

# VOICE OF CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 6

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## OUR TEARS IN A BOTTLE **PUTTING THE WILL OF GOD ON DISPLAY** **"The House of God in Fulfillment"**

Psalm 56:8 is one of those scriptures that have captured my attention lately. David is the writer of this particular psalm and is writing in the time of distress. David asks the Lord to take his tears and place them in a bottle. That doesn't mean much to Westerners such as I until I know the Jew's beliefs concerning tears in bottles. Tears are very unique to our body in that each expression of tears has their own chemical make-up. For instance, there are cry chemicals, joy chemicals and the list goes on that expresses the way we feel. David asked the Lord to place the combination of the tears in a bottle. The bottle was a wine skin used just for the purpose of making vintage wine. Get the point—God takes the combination of all of our feelings that are expressed in our tears and turns them into something wonderful. David referred to his wanderings as his tears that needed to be put in the brewery. Time has a way of bringing things to harvest whether they are good or bad. Paul said that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord. Working together means to twine together, good or bad, that which will come out with a good result such as the wine. Much of the good that we have done is a result of the bad pushing us to the good. The way that good tears and bad tears make vintage wine is a result of the grace of God at work in our lives. The point is, God is taking all aspects of our

God's initial fulfillment of the House of God was Jesus, the tabernacle of God on planet Earth. But, it does not stop there. Jesus said in John 14:16, "**And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that he may abide with you forever.**" The Apostle Paul elaborates on the Holy Spirit and His house in 1 Corinthians 3:16, "**Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?**" Also in Ephesians 2:19-22, "**Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place in the Spirit.**" So, we the Church are saved by Christ, and have become the tabernacle of the Holy Spirit, the eternal dwelling place of God! We are living stones, according to 1 Peter 2:4-5, fitly joined together, building the eternal dwelling place of God. Peter says, "**Come to Him [then, to that] Living Stone which men tried and threw away, but which is chosen [and] precious in God's sight. V5, [Come] and like living stones, be yourselves built [into] a spiritual house, for a holy (dedicated, consecrated) priesthood, to offer up [those] spiritual sacrifices [that are] acceptable and pleasing to God through Jesus Christ.**" Yes and Amen, we have become the House of God!

Jacob's dream was not just about Jesus but about you and me and every born again believer throughout history. The "House of God" under an "Open Heaven" is the picture of God's intention for your life and for everything you do. Yes, God wants a house that He can dwell in. And God wants a house under an "Open Heaven" where His angels ascend and descend on assignments to assist His children. Last, but not least by any means, is the fact that God wants a heaven that will stay open over a people who abide in Him.

If we as His Church can gather this knowledge and bring it to understanding concerning our identity as the House of God, we will be able to do great things in His Name. With this knowledge in "Revelation" we are assured that no power of darkness in any realm of creation can stop our fellowship with the Father. Yes, there is an "Open Heaven" over each one of us, from the newest Christian to the most mature. Because we are the "House of God" this means we have the exact authority Jesus has at the right hand of God. We are entitled and empowered to be His "House," which means we are His embodiment on earth. Even the demoniac, as tormented as he was, couldn't be stopped from his "God encounter" as he fell at Jesus' feet in worship! We as believers will never behold the lack of an "Open Heaven," unless we become impressed with earth's reality. The problem as I see it is that some of our ladders have not been used in quite a while. We have no angels coming or going because we haven't stepped into the area of the supernatural. In order for us to fulfill our destiny as the House of God under an open heaven, we must flow with the life, joy, healing, and peace that is normal in Heaven. We must set our hearts on being a House filled



Jeremiah 31:25, NRSV

## PRAY YE, ONE FOR ANOTHER

# DELIVERANCE IN TIMES OF TROUBLE

II Peter 1:4 tells us, “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” II Corinthians 1:20 says, “For all the promises of God in him are yes, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.” There are over seven thousand promises in the Word of God, and God has said “Yes” to all of them. He has promised to bless and keep you in every area of your life. He has promised to protect and produce for you and in you so that His plan can be fulfilled in your life.

Isaiah 43:1-3, “But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not; for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Savior; I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee.” In a world that is filled with hatred, murder and utter destruction, it is encouraging to know that our Father God never changes. He has determined to bless us, and He is well able to protect and keep us. This prophesy in Isaiah was given over seven hundred years before Christ. God’s intention all along has been to raise up a blessed people. We are in that number.

