

## Light and Life

## Anna the Prophetess

“There was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. Coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem” (Lk. 2:36-38).

Anna had not enjoyed a particularly easy life. She had endured tragedy when her husband died just seven years into their marriage – and she had never remarried. Widows in that society had it rough as they were virtually guaranteed to live in poverty. Anna endured these conditions into her old age.

Even in her difficulty, Anna’s zeal for God still burned hot! She remained at the Temple and filled her days and nights with service to God. She was consumed with fasting and prayer – a combination which indicates true spiritual devotion. She was so caught up in spiritual food, she paid no attention to the physical! There can be no doubt that some of her prayers would have focused on the “Consolation of Israel” (Lk. 2:25). God blessed her with many difficult years so that she could be a witness to the Messiah in the flesh!

Finding Jesus, she thanked God and “spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption” (Lk. 2:38). The verb tense here indicates continuing action. Eighty-four-year-old Anna *continually* spoke of Jesus to everyone who looked for the Redeemer! It is unlikely that Anna lived to see the wonders Jesus would work on earth, but she caught this glimpse of Him as an infant. And this glimpse was enough for her to never stop talking about Messiah.

Like Anna, let us continually speak of Jesus to all who look for redemption!

- Sam Bunyard

## Another Perspective

## The Definition of Science

Today we often hear statements like, “Science disproves creation.” Whenever we hear such claims, the first thing we should ask is, “What do you mean by science?” When most people think of the word “science,” they may think of technology, yet secularists also equate the word “science” with molecules-to-man evolution and millions of years.

To help sort out the confusion, there needs to be an understanding that we can divide science into two categories. 1) **Operational** (or observational) **science**. This refers to knowledge gained by direct observation (using the five senses) and based on repeatable testing. 2) **Historical science**. This refers to knowledge about the past – in essence, history. This type of science cannot be observed directly or based on repeated testing.

The Bible is God’s book of historical science, as it is primarily a book of history. And where it touches on biology, geology, astronomy, anthropology, etc., it is totally accurate. Thus, the battle between creation and evolution (the Genesis account versus man’s account of origins) is really a battle over historical science. The role of operational (or observational) science is that it can be used to confirm or refute one’s historical science.

Observational science (in geology, biology, astronomy, anthropology, etc.) confirms the account of origins in Genesis and refutes the evolutionary account. Thus, when atheists claim the origins battle is one of science versus the Bible, they are incorrect. The origins battle is one of man’s historical science versus God’s historical science. It’s a battle of man’s fictional account of history versus God’s true account of history. The problem is not with the science but with the mistaken interpretation of unobserved history.

- Ken Ham (edited for space)  
AnswersInGenesis.org

## ASSEMBLY TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Class 9:30  
Morning Assembly 10:30  
Evening Assembly 5:00

### Wednesday

Evening Bible Class 6:30

## RADIO PROGRAM

### The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00–9:30a.m.  
Thursday 11:30a.m.–noon  
KURM 790AM

## Downtown Church of Christ

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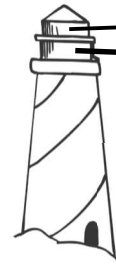
**Sin: it promises everything  
and delivers nothing.**

## ELDERS:

Otis Hardin  
Perry Johnson  
Ken Parker  
Alan Revier  
GW Walsh

## DEACONS:

TJ Burleson  
Scott Hale  
Jason Hill  
Chris Johnson  
Brock McKeel  
Randy Potter  
Tim Roberts  
Randy Shell



# DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

**PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

December 17, 2023

## When It Rains, It Pours

That little bit of homespun wisdom is frequently observed. It embellishes somewhat on the statement of Jesus (God “sends rain on the just and the unjust”, Mt 5:45), without contradicting it.

And so, the rain comes to all of us sooner or later. And yes, sometimes it falls in torrents. It can be unspeakably brutal when it comes like that. To use another metaphor, it’s like the dark valleys the Psalmist wrote about (Ps 23). And it’s never a ‘fun’ place to be (He 12:11a).

But it **can** be a productive place (He 12:11b) – if we have the wisdom to see the bigger picture. As we have

often said from the pulpit, wisdom doesn’t usually come from the mountaintops, but from the valleys. And we may add, not from the sunshine, but from the torrential rain.

We just need to get to a point in our lives where we are okay with the rain. It doesn’t mean we have to like it, but we need to accept it for what it is – life under the sun.

After all, rain is not always a bad thing. Farmers pray for it (Ja 5:7-8) – but even they must have patience in dealing with it. And so should we. So whether you head for the umbrella or the storm shelter, may God’s rain prove to be a blessing. - *WKing*

## FAMILY NEWS

### PRAYER LIST –

*Preachers we support:* Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.

*Sick:* Fletchers, Swims, JMarshall, RStarr, MiBader, ADosier

*Shut-ins:* Betty Jo Young, Billie Pennington, Shirley Cole, Susan Wiese, V Carter

*Military:* Kyler Sullins, Sean Potter

**BABIES!** – Congratulations to Jalen & Lindsey Dickey at the recent birth of

Callum! Also, to Landon & Sydney Burcham at the recent birth of Barrett!

**OUR SYMPATHY** – We are saddened at the recent loss of Betty Rowlett.

Our prayers are with Wilson and the family at this time.