

# 2006 Proclaimer

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, .. to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord!" -Isa.61:1-2*  
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A teaching and exhortation medium by members of the Carmichael Church of Christ, meeting at 6044 Sutter Ave.  
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## **BLIND, or FORGETFUL?**

*by Alan Smith*

Old man Woodruff loved golf, but his age was making it increasingly difficult for him to play. He complained to the clubhouse man about his eyesight. "I can't play with my glasses on because they keep falling off," he said. "And I'm too nearsighted to play without them."

"Why don't you play with Hughes?" the club-house man suggested.

"Him?" Woodruff scoffed. "He's ninety-eight if he's a day, and he can't get around without a wheelchair!"

"True," said the clubhouse man, "but he's far-sighted." So the next day, Woodruff and Hughes played together.

Woodruff took a tremendous swing and hit the ball well. "Boy, that felt good!" he exclaimed. "Did you see it?" he asked Hughes.

"Yes," the very old man replied.

"Where did it go?"

"I can't remember," Hughes sighed.

Which do you suppose is worse -- those in the world who are blind to the fact that God has provided them with so many good things, or those of us who "see" that, but forget to express our appreciation to God?

"Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and for-get not all His benefits:

Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases, who re-deems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, who satisfies your mouth with good things..." (Psalm 103: 1-5a)

As we are surrounded by so many reminders of God's goodness to us, may we not only have our eyes open to recognize all of his blessings, but also remember to express our appreciation. xxxxx

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**"IT IS APPOINTED FOR MEN TO DIE"**  
**Heb 9:27**

It was a difficult subject to bring before his aged mother, but John felt that he must.

*"Mom, you are no longer a spring chicken and you do need to think ahead of what will happen in the future. Why don't we make arrangements about when..... you know... when.... God forbid... you pass on?"*

The mother didn't say anything, just sat there staring ahead.

*"I mean, Mom, like.... how do you want to finally go? Do you want to be buried? Cremated? Who do you want to do the eulogy? Do you want congregational singing? Who do you want to lead in prayers? Do you want the cas-*

*ket open, or kept closed? Do you want pall-bearers?"*

There was yet another long pause. Then the mother looked up and said, *"Son, why don't you simply surprise me?"*

The foregoing response is really comical to some, but it's also rather selfish. If people would write down their desires, it would take a tremendous load off those having to make decisions at such a trying time. It also takes away any disagreements the remaining family members may have over what they separately "remembered" their loved one wanted. And one other thing that often comes up is someone asking you to justify an action with, *"Why did you do that?"* The simple, easy response would be, *"That's what they wanted done!"*

If you haven't done this yet, you should do it right away. And as time goes on, you can update it, or change those you want to participate from the ones you've outlived. We do have a printed form (***and it's not in "stone"***) you can fill out and leave with the elders, or a family member or other friend. But, if you don't have anything like this, please do it soon, unless you know exactly when you're *"going to pass"!*

*---And the elders thank you! V.W.*

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It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.

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We feel that the good Lord didn't create anything without a good purpose, but mosquitoes sure seem to come close.

## **"A GOOD NAME IS RATHER TO BE CHOSEN"**

Don Alexander

She hammered that into her children with consistency then lived it herself, this godly mother. And, like the Worthy Woman of **Proverbs 31:10-31**, her *"children rise up and bless her; her husband also, and he praises her..."* One's "name" stands for all that person is when his/her "name" is mentioned. Reputation, character, words and deeds-these all become what one's "name" means. At the end of time it will not have mattered how much money you leave behind for your children and grandchildren. Nor will it matter how many hours of videotaped events you captured of the important milestones in their lives. What you and I will leave behind for them is our "name". As parents and grandparents, desperate to ease the burdens of life for our offspring, let us concentrate on the one thing they must develop and guard for themselves. What they must go to their graves with and into eternity with : a "good name" before God. Everything else is whipped cream. *"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favor rather than silver and gold"* ~ **Prov 22:1**.

### **Ephesians 6:1-2**

**Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise).**

## **THOSE NEEDING PRAYERS**

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Wendell Rapier  
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Berniece Raven  
Sven Raven  
LaurieAnn Reagan  
Rosa Reagan (Bremerton)  
Caleb & Jacob Robertson  
Taylor Romine  
Tom & Boots Royston (Folsom)  
Billie Rush (Troy's grandmother)  
Bill & Rena Schultz  
Geneva Shelton  
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Nancy Valine  
Donna Williams (Carol's Sis)  
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