



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
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Understanding Olam

The Importance of Defining Bible Words

Every time we fail to define a word as God used that word in the Bible, we open the door to believing something that God simply did not teach. For example, those who redefine the word "baptism" to include sprinkling allow individuals to believe that infant baptism is what God intended. There is another word, the Hebrew word *olam*, which is often misunderstood and which leads many to wrong conclusions about what God actually taught.

The Hebrew word is often translated as "eternal," "perpetual" and "forever." The Jehovah Witnesses try to find proof here that, while 144,000 will enter heaven, the rest of mankind will be on the earth, for "...the earth abides forever (Hebrew word is *olam*)" (Ecc. 1:4). The Seventh Day Adventists, who want to find proof that God intended for the

Sabbath to be kept even in the Christian age, find the verses which say the Sabbath was to be "a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever (*olam*)" (Ex. 31:17). The problem is that these denominations fail to understand the word *olam* (translated as "forever" in these passages above). The Hebrew word does not convey the same meaning as the English word "forever."

How can we see that this is true? How do we show the true meaning of the Hebrew word *olam*? It is a simple process. Just look at the other things in the Old Testament which were to abide *olam* (forever). Just let God define the word.

What things did the Old Testament describe as being *olam*? Genesis 17:13 affirms that circumcision as a religious act was to abide forever. The same is true of the Passover (Ex. 12:14-17); slavery (Ex. 21:6); the Levitical priest wearing bonnets and girdles (Ex. 29:9); the priests washing their

hands and feet as a religious act (Ex. 30:21-22); the entire Levitical priesthood (Lev. 7:34-36); the blowing of trumpets on the first day of every month (Num. 10:8); the perpetual existence of the stones placed at the crossing of the Jordan (Josh. 4:7); and the amount of time Samuel would serve at the temple (1 Sam. 1:22). The word *olam* is found in every one of the verses listed in this paragraph.

One cannot be honest in selecting verses to support the eternal earth or the eternal Sabbath while denying that the other things no longer are binding. All these things stand or fall together.

Then, what is the meaning of *olam*? It simply affirms that those things given were intended to be long lasting with no end in sight. It was God's assurance to Israel that His commands could be trusted by men. They were not temporary. They were established by God, and He alone would determine when they would end.

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Is it a trait of human nature to doubt? Should we feel guilty when we have doubts? Although we have faith and trust in God and His word, we still have moments of uncertainty. So, why do we have these doubts? It's a fear of the unknown.

We know the apostles had doubts. Even having observed the many miracles performed by Jesus, they had doubts. They were there when Jesus fed the five thousand. They even helped gather the twelve baskets of leftovers. Why did they doubt when later He wanted to feed the four thousand?

Remember Peter, when he walked on the water to meet Jesus. He became afraid and began to sink. Jesus caught him, saying, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

When they climbed into the boat, some of them said, "Truly You are the Son of God."

They were humans, just as we are today. They had seen so much but had just come to the conclusion that He truly was the Son of God. It takes us awhile. We also read about Thomas. We call him, Doubting Thomas. He didn't believe Jesus had risen from the grave until he saw the marks on His hands and side. Although he doubted, we also know Thomas for his devotion and courage. Previously, he had been willing to die with Jesus.

Did Joseph ever have doubts? It seems as if, for every good thing that happened to him, two bad things happened. Did he ever doubt that the things that happened to him were for the good, were a part of God's plan? I'm sure he doubted many times. The story tells us he found out when he saw his brothers. For he tells them, "But, now, do not therefore be grieved or angry with yourselves because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For these two years the famine has been in the land, and there are still five years which there will be neither plowing nor harvesting. And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance." (Genesis 45:5-7)

Remember Our Sick

Austen Cathcart – moved to rehab and is improving.

Dennis Drewry – surgery in May

Heath Forehand – dental work.

Cyndie Loper – gallbladder surgery scheduled April 30th

Susie Pfeifer – kidney stones, surgery April 29th

Chip Porter – admitted to SVI with pain from possible pancreatitis.

Lealah Robinson – no eye surgery at this time.

Sue Rutledge – surgery went well, home recovering.

Michael Tindall – needs prayers.

