

THE HAVEN NEWSLETTER

“The Worst Nuclear Disaster that you have never heard of!” My mom found out in the last few years that our family, along with thousands of others, had been exposed to radioactive gases and materials back when I was a young child. Some of you are already thinking – well this explains a lot about Bill but I digress. There are hundreds of articles now available on the net (<http://theantimedia.org/the-worst-nuclear-disaster-in-us-history-that-youve-never-heard-about/>) for example, but the story has never received any national attention. The numerous articles talk about that this nuclear accident was far worse than the Three Mile accident decades later which of course received a lot of attention including a Hollywood movie. Two things I want to highlight here – First was the fact that this facility was a part of a neighborhood – that something this potentially deadly, a series of reactors, was built amid thousands of homes and families – including those of the staff! (For those with a sick sense of humor – they tried cleaning up the radioactive waste initially with soap and water and sponges!!!). Secondly and maybe even more important is the fact that the US government and other companies including Boeing, covered up the event. No one was warned or told about anything. Some graduate students discovered some buried studies in an archive and broke the news decades after the fact. Boeing to this day denies any responsibility.

Why is any of this germane to Haven Ministries? For many of us the fact that the government might lie is almost laughable – of course they will! As President

Reagan is reported to have said – “In God we trust – everyone provides references!” As a longtime cynic, it was quite easy for me to doubt my parents, or my siblings or my friends or my teachers. Before I was a Christian I would say that it was the normal response for me. I didn’t trust my parents because they had lied to me. I didn’t trust my siblings because they had lied. I didn’t trust my friends because they had lied. I didn’t trust my teachers, well not because they had lied, although a few did lie and I knew it; I didn’t trust them because they were part of school and I didn’t like school! I learned through experience that coaches would lie. I usually didn’t trust because I caught them lying. I knew that my father had told us he would come see us and most of the time it didn’t happen. I knew that my siblings weren’t trustworthy because we were all using drugs and would steal from each other and lie to everyone just to get high. Same with my friends. And shock of all shocks I knew I did the same. I was not one that should ever have been trusted. (On a side note the first time I went to church as a teenager was over Christmas break my senior year in high school. I and my neighbor had been asked by the youth pastor if we wanted to go over to a youth group meeting. I remember distinctly looking at these kids from different schools and just knowing that they were not “cool” – which meant to me they didn’t smoke dope! But while we thought about it I took a glance at some of the moms nearby and they all had this horrified look which I took as their fear of somebody who looked like me coming anywhere near their daughters! They were actually

justified to think that way...)
When you have a track record of lying, you should never be trusted by anyone – on the other hand your career choice as a politician is secure!

But after I had become a Christian I foolishly and ignorantly went to the other extreme. I went to Bible college and was thrilled to be around people I could trust! It was great. Christians by definition, would never lie. The next year I got a scholarship to a Christian university and I was lied to by my coach, by the athletic director and saw the administration mislead students and even teachers! I was stunned. Surely Christian leaders would never do such a thing. I had learned to trust – but I had put my trust in the wrong persons. When I was called into ministry I was confident that I was now trusting the Lord. I could quote Proverbs 3:5-6 with the best of them “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and don’t lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make straight your paths!” But the first time I got lied to by a Pastor was a real wake up call. The second time I was lied to by one was crushing beyond belief. The third time was just over the top. How could men of God do this? The first time it had happened it chased me right out of ministry – that is when I became a Deputy Sheriff. The second time almost destroyed my emotionally and it took several months to get my heart and mind back into ministry.

The third time hurt us as a family badly and I almost set up Haven so no one could ever hurt my family again. But then it was like the Lord grabbed me – if I set up a board with virtually no real accountability I could become just like that man! I knew I couldn't go that route. All the time I had to forgive and forgive. More importantly I was learning that I hadn't really understood Proverbs 3:5-6 at all.

I think what I had misunderstood was the level of trust that was expected. I had a very general sense of that trust. We became missionaries – we had to step out and raise support, which I didn't want to do! We had to go to new and strange churches and meet strange (you know who you are!) people – all of which was easy for Terri but scared me to death! The verse plainly says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart". I had conveniently overlooked the word "all" for my entire Christian life! The same thing happened in verse six – "In all your ways acknowledge..." There was that bad word again "all". In my many discussions with Mormons over the years who think the great commandments of Jesus are realistic guidelines that all people can do – as opposed to the reality that when Jesus says, "You shall worship the Lord with all your heart, with all your strength, with all your mind and with all your soul" I know for sure that I am already 0 for 4. In baseball parlance, I have already struck out with an extra strike for good measure! In all honesty, I have partially trusted the Lord with some of my heart. I have trusted Him in some ways but clearly never in all ways. In Bible college, someone had even made this point by parodying a hymn. "I surrender some, I surrender some, Some to Jesus I surrender, I surrender some". I should have paid more attention...

The sad correction to all this is that the Lord is the only one who has never lied to me. He is the only one who has never screwed me over. He is the only one who has a clean paper trail. When He says something is true in His word – I can take it seriously and live it. Reminiscent of the Apostle Paul in Philippians – I have learned the secret. He said that he had learned the secret of being content through every circumstance and he said this at the end of his life. I think I am getting to the point in my old age and senility where, (maybe, hopefully, please please) I can almost say that I am trusting Him with ALL my heart and trusting Him completely, in full submission to His will.

