



**MASSACHUSETTS THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION 1791.**

November 2013

**In consideration of the many undeserved Blessings conferred upon us by GOD, the Father of all Mercies; it becomes us not only in our private and usual devotion, to express our obligations to Him, as well as our dependence upon Him; but also specially to set a part a Day to be employed for this great and important Purpose: I HAVE therefore thought fit to appoint, and by the advice and consent of the Council, do hereby accordingly appoint, THURSDAY, the seventeenth of November next, to be observed as a Day of Public THANKSGIVING and PRAISE, throughout this Commonwealth:-Hereby calling upon Ministers and People of every denomination, to assemble on the said Day-and in the name of the Great Mediator, devoutly and sincerely offer to Almighty God, the gratitude of our Hearts, for all his goodness towards us; more especially in that HE has been pleased to continue to us so a great a measure of Health-to cause the Earth plentifully to yield her increase, so that we are supplied with the Necessaries, and the Comforts of Life-to prosper our Merchandise and Fishery-And above all, not only to continue to us the enjoyment of our civil Rights and Liberties; but the great and most important Blessing, the Gospel of Jesus Christ: And together with our cordial acknowledgments, I do earnestly recommend, that we may join the penitent confession of our Sins, and implore the further continuance of the Divine Protection, and Blessings of Heaven upon this People; especially that He would be graciously pleased to direct, and prosper the Administration of the Federal Government, and of this, and the other States in the Union-to afford Him further Smiles on our Agriculture and Fisheries, Commerce and Manufactures-To prosper our University and all Seminaries of Learning-To bless the virtuously struggling for the Rights of Men-so that universal Happiness may be Allies of the United States, and to afford his Almighty Aid to all People, who are established in the World; that all may bow to the Scepter of our LORD JESUS CHRIST, and the whole Earth be filled with his Glory. And I do also earnestly recommend to the good People of this Commonwealth, to abstain from all servile Labor and Recreation, inconsistent with the solemnity of the said day. *Given at the Council-Chamber, in Boston, the fifth Day of October, in the Year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-One, and in the sixteenth Year of the Independence of the United States of America. –Gov. John Hancock***

This (and many similar documents) gives a lie to all those who say America was not founded on Christian principles. What a firestorm would be raised if a politician would speak of “the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the scepter of our LORD JESUS CHRIST. And the whole earth be filled with His glory Notice it was not to be a day of recreation – that’s all it is today, even for many Bible believers!

## THANKSGIVING SERVICE

This is always one of the most inspiring services we have all year. *Join us and make it a real Thanksgiving to God.* After all, that's what it was in the beginning! Just how grateful are we to God for His salvation and multiplied blessings? **"Be ye thankful."** The truth is few Americans are grateful to God for all His blessings. How sad to see even Christians who think more of a ballgame than they do of God! Let us **"Give thanks unto the Lord for He is good."**

**THURSDAY, NOV. 28<sup>TH</sup> - 8 P.M.**

**Gospel Song Service**, a time for **Testimonies** and a **Special Message**. Having guests for dinner? Invite them to come along. **Let's put the Lord first!**



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### WE APPRECIATE YOUR LETTERS:

**FROM ARIZONA:** Thank you for your ministry and faithfulness to the literal Word of God. We are continually blessed by the timely messages in the Cornerstone Challenge. Praise God!

**FROM CANADA:** Greetings from Moncton, N.B. I pray you are keeping well with God's hand upon you. I want to thank you so much for sending me the Cornerstone Challenge throughout the years. I read it and pass it on for others to read also. May the Lord continue to bless you and your ministry...

**FROM MARYLAND:** Would you please extend my subscription to the Cornerstone Challenge. It is a wonderful newsletter that I thoroughly enjoy reading each month. It is very much needed for times such as these...May God continue to abundantly bless your Church and this ministry.

**FROM CONNETICUT:** I have been receiving the Cornerstone Challenge for a while now, but I don't remember sending you a check. So, I am enclosing a check for\$\_\_\_\_. It is always a gem of a blessing to me, Keep up the good/God's work.

