

# New Horizons Newsletter



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*"May the Lord show you His favor and give you peace."*

(Nu. 6:26)

Read: [Job 40:1-14](#)

## THE GOODNESS OF GOD THE FATHER

Everyone has experienced good and bad days, weeks, months, even years. Because of the financial debacle imposed upon us by rulers of this world, most people are experiencing leaner times. Even the followers of Jesus Christ will go through tough times. But, what makes us different from everyone else going through tough times? It is our faith in Jesus Christ, Messiah, and in the goodness of our Creator God that gives us hope in spite of our circumstances.

All nations of the Planet Earth have good people. They also have people of ill repute. Both sides have their rationalizations for what they do and believe. Both sides believe their cause to be right. Yet, it is interesting to see how each side responds to tough times.

During difficult times, the morally challenged seek gain and protect power and control. Crime and abuses of power within society and family escalate. And we say, "How awful!" During difficult times we notice that wrong behavior is not always punished. I often counsel employees of large companies who lost their jobs because they refused to do something illegal that was imposed upon them by their supervisors or employers. And we say, "How awful!" It is not uncommon during these times to see those who were once upstanding citizens getting caught for condemnable behavior due to their inexperience in crime. And we say, "How awful!" The more seasoned troublemakers manage to slip through the cracks to do more harm on another day. And we say, "How awful!"

We read in the Bible that Job was a good man who worshiped and feared God. He stayed away from all forms of evil (Job 1:1). Job was wealthy and it was evident to everyone that he was a man whom God richly blessed for his obedience and worship.

But, one day things went terribly wrong for Job. His family was killed and all of his assets were gone. And, if that wasn't bad enough, he became so physically ill he could not move without severe pain. His friends came to visit, questioning what he must have done for God to turn against him with such severity. And we once again say, "How awful!"

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It is hard to wrap our minds around this “. . .mystery of suffering of the righteous in a world created by a righteous and omnipotent God. . .”<sup>1</sup> Even though his friends tried to get Job to find fault in himself or his God, Job remained steadfast in knowing he did nothing to merit this disaster and His God will exonerate him.

If I had to give a theme of the the Book of Job it would be, *"God, justifying His right as the sovereign creator to place His creatures into measured tests and trials for a greater purpose which will benefit us to a larger measure."*

In other words, the evil intentions of others will be turned against them and used to benefit both God's people and those we will be ministering to, in God's service.

In the Bible, there are many examples of suffering and redemption, such as Jacob recovering his son Joseph (Genesis 50). Job was blessed with a new and larger family with greater wealth (Job 42:10-17). Mary and Martha regained their brother Lazarus (John 11). The Disciples endured persecution, yet we are still reading about them to this day. Jesus' mortal life was snuffed out by evil, but on the third day evil was vanquished when Jesus was raised up to be the redeemer of all who believe (Romans 10:9-12).

God is a loving Father who does care about your present situation. Do not give up trusting and waiting with self-control and long-suffering to see God's little miracle of bringing you out of the storm. God will ensnare people's evil intentions to fulfill God's intentions for your life. . . *"<sup>11</sup> For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. <sup>12</sup> Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you."* (Jeremiah 29:11-12 NASB)

*<sup>2</sup> When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, they groan. <sup>3</sup> The man who loves wisdom brings joy to his father, but if he hangs around with prostitutes, his wealth is wasted. <sup>4</sup> A just king gives stability to his nation, but one who demands bribes destroys it. <sup>5</sup> To flatter friends is to lay a trap for their feet. <sup>6</sup> Evil people are trapped by sin, but the righteous escape, shouting for joy. <sup>7</sup> The godly care about the rights of the poor; the wicked don't care at all. <sup>8</sup> Mockers can get a whole town agitated, but the wise will calm anger. <sup>9</sup> If a wise person takes a fool to court, there will be ranting and ridicule but no satisfaction. <sup>10</sup> The bloodthirsty hate blameless people, but the upright seek to help them. <sup>11</sup> Fools vent their anger, but the wise quietly hold it back. <sup>12</sup> If a ruler pays attention to liars, all his advisers will be wicked.* (Proverbs 29:2-12 NLT)

If your heart is not right with God at this moment, Pray this prayer: *"Heavenly Father, I have made many mistakes in my life. Please lighten the load that I feel on my shoulders. Forgive me for all of my sins. I believe Jesus Christ suffered and died for the forgiveness of sins and You raised Jesus from the grave to be the first among all who will be resurrected. I give my life over to you LORD God. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit to teach me what I must learn."*

Dr. Pierre J. Samaan

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<sup>1</sup>Morris, Henry, *The New Defenders Study Bible*, KJV, Introduction to Job, p 782, World Publishing Inc., Nashville, TN.



**UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST FOOD PANTRY**  
**560 FLOMICH STREET**  
**HOLLY HILL, FL**  
**EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY**  
**9 AM TO 1 PM**

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**New Horizons Institute of Counseling/  
United Brethren Counseling Ministry**

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***\*YOU CAN READ OR DOWNLOAD PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS IN THE "ARTICLES" SECTION OF OUR WEB SITE.***

***"Seeking True Recovery to Replace Pain With Healing Peace."***

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*Clinical Christian Counseling/Clinical Pastoral Counseling is crisis intervention and strengthening of Christian character and values, which is Discipleship. Our Ordained and Professional Clinical Christian Counselors are committed to the welfare of the Christian. Clients are encouraged to take advantage of their own church programs as part of their Christian Counseling Treatment Plan. We are credentialed professionals who must follow state confidentiality guidelines. **This is not church Lay Counseling in which your confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.***

*Professional Clinical Christian Counseling will help the client, couple, or family move beyond tolerable existence into genuine inner healing, renewal, and wholeness through the work of God's Holy Spirit in the counseling.\**

*Tolerable recovery is the process of getting better. True recovery says, "I made it!" This is when I can look at the source of my pain - which has become a stronghold - and realize it has been replaced with God's healing peace - Replacing the source pain with God's Truth.*

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**\*Clinical Christian Counselors are exempt from Florida State Licensing, Statute 491.014. All Christian counselors at New Horizons Institute of Counseling are Ordained Clergy, Board Certified & Licensed by the National Board of Examiners of the National Christian Counselors Association. We serve under the authorities of our licensing boards and the Pastor and Board of the UB church.**

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## **NEW RESEARCH FINDINGS**

### **COFFEE DRINKERS HAVE LOWER RISK OF DEATH, STUDY SUGGESTS**

Older adults who drank coffee -- caffeinated or decaffeinated -- had a lower risk of death overall than others who did not drink coffee, according a study by researchers from the National Cancer Institute (NCI), part of the National Institutes of Health, and AARP. Read article at: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/05/120519071454.htm>

### **LISTENING TO MUSIC CAN BE EFFECTIVE FOR REDUCING PAIN IN HIGH-ANXIETY PERSONS**

Distraction is a proven pain reliever, and a new study reported in The Journal of Pain concludes that listening to music can be effective for reducing pain in high-anxiety persons who can easily become absorbed in cognitive activities. Read article at: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/01/120105161750.htm>

### **PARENTS ARE HAPPIER PEOPLE: PARENTS EXPERIENCE GREATER HAPPINESS AND MEANING IN LIFE THAN NONPARENTS, PSYCHOLOGISTS FIND**

Contrary to recent scholarship and popular belief, parents experience greater levels of happiness and meaning in life than people without children, according to researchers from the University of California, Riverside, the University of British Columbia and Stanford University. Parents also are happier during the day when they are caring for their children than during their other daily activities, the researchers found in a series of studies

conducted in the United States and Canada. Read article at:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/05/120517115446.htm>

### **EXPENSIVE HOSPITAL READMISSIONS LINKED TO HEALTH-CARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS**

New research finds a strong link between healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) and patient readmission after an initial hospital stay. The findings, published in the June 2012 issue of Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology, the journal of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA), suggest that reducing such infections could help reduce readmissions, considered to be a major driver of unnecessary healthcare spending and increased patient morbidity and mortality. Read article at:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/05/120504135931.htm>

### **RESEARCH EXPLORES THE POSITIVES OF BIPOLAR DISORDER**

The problems of living with bipolar have been well documented, but a new study by Lancaster University has captured the views of those who also report highly-valued, positive experiences of living with the condition. Read article at:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/05/120503115927.htm>

### **BLOOD PRESSURE DRUGS LINKED WITH LOWER PTSD SYMPTOMS**

Traumatized people who take a class of common blood pressure medications tend to have less severe post-traumatic stress symptoms, researchers have found. Read article at:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2012/05/120501162708.htm>

### **'THE DEMISE OF GUYS': HOW VIDEO GAMES AND PORN ARE RUINING A GENERATION**

Is the overuse of video games and pervasiveness of online porn causing the demise of guys? Increasingly, researchers say yes, as young men become hooked on arousal, sacrificing their schoolwork and relationships in the pursuit of getting a tech-based buzz. Read article at:

<http://www.cnn.com/2012/05/23/health/living-well/demise-of-guys/index.html>

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