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Central Baptist Association

2517 Wyoming Blvd NE
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The *Central Connection*



May 2009

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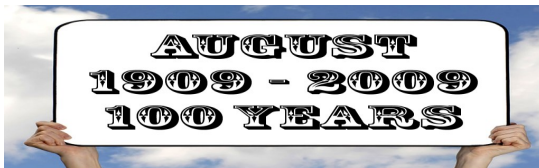
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2517 Wyoming Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112

Phone: 505-243-2707

Fax: 505-292-8638



Central Baptist Association

Consulting · Resourcing · Equipping

E-mail:

cba@cbanm.org

Newsletter:

newsletter@cbanm.org

Website:

www.cbanm.org



Some Gave All

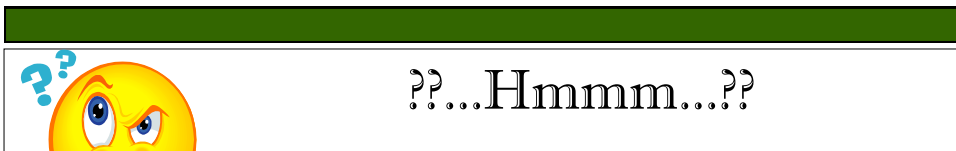
It seems like with everything going on in the world today, more and more people are asking why? Why would anyone want to be in the military? The question always involves things like the United States doesn't belong in this war. That has been said throughout history; both Gulf wars, Viet Nam, Korea, World War II & I, etc. Well, I am no politician, so I will not even get into the politics of that question. I will give an opinion on the question, why do you serve?

I remember, as a kid, watching my uncle's slides taken when he was flying in Viet Nam. As a young boy, those things fascinated me to no end. I was amazed with the bright streaks and planes everywhere. At the time, I was too young to understand the streaks were bullets and the planes were flying on real war missions. I decided to join the Navy, just like my uncle, and so the summer after high school, down I went. I was assigned into a fighter squadron and believe it or not, it was the very same squadron my uncle was in. I was excited and ready to take on the world. We were sent here and there to keep up the presence of the United States military. During my enlistment, I came to realize that this was a serious and dangerous business to be in. While conducting our missions, people were killed and injured in the line of duty. At the end of my enlistment I came back to New Mexico, but I could not get the military out of my system, so I joined the Army National Guard.



What was it that would draw me back to something that is inherently dangerous? Why would I want to go back to long hours, weeks sometimes months away from my family, and living out of a bag? It is hard to explain unless you have served in the military, but I think it was the brotherhood, the camaraderieship; those people that you share laughter, as well as hard times with; the person who will be watching your back while you watch theirs. For me it was also a sense of patriotic pride; a chance to defend a way of life in the greatest country in the world. If you don't believe

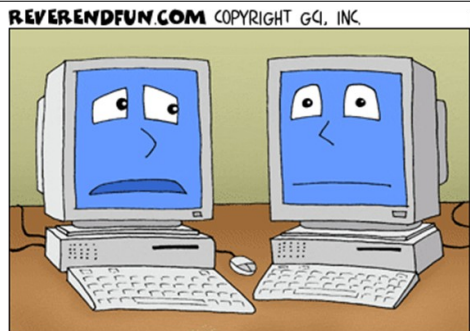
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As income tax time approaches, did you ever notice: When you put the two words "The" and "IRS" together it spells "THEIRS"?

Why is the fear of long words called hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobia?

Just before someone gets nervous do they experience cocoons in their stomachs?



Thanks to Kerry Hodgkinson 11-29-2005
OH MY NO ... HUMANS DIDN'T INVENT US AT ALL ... WE EVOLVED FROM PLASTIC, WIRES, AND LITTLE MICRO THINGERS

Do you know what a soldier is young man? He's the chap who makes it possible for civilized folk to despise war.

~Allan Massie



Goode Thoughts



Okay, when the same theme comes up in unrelated conversations I have to think it just may be God hinting (shouting) at me. That has been my experience of late. The theme is growing intimate with God through time set aside specifically for that relationship. It came up this week at a board meeting for an organization for which I am on the advisory board. The other members are from Christian traditions quite different from Baptist. They are in love with God and passionate about their faith. They also practice the spiritual disciplines of biblical meditation and quietness before God. I envy their disciplines.



I am a performance driven person. For me, progress is motion. Staying still makes me nervous. I feel like I am wasting productive time. I fit well into the Baptist world. As Baptists, we are a busy, noisy bunch. That is not necessarily bad. We get a lot of stuff done. We squeeze every ounce of energy out of our time and resources. We never pass up an opportunity for a conversation. Visit any of our churches and you will find some level of excitement. Community time right before the service is usually filled with chatter and laughter. It is a good sign of active, loving community.