**FROM ILLINOIS:** Greetings! Get your good paper and like it very much. Thanks for everything.

**WHAT SAVED THE JUDGE'S LIFE?** Some years ago Judge Shephard was Circuit Judge in Nashville, Tennessee. He was also a Deacon in his church. It was his unvarying custom to attend all of the services of his church. One Sunday the Pastor noticed that the Judge was not in his usual place in church. After the service he inquired if anybody knew where Judge Shephard was. No one seemed to know. So, one of the members, a Dr. Cox, called the Judge's home but received no answer. He became alarmed as the Judge lived alone. So, he went there and found the house locked and he received no answer to his repeated knocking. He then called the police. He was able to convince the police something was wrong and got them to force open the door saying: "It was not like the judge to miss church as he was there when the church was open. Something must be wrong with him." The officers forced open the door and found him unconscious due to deadly fumes from a faulty gas heater. Another half-hour would have been too late! The judge's testimony of being in church for every service saved his life. What kind of a testimony do you have relative to Church services. God says, **"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."** ~Hebrews 10:25. What kind of a testimony do you have concerning your Church attendance?

**CH -- -- CH means nothing unless U R in it!"**

**BOOZE - THE POISONED SCOURGE!** Drink has drained more blood, hung more crepe, sold more homes, plunged more people into bankruptcy, armed more villains, slain more children, snapped more wedding rings, defiled more innocence, blinded more eyes, twisted more limbs, dethroned more reason, wrecked more manhood, dishonored more womanhood, broken more hearts, blasted more lives, driven more to suicide, and dug more graves than any other poisoned scourge that ever swept its death-dealing waves across the world. -Evangeline Booth. *You better believe it!* **"Wine is a mocker; strong drink is raging: And whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."** ~Proverbs 20:1. Booze has destroyed more lives than all the drugs, legal and illegal, in the world!

### **TRUTH ABOUT BIBLE VERSIONS**

**All bibles are not the inspired Word of God! Pastor Starr's book: "Is Your Bible Really The Word Of God?" will help you understand the truth. \$3.00 each plus 1.50 postage. Three for \$9.00 pp. (U.S. \$)**

## NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

**NEED SOMETHING TO WORRY ABOUT?** A recent scientific study says, “We have at most 2.5 billion years before the sun expands, engulfs the earth. At least we aren’t looking for life in all the wrong places anymore..” The article goes on to say that the earth was formed about 5 billion years ago and another five billion years for the evolution of man. The truth is they are looking in the wrong places, for they are looking at human speculation which is ludicrous beyond words.

This is all a pitiful joke. I read many years ago scientists determined that the sun will burn itself out in 6 billion years. What does man know about what will happen in billions of years. As we have said years ago, the whole evolutionary scheme is nothing more than a house of cards, an effort to get rid of God. But a futile effort! The truth – according to the Word of God which is Truth – as we know from that Word, man only has a thousand years plus from now till the Rapture and seven years of Tribulation. Then, God is going to fold up this universe and make a “New Heavens and a New Earth.” Isaiah 65:17 says: **“For, behold I create a new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered, nor come to mind.”** Revelation 21:1 reads: **“I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.”** The important thing is to make sure you are born again by receiving Jesus Christ as your Savior. Don’t put it off even one day. God says, **“...Behold NOW is the accepted time; behold NOW is the day of salvation.”** ~II Corinthians 6:2.

### **NETANYAHU DEFIES THE UNITED NATIONS.**

Israel’s Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was defiant in his speech to the United Nations on October 1. He quoted the Bible five times, and proclaimed his faith that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob would establish Israel in her land according to His promises. He cited the Persian king Cyrus’s edict for Israel to return to the land and rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem, and called upon Iran, the modern incarnation of Persia, to stop fighting against Israel. Netanyahu said that “presidents of Iran have come and gone, and (yet) we re-established our sovereign state in our ancestral homeland, the land of Israel” (“Netanyahu prophetically correct at UN,” *Israel Today*, Oct. 3, 2013). Israel’s Prime Minister boldly exposed Iran’s terrorism and denounced it as a “rogue regime.” He said that if necessary, Israel would stand alone in dealing with Iran’s nuclear threat. He quoted from Deuteronomy 33, which promises that the eternal God is Israel’s refuge,

that Israel will dwell in safety alone, and that Israel’s enemies will be found to be liars. Netanyahu concluded by saying, “The people of Israel have come home never to be uprooted again.” He quoted Amos’ prophecy of the restoration of Israel to the land (Amos 9:14-15)... -*FBIS* (10/11/13). Ed. We are happy to see Netanyahu’s courage, but Israel is in the land in unbelief. Not until they receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Messiah in the Tribulation will they truly be saved.

