

November 12, 2023

# The View

*"Sirs, we wish to see Jesus." – John 12:21*

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## 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 it is passed.  
We do not solicit donations from visitors. See page 4 for more information.***

## Schedule

### The Lord's Day

#### 9:30 AM Bible Classes

*Auditorium: A Study of the Parables*

Young Adult Class (room 12): "Mind Your King" (Authority)

Room 15/16: The Sermon on the Mount: Relationships

#### 10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today: David Posey

Hebrews Series: "Going On to Maturity"

Hebrews 5:11–6:1a (Part I)

*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.

Young people monthly meeting (middle school): 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

Classes: same as Sunday 9:30 AM

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).

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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.

# Quotes & Notes

## "Conventional Wisdom"

According to new research from the Institute for Family Studies, the conventional wisdom that couples who live together before marriage are less likely to divorce is false. Their analyses indicate that "religious men and women who married in their 20s without cohabiting first... have the lowest odds of divorce in America today."

The researchers gave several ideas as to why this counterintuitive discovery bore out. They write: "We suspect one advantage that religious singles in their 20s have over their secular peers is that they are more likely to have access to a pool of men and women who are ready to tie the knot and share their vision of a family-focused life. [Also,] shared faith is linked to more sexual fidelity, greater commitment and higher relationship quality."

One Harvard study revealed that women who were regular church attenders were approximately 40% less likely to divorce. The "norms and networks" found in churches provide a pillar for marriage.

## Marriage Advice

*Especially for husbands (?)*

To keep your marriage brimming with love in the wedding cup, whenever you're wrong, admit it; whenever you're right, shut up."

– Ogden Nash

## A Surcharge for "Non-Parenting"

TAMPA, Fla. – The internet is divided over a small detail at the bottom of a Georgia restaurant's menu that charges parents for their misbehaving children. Just below the gratuity disclaimer, the Toccoa Riverside Restaurant menu reads "Adult surcharge: For adults unable to parent \$ \_\_\_\_."

Headline: "USA Today hires first full-time Taylor Swift Reporter." This is so indicative of the culture we live in today

## One day at a time.

Regardless of age, that's the only sensible way to live. When announcing a baseball game, Vin Scully was reviewing the injuries on the opposing team. He said, "Andre Dawson has a bruised knee and is listed as day-to-day." Then he paused and added, "aren't we all?"

## From the "Goes-Without-Saying Dept."

"Elders and preachers are not meant to be CEOs, celebrities, life coaches, influencers, reality stars, brand managers, cultural commentators, or politicians."

Nate Pickowicz

## Calvinism in a Nutshell

This is from the late R. C. Sproul and aptly illustrates what is wrong – and dangerous – with Calvinism. Was Habakkuk right when he said of God, "You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong"? – Habakkuk 1:13

(Sproul:) "When evil comes into the world by God's design and by God's sovereign will--evil is truly evil and it is a sin to call evil good, or good evil--but when God decrees that evil should occur, it is good that it occurs, that is the whole point that has been spoken here, that even though evil is evil, it is good that evil exists, or it couldn't be here, because God ordains it and God is altogether good and He only ordains that which is good. Evil is evil, but it is good that it is here or He would not ordain it. That is not too difficult." (Sproul, National Conference, 2007)

## "The 'Dull of Hearing' Pandemic"

"We are now dealing today with people who are largely biblically illiterate. If they've heard of Moses, they confuse him with Charlton Heston. As a result, they don't know anything about the Bible storyline. Even if they've heard of Jesus, the game rules have all changed. When I was a boy, if there was one verse that was known throughout the culture, it was John 3:16. Nowadays if there's one verse from the Bible that people know about, what is it? Not John 3:16.

They don't even know where it's from, but they know, "Judge not, that you be not judged." That's the best-known verse in the whole Bible in Western culture today, from Matthew, chapter 7, verse 1. "Judge not, that you be not judged." They say, "Who are you to tell me what to do or what to believe in? Doesn't your own Bible say 'Judge not, that you be not judged.'? Who are you to tell me not to sleep around? I mean, 'Judge not, that you be not judged.'"

– D.A. Carson



If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were precisely those who thought most of the next. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this.

