



# “The Sower”

January 17, 2010



Ron Bartanen, Minister

## Times of Worship

Bible Classes-----9:30 am  
Morning Worship-10:30 am  
Evening Worship---6:00 p  
Wed. Bible Study---1:30 pm

**WELCOME** to today's Bible class and/or worship assembly. If you are a **VISITOR**, we especially appreciate your decision to meet with us. It is our hope that you will return at every opportunity.

Have you checked our web site lately?  
[www.arthurchurchofchrist.com](http://www.arthurchurchofchrist.com)

Be sure to visit the “Apologetics Press” link, now in both English and Spanish. Also newly added: Sermon Outlines and “Family Minutes” (Dale

## LAND PROMISES

In a world that seeks peace and justice, it is easy to overlook the importance of praising God for what He has done. Most understand why it is important to praise God in a general sort of way. However, have we praised the Lord for His covenants? He made a covenant with Abraham, with Jacob, and with the Israelites; from the seed of David came the Christ. Learning our history is a good thing, but sometimes good things do not make an impact on us like they ought. David reflected on Israel's history—going back to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and to the nation. We can reflect on the same, but we can also add to that Jesus Christ (Galatians 4:4; 3:24-27). The covenant to Abraham and to Israel had servants of God zeroing in on the land, but the spiritually minded of God zeroed in on something greater (cf. Hebrews 11:13-16). The land promise was great, but the promise of a Redeemer is greater. He gave Israel the land as an inheritance, but He gives life more abundantly to those who call on the name of the Lord (John 10:7-10). --Ron Thomas, Highway church, Sullivan, IL

### SERMONS



**“TROUBLESOME TIMES ARE HERE”** will be this morning's message, with 2 Timothy 3:1-7 as the reading. The evening lesson will be, **“The Psalm of Faith.”** This will be from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm.

**NEXT SUNDAY** morning Ty Nichol of the Kemp church will be speaking here, and I'll be at Kemp, the Lord willing.



**PRAY FOR:** Paul has had to be taken a couple of times to the hospital for some problems following his surgery, but is now doing better. \*\*\* Linda has a nephew who has had surgery, and will have to undergo radiation. \*\*\* Donna has begun her chemo treatments, and seems to be doing well. \*\*\* Continue to remember Lester, Inez, Linda, Rodger, Lyla, my niece (Paula), Doris's niece (Diane, still in hospital), Mary's mother, Charles Moore (Tex.), Lewis & Mary Carter (Fla.), our service men and women, and our nation's and world's leaders as peace is sought.

## THE UNSHAKEABLE

This past week the world was shocked at the news of the catastrophic earthquake that shook Haiti. It staggers the mind to think of an event such as this that in a moment of time the lives of thousands are terminated, while the lives of millions of others are forever changed. Our prayers must ascend in behalf of survivors, now injured and/or without shelter, food, and even water. Rescue efforts are underway as I type this, as well as humanitarian assistance from a number of sources worldwide. Churches of Christ have been affected, including a children's home in which at least one child was killed, and which was later victimized by looters, stealing their supply of food. I know of at least 2 efforts by churches of Christ to bring aid at this time. They are: **Churches of Christ Disaster Response Team, 810 Hollywood Blvd., West Melbourne, FL 32904** and **WFR relief Ministries, 3201 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St., West Monroe, LA 71291.** Contributions would be welcomed.

Whenever we hear news such as this we should be reminded of how fragile all of life is. No one is immune to life's tragedies. Old Testament writers spoke of God shaking the heavens and earth and the shaking of nations (Isaiah 13:13; Haggai 2:6-7, 21) as a symbol of divine judgment. The writer of Hebrews reminded Jewish Christians of the “voice that shook the earth” on the occasion of the giving of the law through Moses (Heb. 12:26; cf. Exodus 19:18), adding, “now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the **removing of things that are made**, that those **things which cannot be shaken may remain**. Wherefore we receiving a **kingdom which cannot be moved**, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: for our God is a consuming fire”

(Heb. 12:26b-29), We are assured of the reality of God's kingdom—the one kingdom “which cannot be moved.

Earthquakes and other natural disasters serve as a reminder that there are things temporal and things eternal—things that can be shaken and removed and things that cannot be shaken and removed. All of creation is under the judgment of the God who created it.

While we grieve over the losses of those in Haiti, let us also be moved to “serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.”

--Ron

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## HANDBOOK 2010

(While the year is yet young, I thought I'd share this with you. It was sent to me by Jeanette West.)

### Health

1. Drink plenty of water.
2. Eat breakfast like a king, lunch like a prince and dinner like a beggar.;
3. Eat more foods that grow on trees and plants and eat less food that is manufactured in plants.
4. Live with the 3 E's—Energy, Enthusiasm and Empathy.
5. Make time to pray.
6. Play more games.
7. Read more books than you did in 2009.
8. Sit in silence for at least 10 minutes each day.
9. Sleep for 7 hours.
10. Take a 10-30 minutes walk daily, and while you walk, smile.

### Personality

11. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
12. Don't have negative thoughts or things you cannot control. Instead, invest your energy in the positive present moment.
13. Don't overdo. Keep your limits.
14. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does.
15. Don't waste your precious energy on gossip.
16. Dream more while you are awake.
17. Envy is a waste of time. You already have all you need.
18. Forget issues of the past. Don't remind your partner of his/her mistakes of the past. You will ruin your present happiness.
19. Life is too short to waste time hating anyone. Don't hate others.
20. Make peace with your past so it won't spoil the present.
21. No one is in charge of your happiness except you.
22. Realize that life is a school and you are here to learn. Problems are simply part of the curriculum that appear and fade away like algebra class, but the lessons you learn will last a lifetime.
23. Smile and laugh more.
24. You don't have to win every argument. Agree to disagree.

### Society

25. Call your family often.
26. Each day give something good to others.
27. Forgive everyone for everything.
28. Spend time with people over the age of 70 and under the age of 6.
29. Try to make at least three people smile each day.
30. What other people think of you is none of your business.
31. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends will. Stay in touch

### Life

32. Do the right thing!
33. Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
34. GOD heals everything.
35. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
36. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.
37. The best is yet to come.
38. When you awaken alive in the morning, thank GOD for it.
39. Your innermost is always happy. So, be happy.