Francis Zerwas – appt. April 22 for tests.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: Billie Nichols

Legacy Heights:

Bonnie Vinson

Juanita Whitted

Russellville Nsg & Rehab:

Joe Miller

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Carl Adkisson, DJ Bandy, Amie Barkley, Bettye Barton, Nubbin Boley, Carolyn Brown, Donna Chambers, Troy/ Rachel Curtis, Johnny Estes, Leota Hickey, Braden Lambert, Ronnie Leavell, Rose Lee, Daniel Loper, Bea McDaniel, Liliya McDaniel, Linda McDaniel, Connie Myers, Becky Miller, Julie Moss, Larry Reynolds, Helen Stephens, Linda Turner, Jon Vance, Joan Vance, Justin Vaughn, Joyce Walters, and Patsy Wisbrock.

Military: Pray for our service men and women

Expectant Mothers:

Rachael Robinson

Jessica Walters

Andrea Henson

Deborah Cloud Arambula

Jillian Church

The Farmers' Mule

A parable is told of a farmer who owned an old mule. The mule fell into the farmer's well. The farmer heard the mule 'braying' -- or whatever mules do when they fall into wells. After carefully assessing the situation, the farmer felt sorry for the mule, but decided that neither the mule nor the well was worth saving. Instead, he called his neighbors together and told them what had happened and asked them to help haul dirt to bury the old mule in the well and put him out of his misery.

Initially, the old mule was hysterical! But as the farmer and his neighbors continued shoveling and the dirt hit his back, a thought struck him. It suddenly dawned on him that every time a shovel load of dirt landed on his back: he should shake it off and step up! This is what the old mule did, blow after blow.

"Shake it off and step up... shake it off and step up... shake it off and step up!" he repeated to encourage himself. No matter how painful the blows, or distressing the situation seemed, the old mule fought "panic" and just kept right on shaking it off and stepping up!

You guessed it! It wasn't long before the old mule, battered and exhausted, stepped triumphantly over the wall of that well! What seemed like it would bury him, actually ended up blessing him. All because of the manner in which he handled his adversity.

In addition to "shaking it off and step up," we Christians have our heavenly Father to help get us through rough times. When the going gets rough, keep looking up, and trusting him.

EVENTS

Ladies' Devo
May 28th
@ the
Fellowship Hall
Hostesses:
Charlene Clark
&
Joyce Walters

Men's Business
Meeting
May 11th
@ 7:00 pm

Everyone is invited to a
Baby Boy Shower for
Jessica & Blake Walters.
It will be Sunday, May 3rd
@ 2:00 pm in the
Fellowship Hall.



It is a boy!

Mark Your Calendars

Dover Church of Christ

Children's Church

Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon
Ages 4 thru 8
Bible Stories and
Activities
Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

We are pleased to
announce that
Chris Loper
has been appointed to serve
as an Elder of the
Dover Church of Christ.



Lawn Care

May 2nd

Earl Stamps/ Charlie Davis
gth

Chris Loper / Ed Meadows

May Birthdays

02 Amelia Besterfeldt
05 Brett Cains
Walt Davis
06 Randall Walters
07 Victoria Thomas
Carlee Williams
08 Trinity Loper
09 Sid Womack
13 Kelli Hottinger
14 Gracie Bowden
15 Alan Boatright
16 Connie Myers
21 Nathan Miller
23 Kaleb Lambert
Jordan Lambert
Braden Lambert
24 Jaylinn Williams
Greg Widner
25 Diane W. Walters
30 Paul Helton
31 Don Johnson

In Search of the Lord's Way

The Search Program
can now be accessed
any time on their website

@

www.searchtv.org

Mack Lyon

or

Phil Sanders

weekly lesson can be
heard and seen on

LR KASN TV 38

Sunday @ 7:30 a.m.

THOSE TO SERVE

May 3rd, 2015

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Chris Moss
Dan Cloud

Communion

Podium: Chris Loper
Serve: Charles Davis
Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Drew Walters

Scripture Reading

Earl Whitted

Sunday P.M.

Prayers
Donny Forehand
Earl Stamps

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Young Men

Prepare Table for Communion

Lads & Leaderettes

Communion to Shut-Ins

Chris Loper

Greeters

The Elders

**Wednesday Night
Services
@
6:30 p.m.**

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes
9:45 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 P.M.
Ladies Tuesday Bible Class
10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Classes
6:30 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams
Church Office: 479-331-3428
Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367
Chris Loper 331-3313

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Rex McDaniel
Chris Moss
Michael Robbins

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