. (The 19th Amendment giving women the vote was ratified in 1920.)



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Field Ministry Reports are now due. Turn them in to your Academic Advisor.

Job Opening for Children's Ministry Director

Life Pointe Church in Woodland is seeking a Children's Ministry Director to organize and operate an on-going and growing children ministry, including the summer VBS program. This is part-time with a variable schedule and hours may increase as work demands, and with approval of Sr. Pastor. Pay will be based on experience, education, plus number of work hours, and mileage.

Send resumes to: pastortom@lifepointenow.net Or to: Life Pointe Church, c/o Pastor Tom, 1616 West Street, Woodland, CA 95695

Keyboard Player Needed

Pastor Mike and Mayhew Community Baptist Church are looking for an accomplished keyboard player on a temporary basis. Please call 530-736-6644 for more information.

Internship Opportunity

Skyline Christian Center is looking for an intern to oversee a small Children's Department. To investigate further, contact Sherie Bluemel @916-300-2035 or sbluemel@sbcglobal.net

MEXICO MISSION TRIP - EXPEDITION: BAJA - November 14-20, 2010

This trip is being coordinated through StudentReach. Participants will get an equal mix of hard work, enrichment and fun during this StudentReach expedition. The Baja mission will involve building houses for needy families who are among the poorest of the poor, community clean-up and working with orphanages in the area. Throughout the week we will also have leadership and team building lessons. During our free time, activities will include going to the beach, hiking and campground fun. The cost is \$350 from the San Diego International Airport. Contact Pastor Hus here at EPIC for more information.

LIBRARY COMPUTERS are reserved for use by prospective students on October 19. Please be ready and willing to make a computer available for our guests when necessary. Thank you!