

September 3, 2023

# The View

*“Sirs, we wish to see Jesus.” — John 12:21*

## Welcome Visitors

Our goal at the Folsom church of Christ is to do everything according to God's word, including respecting its silence. We are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church; we have no earthly “headquarters.” The five elders oversee this church and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily for the benefit of our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don't understand something, please do not hesitate to ask the preacher or one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not correspond to God's word. We are here to serve; please help us do that.

***Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection plate when is passed.***

***We do not solicit donations from visitors. See page 4 for more information.***

## Mark Your Calendars

Bible Exhibit, with Mike Wilson, October 21, 2023

*Invite your friends and relatives.*

## Schedule

### The Lord's Day

#### 9:30 AM Bible Classes

*Auditorium: “Jesus at work in the Gospels.”*

Young Adult Class (room 12): “Jesus: making the best use of the time.” Ephesians 5:15-17

Room 15/16: “Building a Great Marriage”

#### 10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today

Zac Brown: “Why I Love the Book of Hebrews?”

*Livestream at 9:30 & 10:30 <https://tinyurl.com/5f2cbm3y>*

#### Bible Class: 5:00 PM @ the Building

*“Praying the Psalms” (Auditorium)*

HS/College Class, 5 PM Every Sunday @ David & Christie Posey's home (unless notified otherwise)

*Middle school class: monthly (contact David Sanderson ([david.r.sanderson@intel.com](mailto:david.r.sanderson@intel.com))*

*or Seth Reagan ([sethreagan@gmail.com](mailto:sethreagan@gmail.com))*

There are several on-going Bible classes in the homes of members. Check with David Posey or one of the other elders if you would like to join one of those classes.

### Wednesday 7 PM @ Building

Bible classes: 5<sup>th</sup> grade and lower; 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up, auditorium: Praising God in Song

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Men's Bible Study: 7 to 8 AM

Bel Air Market on Bidwell in Folsom.

*“Iron sharpens iron” (Proverbs 27:17). Mentoring (Titus 2:1-6).*

Articles published in the View reflect only the thoughts and opinions of the author alone, not necessarily the editor, the elders or any member of the church at Folsom.

## The Tahoe Bible Conference: 2023

Since the mid-eighties, a group of Christians have gotten together for a few days to study the Bible, sing and pray together. “Jubilee,” as it was called initially, was hosted by Don Duvall and located at a conference center in Clear Lake, California. After Don Duvall it was hosted by Mike Stepke and eventually moved to Zephyr Point in South Lake Tahoe, a beautiful setting. Later, Mike and Andrea Wilson took over the organization of *The Tahoe Bible Conference* (some attenders still call it “Jubilee”).

In the last few years, the conference has been off-and-on, primarily due to the pandemic. Before this year, it last met in 2019. Mike and Andrea got it up and running again this year and several of us from Folsom were able to attend. The Wilsons do the lion’s share of the work in terms of organizing, working with the conference center and making sure the financial aspect of the event is covered. This year, I had the privilege of assisting Mike, in a small way, during the event.

The conference features two main speakers (this year, it was Chuck Durham and Randy Hilburn), some one-off Bible talks, a variety of song leaders (all very good) and, of course, several prayers a day. A nice room and three meals a day are included in the price of admission.

An important feature of the week is getting acquainted or reacquainted with Christians from all over the United States. Most are from California, of course, but we also had attendees from Arkansas, Alabama, Texas, Florida, Washington and Tennessee. This year, Christie and I met several brothers and sisters that we had not had the pleasure of meeting before. There were several first-timers who we expect to be back next year. We also reconnected with Dennis and Debbie Reagan (now living in Florida) and some folks from southern California who we met when we photographed their son’s wedding 15 years ago. That was enjoyable.

With a few exceptions, most of the “clientele” were people, as one of the speakers said, “in the third trimester of life” (I’ll let you figure that out). But there were also two young preachers there, with their new wives, and that was nice. The timing of the conference (late August or early September) makes it difficult for families with school-aged children to attend, but we hope some of those parents, with enough lead time, can make arrangements to come. The event runs from late Monday to early Friday so getting a family member to watch the kids may be doable. I highly recommend making the effort to be there next year if at all possible. See me for more details if you’re interested. It is truly a spiritually invigorating week that anyone who loves God would enjoy.

