



Pastor Ken Studer

Sunday, July 13, 2008

Scripture Reading: Romans 8:1-11

TODAY'S THOUGHT: Words must be weighed, not counted.

—Anonymous

As this is being written, lawmakers in Parliament in the United Kingdom are thinking about abolishing the blasphemy laws which have been on the books since sometime in the 1800s. Leaders in the Church of England, perhaps bowing to the inevitable, have signaled that they would not put up much resistance to such an abolishment. No one gets arrested for blasphemy these days, so what's the point?

But in California, a small town has decided that at least one week a year should be proclaimed as "No Cussing Week." South Pasadena had their first "No Cussing Week" last March, and they intend to observe the first week of March every year in a similar manner. Town leaders hope it will remind people to be civil.

It's nice to know that some people think that foul language is a problem and that our communal life is much better when we're free of it. As Christians, we've known this all along. The Bible warns us in many places against foolish talk, swearing, profanity, gossip, vain and idle talk.

In fact, the apostle Paul says in Colossians 4:6: "Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone." Our speech should be "seasoned." It should "taste good" to those around us. It should not be foul-smelling, but pleasant and gracious.

Question: Do you know some people who can't get around as well as they used to, but their mouths are still working overtime? Let's use our speech to be a blessing to others.

Prayer: O God, thank You for giving me a voice to praise You and encourage others. Help me to use it well. In Jesus' name. Amen.

ACTIVITY PAGE for the week of July 13, 2008

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

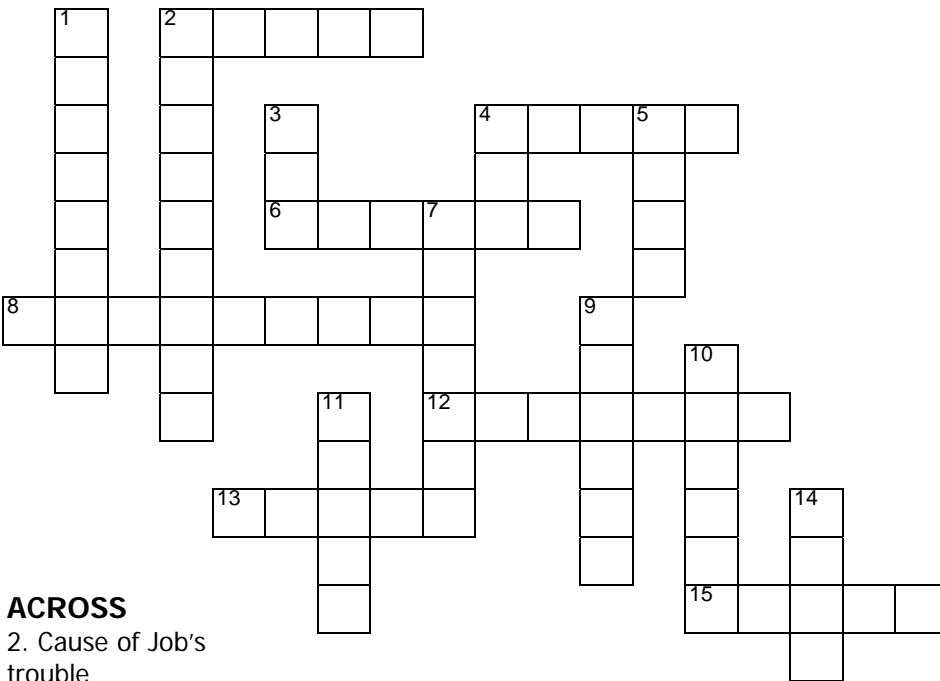
- Sunday:** Acts 3-5
- Monday:** Isaiah 40-42
- Tuesday:** Isaiah 43-45
- Wednesday:** Isaiah 46-48
- Thursday:** Isaiah 49-51
- Friday:** Isaiah 52-54
- Saturday:** Psalms 73-75

Verse to Remember

Those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

—Isaiah 40:31

CROSSWORD: All of the clues and answers are taken from the story of Job, the book in the Bible that comes right before Psalms.

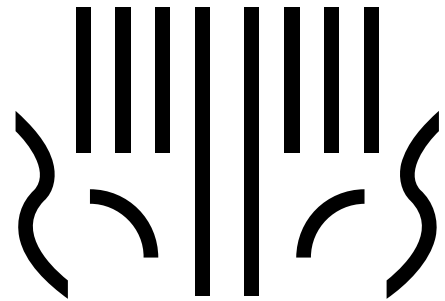


ACROSS

- 2. Cause of Job's trouble
- 4. Twinkling heavenly lights
- 6. The Shuhite, a friend
- 8. Creature of the deep
- 12. The Temanite, a friend
- 13. Sores
- 15. Job had 7000

DOWN

- 1. The One who ever lives
- 2. Affliction
- 3. Had 7 sons
- 4. Ocean
- 5. Precipitation
- 7. Job had 500
- 9. The Naamathite, a friend
- 10. Job had 3000
- 11. Job's 4th friend
- 14. Job had 500 yoke



Nevertheless, the righteous
 will hold to their ways, and
 those with clean hands will
 grow stronger.

J o b 1 7 : 9

Solution:
Across
 2. Satan
 4. Stars
 6. Bildad
 8. Leviathan
 12. Eliphaz
 13. Boils

Solution:
Down
 1. Redeemer
 2. Suffering
 3. Job
 4. Sea
 5. Rain
 7. Donkeys
 9. Zophar
 10. Camels
 11. Elihu
 14. Oxen