(C. S. Lewis)

izquotes.com

[Think about it] "The riddles of God are more satisfying than the solutions of man" – GK Chesterton

# War

BY DAVID POSEY

Current events are troubling. But, how often have “current events” *not* been troubling? People never learn; they keep stirring up trouble and the innocent pay the price. We are seeing that in the strife in the Middle East right now.

It’s nothing new. If I may speak from experience, I can tell you that my whole life has been lived under the shadow of war and the threat of a nuclear holocaust. I was born two years after WWII ended (remember, it was an atomic bomb that caused Japanese to surrender); my father was a soldier in that war. A few short years later, the Korean War broke out. I never got to meet some of my male relatives because they were killed in that “police action” (it was never a declared war).

From the late 1950s the USSR was a constant threat. That period was called the “cold war” but at times, it was heating up. Times were tense back then. Try to imagine watching the *Mickey Mouse Club* or *Father Knows Best*, sponsored by commercials urging you to buy a bomb shelter. There were constant attempts at intimidation. The Soviet Union leader at the time, Nikita Khrushchev once said, “we will bury you!” (referring, of course to the USA).

Then there was the Cuban Missile Crisis that occurred from October 16 to October 28, 1962. The Soviets placed nuclear weapons in Cuba, 90 miles away from Miami. The president at the time, JFK, demanded that they remove them and they did, but it is considered the most dangerous moment (of many “moments”) of the Cold War; we were “this close” to WWII.

Then there was the Vietnam War which lasted for about 19 years, from 1955 to 1975. It was a prolonged conflict between North Vietnam, supported by the Soviet Union and China, and South Vietnam, supported by the United States and other anti-communist allies.

This war affected my generation and many of my peers served a year or more in Vietnam. Several of our brethren served in that war and others died in that war. I was in the Army but didn’t have to go to Vietnam. I was in a reserve force in Hawaii at the time. The war became increasingly unpopular and marches and even rioting became common.

Wars are a constant reality in life. True “peacetime” is a rarity for those of us living in America. Right now, we are in a proxy war with Russia in Ukraine and headed for a proxy war with evil empires in the Middle East. In never ends.

Jesus said, Matthew 24:6, “*And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet.*” Most likely, the context is the coming destruction of Jerusalem that occurred about 40 years after Jesus said this. But it seems that Jesus is also stating a timeless principle: “wars and rumors of wars” will always be part of the worldwide scene. Power-hungry men love war. And it may not be popular to say it, but “if you don’t understand something, look for the financial interest.” Wars are profitable; millions even *billions* of dollars are

made from wars. That’s one reason rumors of wars often become real wars.

The rumor of a war may not scare you like it scared me when I was 11 years old. Every so often, we would have a “nuclear blast drill” and were told to hide under our desks. Seriously. We lived in Vallejo, home to Mare Island Naval Shipyard, where nuclear submarines were being built. I heard a “rumor” that Mare Island was high on the list of primary targets for a nuclear strike by the USSR. That rattled my cage a bit, too.

The prospect of another global war, WW III, can make us today, at the very least, *anxious*. So, what do we do? One answer to this is found in texts like Philippians 4:6-7, where Paul says,

“...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Of course, there are also figurative battles that we face in our daily lives: raising our kids, dealing with illnesses or the loss of loved ones, the constant concern for our older kids and grandkids, and more. For some, putting bread on the table is a battle, although that should *never* be the case for one of our members here or elsewhere, for that matter.

Sometimes life is a smooth ride on the sea with few waves rocking the boat. But usually, life is at least a bit of bumpy ride and, sometimes those waves are so strong, it makes life seem almost unnavigable. “Wars and rumors of wars,” added to these daily struggles, just makes matters worse.

It’s easier for us who are older to not be anxious, I guess; we’ve been there and survived. Aging itself creates some “battles.” But, when you are in the November or December of your life, you tend to be less concerned about war talk, even as we are concerned about what our kids and grandkids will experience in their lifetime. But — and we all know this — the only thing we can and should do is take one day at a time.

“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

*Matthew 6:34*

Life may seem chaotic and dangerous now but hold on because God has something better for us. Since we are focusing on Hebrews in our preaching lately, let’s “rest” on these words:

So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God’s rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.

*Hebrews 4:9-11*