However, in all of our busyness and noise, I fear we have become poor listeners. We put a lot of value on telling, not so much on listening. Perhaps for that reason we may not be hearing all that God has to say. We miss his whisper. We miss the short sentences, the one-liners that God speaks to us as a father speaks to his children. The big conversations are important. We probably hear them but it is the small, subtle things that God speaks which demonstrate his intimacy with us. You can shout to a crowd, you cannot whisper to a crowd.

Goode Thoughts *cont...*

You whisper to individuals. You whisper messages that are only for the ears of one or a few. Those whispers carry more than the message of the words. They carry the message of trust, of companionship, of the recognition of presence.

I cannot but think that God has a lot He would like to whisper (or is whispering) to us. We cannot hear it in the noise, in the motion. We have to shield our ears, duck into a quiet place. We have to concentrate on the message. Our granddaughter likes to whisper. I love watching her whisper to someone and to watch someone whisper back to her. All of the energy in her little body is dedicated to the hearing. You can see it in her focused eyes, in her stout posture, in her eyebrow furrowed concentration. It should be that way with us when God whispers in our ear.



I am a long way from incorporating those disciplines into my own life but I am at the point where I want them. I want to spend time with God, time to just listen. I am becoming more desirous of knowing my Lord than performing for my Lord. Our Lord's words to Martha are beginning to rattle my bones, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary,..." (Luke 38:41, 42)."

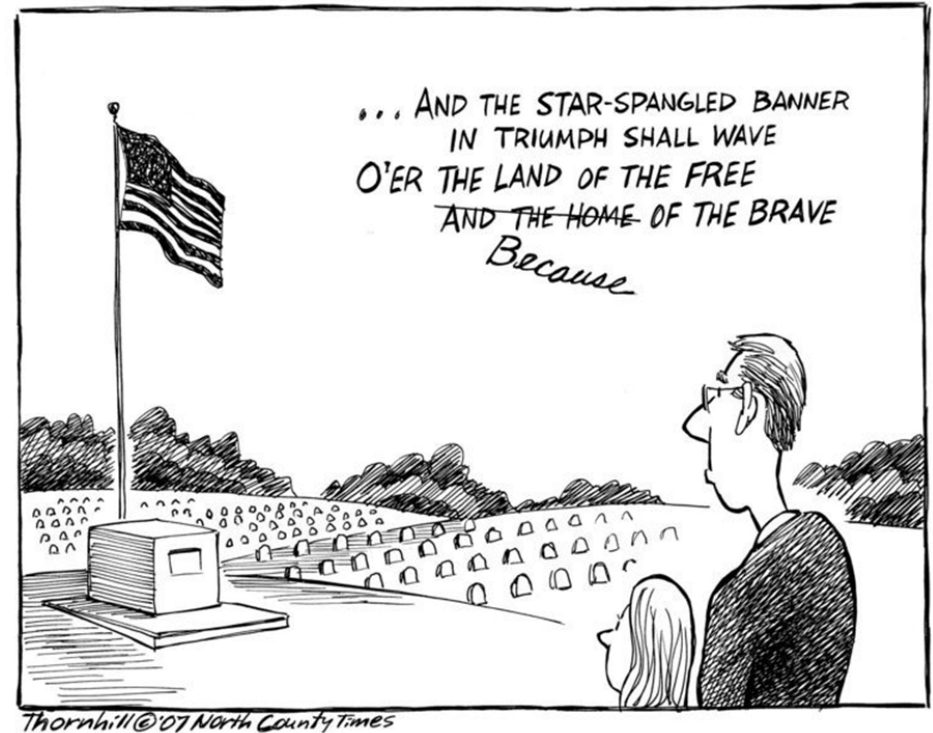
I pray that you will hear the whispers and feel the freedom to devote time to that one thing that is necessary.

Ken Goode



May 2009						
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 1-2 State Bible Drill
- 7 National Day of Prayer
- 10 Mother's Day
- 25 Memorial Day - Office Closed



Dear Church Leader,

The Kirtland Air Force Base Chapel is looking to fill a contracted position at our worship services. The position is a Praise and Worship Leader. The contract is open for bids and a copy of the process is included with this letter. If you have someone in your congregation who has the talents and gifts to fill this position, please prayerfully consider encouraging them in our direction. The worship at the chapel is a powerful tool in deepening the spiritual lives of Christians often faced with deployments. The ministry is to children, youth, adults, and senior adults who are hungry to grow in their faith.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about the contracts and the bid process. Thanks for your prayers and support of our nation by supporting the men and women serving at Kirtland Air Force Base.