DAVID POSEY

Coming up...

## A series of sermons from the book of Hebrews

Beginning next Sunday (9/10/23), I plan to begin a series of sermons from Hebrews. I was inspired to do this after some enthusiastic discussions with Zac Brown, who taught the book in a recent home Bible class. I was also reminded that Hebrews is my “first love” when it comes to Bible books.

Why? Years ago, when I was in my late-20’s, I was sitting in a deacons/elders meeting, minding my own business, when one of the elders said, “Let’s put David in the adult class starting next Sunday..” I was sitting right there, but the elder didn’t ask me; he just said “let’s do this...”

I had never taught an adult Bible class before, so there’s that but then I learned that the class was studying the book of Hebrews. I don’t remember ever even reading Hebrews before.

As I’ve mentioned before, times were different “back in the day.” There were no “men’s training classes.” My “training” was likened to being thrown into the deep end of the pool and told to figure out how to swim. For example, one summer I was looking at the bulletin board at the back of the church building and saw my name on a list. It was a list of men who were assigned to preach a sermon during a summer program the elders had planned. I had never preached nor intended to preach a sermon, ever. But back then, the elders didn’t ask you if you would like to do something; they just “assigned” it. (The sermon I preached that summer was probably the worst sermon in the history of mankind; but at least I got up and talked in front of a bunch of people for the first time).

Back to the class on Hebrews, the elder assigned me to teach a class where everyone in the class was older and more experienced than I was. What made it more nerve-racking is that the class had already studied Hebrews 1-3 and was beginning chapter 4 — far from one of the easiest chapters in Hebrews.

Turned out, with a supportive cast of Christians in the audience — and Barnes Notes — I not only survived the class but thoroughly enjoyed teaching it. And I came to love Hebrews, the first book that I had ever studied in detail and the first book I ever taught. I always heard that you learn more when you teach than you ever learn as a student, and it’s true.

So, I’ve decided to preach a series of lessons from that book, my “first love” among the 66 books in the Bible. I chose Hebrews because it’s a sermon (not a letter as such) that exalts Christ and God’s word, puts the Old Testament in perspective, helps us get a better vision of Jesus, includes some warnings to discipline us, contains iconic texts — and it’s *challenging*. Preachers sometimes, in the otherwise noble effort to make their sermons practical and “interesting,” unintentionally neglect the central teaching of the text. We are so concerned that we might bore people that we race pass the actual teaching of the text to find some nugget of practicality that we miss the emphasis of the text. We should know better.

Hebrews is for Bible students and we have a lot of them at Folsom — including many of our young people (I see many of them taking notes). There are a lot of practical lessons from Hebrews, but they flow from the “word of exhortation” (13:22) that the writer is expounding in this marvelous document.

I mentioned that my conversations with Zac Brown got me to thinking about this so I decided to ask him to preach today on “Why I Love Hebrews.” I’m looking forward to that.

DAVID POSEY

# Evolution isn't Your Child's Biggest Challenge in School Anymore

EVOLUTION IS LIKELY NOT THE MOST DANGEROUS WORLDVIEW YOUR CHILDREN OR GRANDCHILDREN ARE GOING TO BE TAUGHT IN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

BY BRAD HARRUB, FOCUS PRESS

Today, radical feminism, the LGBTQ+ agenda, and the transgender agenda pose a much more dangerous threat to their faith. These three agendas have joined hands with one goal in mind—the complete demise and condemnation of marriage and the family.

Consider the account of an elder's daughter, "Mary," who runs off to college at eighteen. For eighteen years Mary has faithfully attended her local congregation and loved her parents. But within the first week of being on campus she is encouraged to join some "gender equality clubs."

