



From the Pastor: **THEY PIERCED MY HANDS AND FEET**



God tells His story in an interesting way. For example, He inspired the Psalmist to describe the crucifixion of Jesus four centuries before crucifixion was even practiced and ten centuries before Jesus came. Psalm 22:1 depicts Jesus crying out because of His abandonment by God on the cross. Psalm 22:6-7 describes Him as a reproach of men. His physical condition on the cross is revealed in Psalm 22:14-18: **“I am poured out like water and all my bones are out of joint. My heart is like wax. It is melted within me. My strength is dried up like a**

potsherd and my tongue cleaves to my jaws.... They pierced my hands and my feet. I can count all my bones.”

“I am poured out like water.” Water has no mold of its own. It conforms to whatever is around it. When it is poured out of a container, it cannot stop itself. These words reveal that Jesus was as weak as water, his life running out as water runs out of an overturned cup.

“All my bones are out of joint.” The wrists of a crucified man were penetrated by nails. The elbow and shoulder joints were stretched apart. The hips, knees, and ankles were all dislocated because of the odd angle and sustained pressure on them. Just the pain from the stretched ligaments and tendons of the joints of one hanging on a cross would be overwhelming.

“My heart is like wax. It is melted within me.” Wax becomes soft and melts in heat. Jesus’ heart became weaker as the day drew on. John records that when the soldier pierced Jesus’ side, blood and water came out. Some doctors state that this phenomena is consistent with a ruptured heart.

“My strength is dried up like a potsherd.” A potsherd was a broken piece of pottery. It was useless and discarded. It had been clay but in the kiln all the moisture had been cooked out of it. As long as the earthen vessel was whole, it was useful. But when it was broken, the potsherds were merely dried-up pieces of pottery, thrown away in a dump. Jesus’ strength was gone as He baked in the sun on the cross.

“My tongue cleaves to my jaws.” When He was scourged, Jesus lost a lot of blood. Undoubtedly, He was thirsty when he was nailed to the cross. Naked and exposed to the merciless sun, Jesus would have perspired, sapping more moisture from His body. His mouth was so dry and His tongue so swollen that He could hardly speak. One of the things He did say on the cross was, “I thirst” (Jn. 19:28).

“They pierced my hands and my feet.” Jesus’ hands and feet were pierced when the soldiers nailed Him to the cross. The wounds would have bled some but then as Jesus hung there they would have swollen as infection started to set in.

“I can count all my bones.” With the scourging, the dehydration, the stretching of the muscles and tendons, and the dislocation of the joints, Jesus’ body was like a skeleton with torn skin stretched over it.

What suffering! And why? **“But He was pierced through for our transgressions. He was crushed for our iniquities. The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him and by His scourging we are healed”** (Isaiah 53:5).



Chosen People Ministries' Rev. Israel Cohen

will be with us Wednesday, March 21st for our evening service beginning @ 6:30 p.m. sharing with us about "Messiah in the Passover" and lead us as we participate in a typical Jewish Passover meal. He will explain the symbolism of each item and activity and how they apply to our Christian Faith! Come explore the Jewish roots of your faith! Please sign up on the sheet on the foyer table @ church.

Ladies Crafty Gathering Come join us Saturday, March 3rd from 10 AM - 1 PM in the fellowship hall for a day of crafts, sharing, and fellowship. Bring a craft to share or learn from each other. Bring a brunch item to share.



Kingdom Kids will meet on March 11th and 25th .

Easter Sunrise Service will be Sunday, April 1st at 7 a.m. at Venture Out



Young at Heart will be on Friday, March 16th @ 11:30 a.m. at Heritage Bible Church.

Venture Out:

Bible Study We will continue our Bible Study at Venture Out in March. We will meet Thursdays, at 10 a.m. at the Club-house. See you there!

Golden Angels Luncheon Our monthly luncheon will be on March 15th at 11:30 a.m. at Triple J's on Thomas Dr.

Easter Week Noon-Time Services

March 26-30

Host: Heritage Bible Church, 3380 State Ave.

Theme: Conversations at the Cross

Meal Cost: \$5

Monday - Conversations of Pilate & the Crowd

Tuesday - Conversations from the Crowd

Wednesday - Conversations of the Thieves

Thursday - Conversations of the Soldiers

Friday - Conversations with the Father



Brian Rice (Heritage Bible Church)

Richard Duncan (Historic St. Andrews Church)

John Friedman (Forest Park United Methodist Church)

Gary Cecil (Grace Presbyterian Church)

Henry Hazard (Heritage Bible Church)

Facts & Figures

Finances for February

For Feb 1 to Feb 28

General Operating Fund (GOF) Monthly Budget: \$ 20,475.00

GOF Tithes and Offerings Received (4 Sundays): \$ 18,350.90

General Operating Fund Weekly Budget: \$ 4,725.00

GOF Avg. Weekly Tithes and Offerings (4 Sundays): \$ 4,587.73

For Year to Date 2018 (based on 2 months and 5 Sundays):

GOF Year to Date (YTD) Tithes and Offerings Budget (monthly basis): \$ 40,950.00

GOF (YTD) Tithes and Offerings Budget (weekly basis): \$ 37,800.00

GOF Year to Date Tithes and Offerings Received: \$ 38,009.76

GOF Year to Date Budgeted Disbursements: \$(41,733.02)

GOF Receipts vs GOF Disbursements and Transfers to Other Funds: \$ (3,723.26)

GOF Balance as of Feb 27 (233% of monthly budget): \$ 47,671.91

Average Weekly Tithes and Offerings Received (8 Sundays): \$ 4,751.22

YTD Avg Weekly GOF Budgeted & Non Budgeted Disbursements & Transfers: \$ 5,216.63

Missions YTD Income: Receipts (\$1,785) & 24% of Tithes & Offerings (\$9,122.35): \$ 10,907.35

Missions YTD Disbursements: \$ (11,319.10)

Missions Fund Balance: \$ 6,746.58

Building Fund YTD Receipts: \$ 103.08

Building Fund Disbursements: \$ 0.00

Building Fund Balance: \$ 5,562.76

Bridge Fund Balance: \$ 310.00

Men's Meeting & Great

Commission Women will not be meeting in March due to all of the other events we have throughout the month

The Pastor's Office is Sinking!

Recently, it was revealed that the corner of Pastor's office is three inches lower than the level of the floor of the sanctuary. In order to prevent any further erosion and damage to our facility, we will need to stabilize that corner. A **Foundation Stabilization Fund** has been established to help finance this project.