Blessings in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Chaplain David Mansberger, Major USAF
377th ABW/Senior Protestant Chaplain





Church Happenings!

Vista Grande Church

When you think of Bag Ladies you generally don't think of a group of ladies who are involved in a ministry that provides handmade back-packs for children who are in transition in foster care. That though is the type of ministry several ladies at Vista Grande Church, Sandia Park are involved in. These ladies take material donated to them and create wonderful little backpack bags that are donated to the Peanut Butter and Jelly Family Services and the Barrett House in Albuquerque which give them to the children that pass through their facilities. Each bag is lovingly hand crafted and filled with a handmade blanket, stuffed animal, gospel of John and other items that the children can keep and carry with them as they move from place to place. The Bag Ladies are led by Mrs. Eva Weaver who also teaches one of the children's Bible study classes on Sunday morning. So far they have donated about 100 bags. For more information call 228 - 7890.



*"You shall each revere
your mother and father...."*

Leviticus 19:3, NRSV

Biblical Treasure Answer

April

A fist unfolded ~ open hand, 5 fingers, 5th book - Deuteronomy

This squared is gross ~ 12 squared is 144, 144 is a gross, Chapter 12

Sodium's Atomic ~ the atomic number for sodium 11

Deuteronomy 12:11 ~ Then to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name—there you are to bring everything I command you: your burnt offerings and sacrifices, your tithes and special gifts, and all the choice possessions you have vowed to the LORD.



First Baptist Church of Bosque Farms

At the time of year when everyone is focusing on the blessings of Easter, First Baptist Church of Bosque Farms hit the triple play. First they were blessed by being able to hold their services in their new Worship Center. The building is nearly double in square footage over the old building plus a 3/4 basketball court and a full kitchen. The building has been built so far with the financial support of members, which allowed the church to not ask for outside loans. The members also provided much of the contractors and workers, again keeping the cost down. Second, the attendance for was more than doubled. There were 352 in attendance for the two morning services. Third, and the homerun to break in the new worship center, they performed 8 baptisms. This project, which has been in the works for over 3 years now, has been a true labor of love and devotion. The Lord has definitely placed His hand of blessings on the church and it's congregation. For more information contact 869 - 2759.



Some Gave All *cont. from page 2*

that is possible, just take a look at the recruitment offices today, they are full. Young people everywhere are joining up for military service. Some say it is for the educational benefits, others need a job, while others just need direction. Even if it is not the main reason, when you stand in front of that flag and take the oath of enlistment, there is a great sense of patriotism.

While politics is not something that the military has a lot of choice in; they are affected everyday by the decisions of politicians and their actions. Yes, the military is full of bright and educated people, but they go where they are told to go. They follow orders and trust the people in charge.

If that means they must fight a war, then that is what they do. They may have the same questions that everyone else has, but they do their jobs to the best of their ability. It is even harder when they know that they will return to protest and accusations, but they do their job. Imagine where the United States would be without people willing to serve in the military.

Memorial Day was established to honor those military people who gave their lives in the service of their country. It is a way for the nation to say thank you to those fallen and pay our respects; a chance to reflect on the sacrifice needed to keep a great country great. Regardless of your politics or



opinions on why war has to be fought, those people went into harm's way proudly as soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines and paid the ultimate sacrifice. They did it for their country. They did it for their families. They did it for their brothers and sisters in arms beside them. The literal meaning for hero, according to Wikipedia, is "protector", "defender" or "guardian". In a world that uses that term way too

often, I would say Memorial Day is to remember and honor true American Heroes and I feel privileged to have served with some of them and called them friends.

Kevin Dankam



Biblical Treasure

The following are clues to a bible verse. (book, chapter, verse)

Solve the clues to find the verse:

Came marching home

Score after love

Diners at last

If you have some church type items for donations; want to advertise a church position; or have something that the Association would benefit from, then let us now and we may be able to put it in the newsletter. We usually are able to place items within 1 or 2 weeks. As a result of advertising in the Central Connection several positions have been filled. What really is a great deal, is the low cost to advertise. For any advertisements, the cost to have it published is \$0.00, free, nada, ziltch, nothing. All it takes is for you to let us know.



Be sure to visit our website for back issues of the Central Connection. While your there check out our Resourcing Page. We have valuable links to helpful items. We also have a list of study series available for check out.

WWW.CBANM.ORG