

Light and Life

As Elihu described the power of God, he said, “God thunders marvelously with His voice; He does great things which we cannot comprehend. For He says to the snow, ‘Fall on the earth’; likewise, to the gentle rain and heavy rain of His strength... by the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen” (Job 37:5-6, 10). When God spoke of His own power, He asked Job, “Have you entered the treasury of snow, or have you seen the treasury of hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble?” (38:22-23). How great is our God that He has made snow – and as abundant and unique as His people!

Not only has God made the snow, but He uses it to sustain His creation. As snow melts, it provides fresh water to replenish the earth and give life to vegetation. God used this process to describe the way His word affects the hearts of sinners. “As the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it” (Is. 55:10-11).

If we allow God’s word to accomplish its purpose in our lives, we will be like the soil of Spring that soaks in the freshwater of melted snow and brings forth new life! And by this process, we will become pure like snow ourselves! “Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow” (Is 1:18)!

I’m not much of a snow lover, but even I can appreciate the spiritual truths God’s creation can teach us. So, I say, “Let it snow!”

- Sam Bunyard



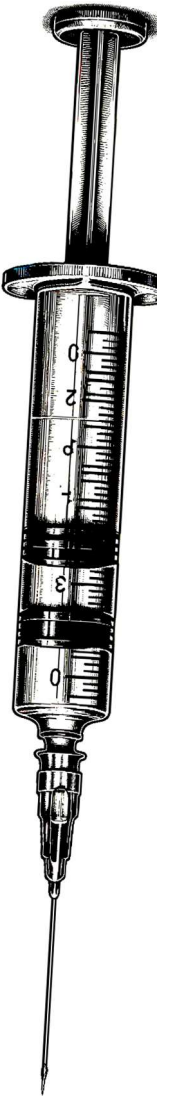
Let It Snow!

Another Perspective

Hi! I’m Recreational Drugs!

I’ve destroyed some good homes, torn families apart,
Taken your children, and that’s just the start.
When thinking you need me, I’m easily found –
Living around you, in schools and in town.
My power is awesome – just try me, you’ll see.
But if you do once, you’ll never break free.
When once I possess you, you’ll steal and you’ll lie,
You’ll do what you must, to feel that good high.
Forgetting all morals and how you were raised,
I’ll be your conscience; I’ll teach you my ways.
I’ll take all things from you, your looks and your pride;
There with you always, I’m right by your side.
If you try me be warned: this isn’t a game.
If given the chance, I’ll drive you insane.
I’ll ravish your body, take over your mind.
I’ll own you complete; your soul will be mine.
The nightmares I’ll give you while lying in bed,
The voices you’ll hear from inside your head,
The shakes and the cold sweats, the visions you’ll see –
I want you to know, are all gifts from me.
Regretting you tried me – you surely will do –
But you must recall, the choice was on you.
You knew this would happen. How oft’ you were told,
You challenged my strength and chose to be bold.
You could have said no, friend, and just walked away.
So now – if you could – is that what you’d say?
I’ll bring you more misery than mere words can tell.
Come take my hand, friend. I’ll lead you to hell.

- Author Unknown



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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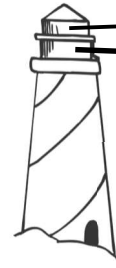
Singing and making
melody to the Lord with
your heart – Ep 5:19

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

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Samson – and You

The Woman and I have our daily Bible reading most every day – and we just recently came through the book of Judges (so we are clearly not on a ‘read through the Bible in a year, beginning in January’ kind of schedule – but never mind that). Of all characters in that book, Samson is possibly the most tragic.

Dedicated as a Nazirite (devoted to God) from before he was born, his life was full of promise. And indeed, “the LORD blessed him” (13:24).

But as he grew into manhood, he was attracted to several Philistine women, which led to the chaos in his life and, ultimately, to his death.

His only mention, outside the book of Judges, is in the book of Hebrews, where he is listed among the heroes of faith – same verse as Samuel and David, 11:32. And while that’s some good company, all three had their flaws (1 Sa 8:1-3, 2 Sa 11).

Which is the lesson for us.

You may consider yourself a failure as a parent (Samuel). You may have committed terrible sins against your close friend or family (David). You may have become distracted by the trinkets of the world (Samson). But none of this will bar you from God’s favor – **IF** you will turn to Him, like they did, in **faith**.
- *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

2024 EVENTS – Mar 10-13 (Don Truex); Apr 14-16 (David Fiddament);
Apr 19 (Stevens & Shepard); Jul 21-25 (PJ Anderson); Aug 2-4 (Ben Hall)

SENTENCE SERMON – “If we go into a study thinking we have all the answers, we do not have the right attitude about Bible study.” – Sam B.