

Welcome

September 24th, 2023

A TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson edited by Pastor Pier]

For all you history buffs out there, where was God when the Mayans held sway in southern Mexico and Central America approximately 2500 years ago? They disappeared without a trace and with no solid evidence of why. They do not appear in the Bible. Or when the Chinese first dynasty was building the Great Wall in 200 B.C.? It took hundreds of years to complete that project of protecting the Chinese mainland from Northern tribes. We read nothing of them in the Bible. So, the question comes back: "*Where was God?*"

To some unbelievers, these questions suggest that there were civilizations (kingdoms) on Planet Earth at the same time the Bible concentrates on Mesopotamia or the Middle East. Because of that, they believe the Bible paints an inaccurate picture of the known world, reducing it to one of many ancient myths and stories. Even in China hieroglyphs appear from 2000 B.C., but written logotypes did not develop until about 700 B.C. And though stories have not been found earlier than c200 B.C., that indicates that Chinese civilizations existed.

Where does that leave us in the discussion of where God was during these people's lives? Same place. God was not invented by whoever wrote about Him first, and that seems to be the way historians look at human history and philosophy. Philosophers and theologians do not agree with historians.

Neither does the Bible. Ever hear of "*grace?*" (We'll be back to talk about that next week.)



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
Unity in Prayer & Youth: 6:00 – 7:00 PM
Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM; Kid's Club
Prayer ½ hour before services

THEOLOGICAL SEED

Psalm 143:8 (Amplified Bible)

Cause me to hear Your loving-kindness in the morning, for on You do I lean *and* in You do I trust. Cause me to know the way wherein I should walk, for I lift up my inner self to You.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Wednesday Bible Study – we will continue our study of John 17. Our children will enjoy Kid's Club in the basement.

Flagging Class – will begin again on Wednesday, October 25th at 6:00 PM. For more information, please see Debbie DeVries.

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SERMON NOTES

EXHAUSTED BUT NOT STOPPING

TEXT: Judges 8:4

I. KEEP YOUR _____ – Isaiah 26:3; Philippians 2:5-7

A _____ and fatigued mind makes _____ decisions.

→ _____ in God's _____.

God will take _____ of us. Matthew 6:25-34

→ **Renewed in God's peace.**

God will _____ us peace as we are _____ in His peace.

John 14:25-27; 16:33

→ _____ in God's _____.

Deuteronomy 31:6, 8; Hebrews 13:5-6

II. KEEP YOUR _____

Our heart is the _____ of our _____ and where our _____ are. Proverbs 23:7

I must keep my _____ on what my _____ is and not what my _____ are. Mark 7:20-23; John 14:1-4; Psalm 61:2; Proverbs 3:5

III. KEEP YOUR _____ – Psalm 146:5-7; 42:5; Acts 27:20

→ **We will need to _____ ourselves in the Lord.** 1 Samuel 30:6

→ **We should _____ His favor.** Psalm 90:17

→ **Always, we must _____ His promises.**

Jeremiah 17:7-8; Psalm 56:4; 28:7

God is promising that, if we _____ trust in Him, He will be able to _____ us and see us through life's _____. Isaiah 43:1-2