### **JUDGE MANDATES SAME-SEX MARRIAGE IN NEW JERSEY.**

A New Jersey judge has legalized same-sex marriage in the state, providing another victory to the growing movement to expand the legal definition of an institution previously limited to a man and a woman. In a September 27 opinion, Superior court judge Mary Jacobson ruled the state’s refusal to recognize gay marriage violated the equal protection clause of the New Jersey Constitution. She ordered the state government to begin October 21 permitting same-sex marriages... If Jacobson’s ruling stands, it will be the 14<sup>th</sup> state to legalize same-sex marriages. – *Baptist Press*. Ed. There is no doubt the ruling will stand. We have said for some time now that it will not be too long before this will be all across the land.

### **SOUTHERN BAPTIST SEMINARY PRESIDENT SPEAKS TO MORMONS.**

Mohler, president of the Southern Baptist Convention’s flagship seminary, spoke to a Mormon audience at Brigham Young University on October 21. He stated that he does not accept Mormon doctrine and that he was there as one “committed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to the ancient and eternal Trinitarian faith of the Christian church.” But he also said that he believes that Mormons and Christians should stand together against the onslaught of secularism. His presence at a Mormon forum was exhibit A for this type of unity. He said many good things, such as, “The conflict of liberties we are now experiencing is unprecedented and ominous. Forced to choose between erotic liberty and religious liberty, many Americans would clearly sacrifice freedom of religion. How long will it be until many becomes most?” (Albert Mohler Speaks at Brigham Young University,” *Courier-Journal*, Louisville, Kentucky, Oct. 22, 2013). -*FBIS* (11/1/3). Ed. This is not at all surprising due to all their other compromises. These people never learn the spiritual lessons because “they lean unto their own understanding.” Joining forces with unbelief, with heretics, is disobedience to the Word of God and cannot succeed. God says, **“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers... Wherefore, come out from among them and be ye separate saith the Lord”** ~II Corinthians 6:14-18

## ANOTHER YEAR...

Some who are reading this would have to say, “ANOTHER YEAR HAS COME AND GONE AND I AM STILL NOT SAVED!” You have heard some more sermons, been witnessed to by a faithful wife/husband or friend, felt the pull of God’s Spirit a few times, but you have not yielded to God and received the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour. I warn you that yours is a very dangerous situation and you have no one to blame but yourself. You are like those who would not yield to the call of God in Jeremiah’s time and there came a day when they had to say, “**The harvest is past, the summer is ended and we are not saved.**” YOU ARE STILL LOST AND IF JESUS CAME TODAY, YOU’D GO TO HELL! You may make excuses now, but you’ll have none then. You may even say that you intend to get saved one of these days, but the truth of the matter is you are at this moment lost and without hope! What are you waiting for; a little more sin, a little more worldliness, a little more self will - just doing your own thing? My Friend, what do you suppose God thinks about all of this? Is He just waiting around at your beck and call so that whenever you are ready He will come and save you? How ridiculous! NO! God says, “**Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near.**” Better make this the year you put your faith in Christ for the forgiveness of your sins and the salvation of your soul. Better do it right NOW - TODAY! God says, “**NOW is the accepted time, behold, NOW is the day of salvation.**” **Don’t put it off! You may wait too late!**

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## IT WILL BE WORTH IT ALL

Jesus said, “**I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.**” When a sixteenth-century British sailor, who had sailed all of his life with Sir Francis Drake returned home for the last time, someone ridiculed him saying: “You haven’t much to show for all those years, have you?” The old sailor replied: “No, I haven’t much, I have been cold, hungry, desperately frightened often enough in life - even shipwrecked. But there is one thing that I am sure of - I have sailed with the greatest captain who ever sailed the seas!” It is easy to become a Christian, a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ: “**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.**” But neither He, nor anyone else in his right mind, ever said that living the Christian life would be easy. If you are looking for an easy life, don’t become a Christian. No, He said: “**In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.**” But if you are looking for the good life, the worthwhile life, trust Christ and give Him your all! Then, when it is all over down here, we will get to spend all eternity with our great Captain! Hallelujah! Praise be to God and to His Blessed Son, our Savior and Captain who is “**bringing many sons to glory.**” The hymn writer put it like this: “*God leads His dear children along. Some through the waters, some thro’ the flood, Some thro’ the fire, but all thro’ the blood; some thro’ great sorrow, but God gives a song, In the night season and all the day long.*”