Who is this Lord that is the provider of the promise? Isaiah 43:1 says, “Thus said the Lord,” and verse 3 says, “For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, Thy Savior.” So there is no mistaking Who the provider is. There are eight names that show qualities and attributes of God that I feel we should look at now:

1. He is God—*Jireh*: “The Lord will provide” in Genesis 22:8. He will deliver you from lack of provision.
2. He is God—*Rapha*: “The Lord that healeth thee” in Exodus 15:26. He will deliver you from sickness.
3. He is God—*Nisi*: “The Lord our victor” in Exodus 17:8-15. He always causes us to triumph. He has already given us the victory.
4. He is God—*Shalom*: “The Lord our peace” in Judges 6:23-24.
5. He is God—*Raah*: “The Lord our shepherd” in Psalm 23:1. “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.” There is no lack. There is no shortage anywhere.
6. He is God—*Tisdkenu*: “The Lord our righteousness” in Jeremiah 23:6. He is the Lord our righteousness.
7. He is God—*Shammah*: “The Lord is present” in Ezekial 48:35. He said He will never leave us or forsake us.
8. He is God—*El Shaddi*: “The Almighty” in Genesis 22:1. He is the Alpha, the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

Thus said the Lord, “I am your provider, I am your healer, I am your victor, I am your peace, I am your shepherd, I am your righteousness. I am present with you always. I am the almighty One. I can deliver you in times of trouble. If you think I have any shortage, just think upon my name.”

When you think about someone, you must consider their name. A name can say much about a person—who they are, where they live, what they have accomplished, what can be expected. There are titles that ascribe honor and rank, as well as authority and power. As we have just seen, God placed His promises to us in His names. When we speak the names of God, we are speaking the manifestation of all that He has done for us from the very beginning of creation.

The days ahead will be filled with trouble—God’s Word has already foretold the woes that will be pronounced upon the earth. But we as God’s children have the blessed hope that He will deliver us, even in the midst of the turmoil about us. You know that I do not dwell on dread and gloom, but the Word of God is 100% accurate. It tells us that trouble is coming—whether next month, next year or 10 years from now. Our Heavenly Father wants His best for us now—and then. He will protect and deliver us from day to day problems now, and prepare us in His Word for the greater troubles that will come. Look to Him as your source, seek Him in fellowship and find Him in that secret place, know His ways and walk in the high places with Him.



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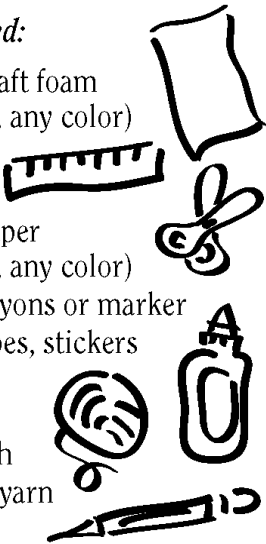
MAKE A NOTE OF IT, AND BE BLESSED!!!!

# A Verse Frame

Make this special gift for your dad, uncle, grandfather or father-figure. It is nice to be reminded of our heavenly Father's love for us.

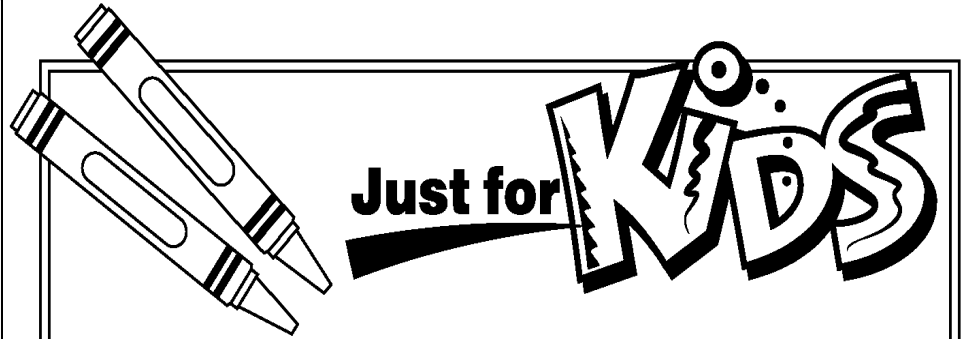
### What you need:

- Piece of craft foam (8½" x 11", any color)
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Piece of paper (8½" x 11", any color)
- Pencil, crayons or marker
- Foam shapes, stickers (optional)
- Glue
- Hole punch
- Ribbon or yarn



### What you do:

1. Use your ruler to measure a rectangle inside the piece of craft foam. Draw the rectangle, and then cut it out. Your foam should now look like a frame.
2. Place the piece of paper under the foam frame, and trace the shape of the frame's window onto the paper.
3. Choose a verse to write inside the rectangle on your paper. (Your frame can go horizontally or vertically.) Suggested verses include 1 Corinthians 8:6, Philippians 4:20 and 1 John 3:1.
4. Turn the frame over (face down), and put glue around the edge. Lay the verse face down on the back of the frame, and let it dry.
5. Decorate the outside of the frame with foam shapes, stickers or drawings.
6. Use your hole punch to punch two holes at the top of the frame. Tie a piece of ribbon or yarn through the holes to hang the frame.



