## The Testimony of An Ancient Tunnel

by John Moore MidTown church of Christ Victoria, Texas

The water was cold and the tunnel was small' so small that I walked for almost half of the way, hunched over and with shoulders touching each side of the tunnel wall. The tunnel traversed from left to right for over 580 yards until I once again saw the precious light of day. It was a walk through history that has been forever imprinted upon my mind.

Dug nearly 2,700 years ago, Hezekiah's tunnel still carries water from the Gihon Spring, located in the Kidron Valley, just east of the ancient city of David, to the well-known Pool of Siloam. The tunnel is an ancient landmark and testimonial to a long-ago king of the nation of Judah.

In the eighth century before Christ, neighboring countries were threatening the borders of the once-united Israel and Judah. Judah, under the capable leadership of Hezekiah, built a reservoir and tunnel to bring water inside the walls of its capital city, Jerusalem (2 Kings 2:20; 2 Chronicles 32:3-4, 30). This tunnel ensured a constant supply of water for the city's inhabitants during any possible lengthy siege of an opposing army. The planning and preparation paid off when, in the late eighth century B.C. the Assyrian monarch Sennacherib, moving through and conquering most of Palestine, encircled Jerusalem, caging it like a bird. However, Sennacherib failed to conquer Jerusalem or weaken its inhabitants, in part because they had a flourishing water supply and could remain indefinitely within the city walls. Jerusalem and the nation of Judah were ultimately spared, while their northern brothers (Israel) were taken captive.

The testimony of the ancient tunnel is one more proof of the Bible's accuracy and validity. It demonstrates that the events and people of the Bible were real and credible. Not only does the tunnel exist, just as 2 Kings reveals, but the Bible accurately pinpoints its location as well. Second Chronicles 32:30 cites the flow of the water from east to west and places its pooling area west of the city of David. Archaeologists have excavated a part of the ancient city of David and its remnants and have placed its southern tip between the Gihon Spring and the Pool of Siloam. The pooling area would have been inside the wall of the city for easy access by the Jerusalem citizens. Today that pool still exists as it did in both Hezekiah's reign and during the Lord's public ministry. Once again, the Bible's accuracy continues to be upheld. It is not only accurate in its general stories, but gives us detailed and specific information which can be verified even 2,700 years later.

# **NEWSLETTER**

Jan. 08, 2017

Mark Dailey, evangelist (716) 754-2752

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## Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:45 AM

Sunday AM Worship 11:00 AM

\* Sunday PM Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday PM Bible Class 7:00 PM

Ladie's Bible Class Tuesday - 10 AM at the building.

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# We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are obviously not expected to give but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

# Please keep cell phones and other noise making devices silent during worship.

We seek to be a place of worship and healing.

We offer a free Bible Correspondence Course







Speaker Time Warner Cable Channel 20 Phil Sanders Tuesday 5:30 AM www.searchtv.org Friday 4:30 PM

<sup>\*</sup> There is no PM service on the 5th Sunday of the month.

### **Condolences**

Sympathy to Carol Jones on the passing of her brother-in-law Michael who passed away in New Brunswick, Canada last week. Prayers are requested for his wife Donna and the family.

**Prayer List** In our prayers let's praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.

**Those that attend:** Joe Pitts, Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Red & Goldie Crow, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Willow, Darlene Reed, Leo & Jeanne Johns, Butts & Edie Sumner, Rick & Fran Fees, Jodie Kelly, Chris Highway, Keith & Glory Marten, Bev McArthur, Candi Butcher, Cheryl Mellott, Ron & Jean Cameron, Joyce Cameron, Carol Jones, Tahlia Willis, and Brenda Nelson.

<u>People in other places</u>: Jennifer Walters, Renee Kinney, Diane Fritton, Tim Mellott and family, Billy Stine, T.J., Wednesday Rahelich, Congressman Ted Poe, Doreen Woods, Betty Leistner, James Proctor, Stephanie, Carol's sister Holly, Frank's niece, Sheila Donkley, Laval Baptiste, Mary Lou, Mila Roche, Tony & Egla Grana, Patrick, Susan Barrett & family, Lula Hall, Jack Openshaw, Sue Garner, Liz Holton, George Kohlbacher, Karen Anstee, Bob, Patrick, Randy Marten, Jeff Elder, Bobby Granton, Sherry Allen, Remi Perini, Isabella Rick, Pat Ferrio, Doris & Mary Jane Mess, and Sandy Kriesel.

#### Updates:

Many of our number have been dealing with flu and cold systems. Among them are.... Diane Mellott, Louella Hopkins, Joanne Morden, Carol Jones, Barbara Oliver, Ron and Jean, and Wayne and Sherry. Apologizies for anyone that was missed.

Leo Johns is hospitalized at Mercy Hospital with the flu. He will be returning to Autumn View for continued rehab when he is well enough.

**Jeanne Johns** was discharged from Autumn View to her son's house in Orchard Park on Thursday. She is feeling much stronger and doing better.

**Lula Hall**, Bev McArthur's mom.... Prayers are requested for strength, peace, and comfort. She suffered a mini-stroke on Christmas day and was readmitted to the hospital.

Wednesday Rahelich had surgery Friday at Strong Memorial in Rochester.

Tony and Egla Grana send their greetings to everyone and thanks for all the notes and cards.

#### **Weather Related Cancellation of Services**

With the possibility for inclement weather be sure to check TV station channel 2 for any cancellation of services. If you are unable to view this channel please call someone before traveling to the building to confirm whether services are being held.

The "Phone Tree" will also be used in this situation.

Always use your own discretion when traveling in inclement weather.

The safety of our members is of utmost importance.

**FYI** Mark & Roger get together to make the decision and then call Ron Cameron who informs Channel 2 of the closing.

Sermon Topic Today: Invitational Christianity and 2017 Trays Today: Jessica Alcorn

**Scripture Reading:** *Matt.* 19:16-22

Sun. AM Adult Class 1 Corinthians

Sun. PM Class Isaiah (Introduction)

Wed. PM Class Ecclesiastes



Read Me

## **Upcoming Events** (Lord willing)

Jan. 15	Men's Business	Meeting

- **Jan. 16** Martin Luther King Day
- Jan. 21 Men's Breakfast 8:30 AM
- Jan. 29 Area-wide Singing Hosted by Linwood church of Christ
- **Feb. 05 Potluck** (Groups 1, 2, & 3 to setup & cleanup)
- Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

# minute with Mark

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I was recently reading some articles on "church building" and how they are perceived by visitors. When someone walks into the auditorium what do they see and how do the feel? Do they see clutter in the corners or on tables and counters? Do they see scrapes of paper in the pews and on the floor, do they see piles of things stacked in the pews or on the floor? Do they see people standing in groups talking who do not approach them or greet them? Do they feel comfortable sitting anywhere or are they afraid they are taking someone's seat. Do they have people who invite them to sit with them?

Next time you walk into the building try something. Look around with new eyes, look around like you have never been here before. What do you see? What can we do to make our building more comfortable and inviting to our visitors? What can you do to make our visitors more comfortable and welcome, will you help?

#### Attention Ladies

Ladies needed for visitation ministry. If you would like to participate please see Sharron Gantt or Audrey Dailey for details.

## Ladies Get-together

Ladies mark your calendars for the first ladies devotional of 2017. It will be on *Friday, January 27th*. Carol Jones is planning a fun and encouraging night us. We hope to see you there.