In addition to the feminist clubs, as a freshman Mary is required to take a course in "Cultural Studies." She also elects to take a "Women in History" class. Both of these freshman level classes brazenly teach things like white male privilege and toxic masculinity, concepts that had been totally foreign to her before attending college. Within three months Mary has joined her friends and is embracing a radical feminist attitude.

As her worldview changes, she begins to see people like her father as part of the problem with society. By the time Mary returns home for Christmas break she has come to fully embrace radical feminism. But she's not ready to let them in on her new-found worldview. Her parents notice a more rebellious spirit, but they chalk it up as just part of the college experience. Mary still attends worship with them—which eases their fears. But had her parents really been observant, they would have noticed that she was distracted during most of the worship service and seemed extremely uncomfortable during the sermon.

Mary returns back to school and immediately feels more at ease. She is surrounded by people who are being taught the same worldview that she now holds. She quietly wonders how her parents could be so old-fashioned. She sits in classes and reads quotes by feminist Andrea Dworkin: "Under patriarchy, every woman's son is her potential betrayer and also the inevitable rapist or exploiter of another woman." (*Our Blood*, 1981). She listens to professors quote Marilyn French's book *The Women's Room*: "All men are rapists, and that's all they are. They rape us with their eyes, their laws, their codes" (1977). Silently her blood begins to boil against all men.

Right before spring break of her freshman year in college Mary is required to write a paper. The paper must be 3-5 pages long and explain how she agrees with a quote from Andrea Dworkin's book *Letters From A War Zone*. The quote reads: "Like prostitution, marriage is an institution that is extremely oppressive and dangerous for women."

By this time everything about Mary has changed. Her view on men has changed dramatically. Her view on marriage has changed radically. Her view on being a mother and raising children has been turned upside down.

And finally, her view on God has experienced a cataclysmic shift — she no longer even believes in God. Instead, she worships feminism. She has even attended some protests

and rallies. Her life now is all about expressing herself and her new found worldview.

Her parents were proudly sending their daughter off to college, believing they were giving her the best footing for a better life. They celebrated her high grades and academic achievements. They never realized they were sending her into a radical indoctrination camp.

Phyllis Schlafly said in 2005, "The cornerstone of the political correctness that dominates campus culture is radical feminism." Mary had become just another victim of the radical crowd—a pawn to be used against Christian morals.

The next time Mary visits her parents she announces she will not be going with them to worship on Sunday. In fact, she goes on to condemn her parents for supporting a male dominating religion built on patriarchy. Her parents never saw it coming. And sadly, they are unprepared for the confrontation that has been building in Mary for months.

Before Mary closes the books on her first year of college, she has decided that maybe a relationship with a female would not be so bad. After all, women are not the problem — men are. In fact, the thought of being married for life to a man causes her to become sick. And so, Mary — an elder's daughter who was once a faithful Christian — abandons every moral fiber she was raised with and begins actively pursuing a homosexual lifestyle.

Many Christians might think the above scenario is ludicrous—unrealistic. And yet, different versions of this story have been recounted to me by multiple sets of parents. And it doesn't just happen with girls (although more young ladies are rejecting marriage, husbands, children, etc. than guys).

Then there is the transgender movement. Ask yourself this question for a moment: How in the world could the feminist movement be joining hands with the transgender movement? After all, transgender athletes are ruining women's sports! The answer lies in the overall goal of both movements. As I mentioned earlier, the overall goal is the demise of marriage and the family.

I encourage parents to have some serious conversations with their older children. Elders warn your flocks. Consider Paul's strong rebuke in Romans 1 and I Corinthians 6. There is a reason why Hitler stated: "Let me control the textbooks and I will control the state." He knew he needed the hearts and minds of the next generation in order to have world domination. Think about what the textbooks are really teaching our children today.

I fear Mary is not the only one who has fallen prey to the idle babblings. How many more of our children will we lose before we throw down the gauntlet, church?

VIA CY-FAIR NEWS & NOTES

Brad Harrub, PhD, co-founder of Focus Press, earned his doctorate degree in anatomy and neurobiology from the College of Medicine at the University of Tennessee in Memphis.