## Remember Our Heavenly Father

Father's Day is a time to thank our dads, who work hard to keep the family fed, safe and loved. Let us also remember God, our heavenly Father, who gives life to us all.

Use the grid to fill in the blanks below. To find the letter for each number, look down the column to the dot, and then go to the left to the letter. Write the letter on the appropriate blank.

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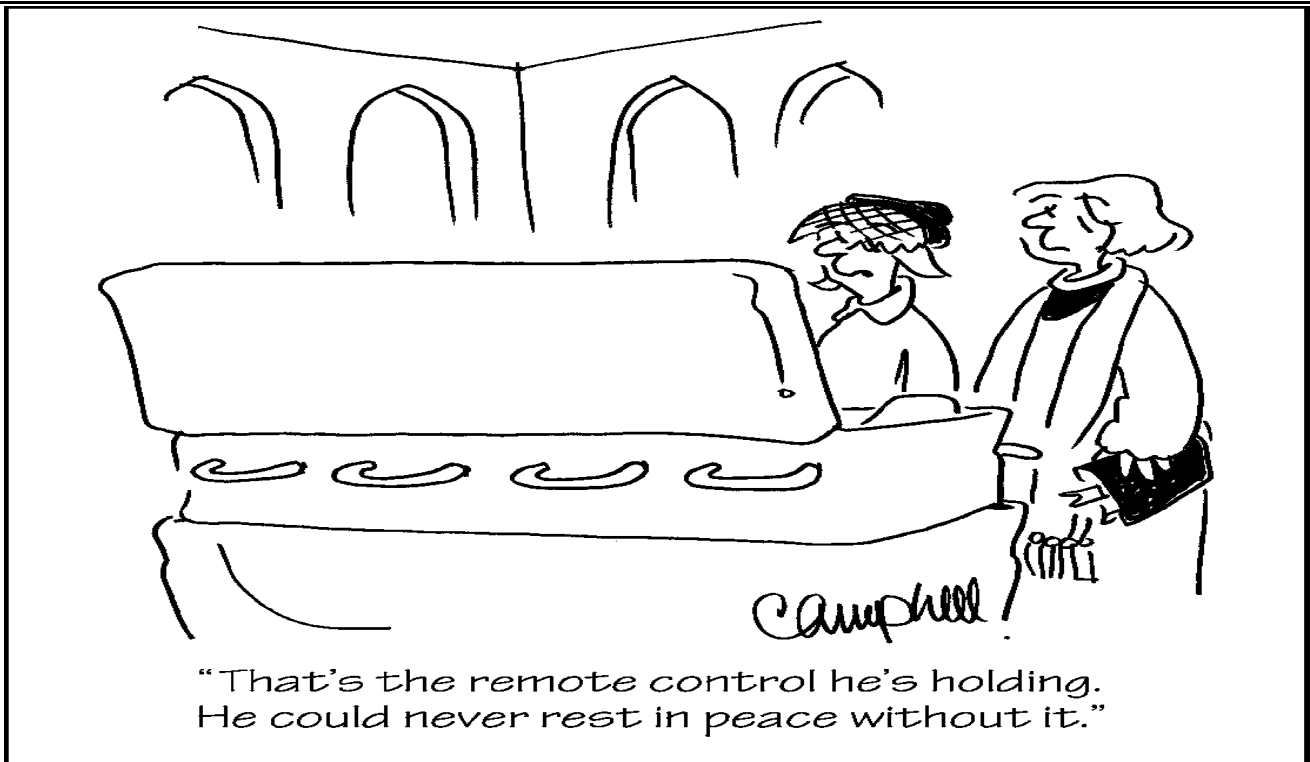
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11 6 14 14 17 7 11 1 13 14 7 5 17 18 15 8 10 15 7 !”

1 John 3:1, NIV

“HOW GREAT IS THE LOVE THE FATHER HAS LAVISHED ON US, THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED CHILDREN OF GOD!”



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God’s LOVE has  
been poured  
into our  
HEARTS



Romans 5:5, NRSV