I don't trust the government regardless of who is in power. I don't trust my fellow ministers – nor should they trust me. I don't trust my family. By contrast - I love my country – I love my fellow ministers – I love my family dearly. I am so thankful for all of them. I am even more thankful that yall have cared so much for us over all these years. But I cannot and will not trust any of you – though sometimes I long for that. Over and over I have learned to trust in God alone, to submit my will to His and to find complete assurance in the One who made me, who has always loved me, and will bring me home to Him someday.

Coming Events

Aug 27 – I preach at Foothills Fellowship Baptist Church

Sept 4 – Dec 5 Home Bible Study – The book of Zechariah

Sept 9 – The BodyMindSoul (Formerly Psychic Fair!) fair in Denver.

Sept 29 – I teach at Nebraska Christian High School in Central City NE

Oct 1 – I am preaching at True North Church in Grand Island, NE

Oct 14 – BMS fair in Colorado Springs

Nov 4 – BMS Fair in Loveland

Nov 12 – Athena Festival in Northglenn

Dec 2 – The Haven Ministry Christmas Party

The Parliament of World Religions has been scheduled for Nov 1-7, 2018 in Toronto. A huge event for us as always. Please be in prayer for this!



Prayer Requests

We thank the Lord for the gracious giving that He has given us through so many of you. An update on this is that when we came back from the Philippines the ministry account was basically gone. This has happened before so we are not distressed but neither do we ignore it. We pray that our Father will continue to uphold the ministry of Haven as he has since 1990. Please prayerfully consider supporting the ministry now and for the future. Please pray that others will do the same thing!

- 1) We continue to thank the Lord for His goodness. Terri is still hurting physically and so I ask that you hold her up in prayer. She will probably have to have the knee replaced soon, and she is not looking forward to that. She is very much enjoying selling the scarves from the Philippines to benefit the ladies from the Smoky Mtn. trash dump. She brings them to every church that I speak at. Scott and Savanna and baby Conrad are doing so well! They are walking with the Lord and enjoying parenthood! They have moved in with us and we enjoy having them. Shawn and Kelly, Tegan, Apple have moved to Berkeley California to save some money and Shawn is doing well at his job. We miss them terribly. Andy is still happy going to his day program and cheering for all the Husker games! Andy has become a fan of every possible sport the Huskers compete in – men and women's! Strangely Andy is also a big fan of the Aurora Huskies High school team and now say he would rather go to their game than to the Huskers game in Lincoln. I do not know what to make of that! Gabe and Shaina and Kaylee are enjoying their new apartment and Gabe is maybe one semester from finishing his firefighter educational training. Pray that he can find a job as a fire fighter soon! Rose and Austin and their girls CeCe and Bella have moved in and they are saving money to get a house. We love having the girls around the house again. I have heard the words “empty nest” but I don't know what they mean! Johanna and Kevin and Kirra have just moved in with us as well and so now we have 14 in the house. Empty nest indeed.... Please pray for Joe and Johanna and Jon as they all need the Lord!
- 2) My mom is in Houston and happy there. She still must deal with cancer but there are good facilities down there. I have had a few very short calls recently from my dad and they have all been sort of friendly so I thank the Lord even for a moment of peace. Thanks so much for praying for this situation. Pray for my brothers and their families that they would all know and follow the Lord. Pray for my sis too! Pray for many in my family who need the Lord!
- 3) Please pray for some friends and co-workers who have serious health issues. Pray for many who have pressing chronic issues such as Sherri C, Rose R, Liz H, Sheila H, Joanna V, Charlene E, Jason G, Zach M, Duane E, Noah G and others. Please pray for our supporter Trish who has a major illness that will eventually take her home. Pray for her unsaved husband Bruce as well. Also pray for other members of our family who are sick and need the Lord. Pray for Doug and Rebecca Groothuis – Rebecca has moments of lucidity during dementia. Pray for Doug in his life and ministry at Denver Seminary and for both during this hard, hard time. Pray for dear friends and mentors Jim and Ossie who have had a terrible struggle with extreme health problems with their adult daughter. Pray our Father shows mercy there! Pray for the daughter of a pastor/friend of ours – her name is Amber and she just had a terrible stroke!
- 4) Pray for the miracle of repentance and reconciliation in the marriages or now ex-marriages of Debra, Mike, Cheryl, Leon, Greg, Tyler, Glen, Karina, Janelle, and way too many others.
- 5) Pray for the salvation of the Muslims, Gnostics, Mormons, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, as well as for Sister Who, the Japanese Buddhists, and many others. Please pray for all the people that we have witnessed to over the years, whom can be referenced in the past Haven Newsletters. Pray for the Mormons coming to my house for the past few months. It is amazing that they are still coming back. Pray for Charles and Amanda in Jerusalem whom I am still talking to as well as an orthodox owner of a story there that is talking a bit with me. Please pray for all my family and others who heard the Gospel during this past month during the two memorial services. We had some great opportunities to share the Gospel with several different types of Mormons during our trip to Independence in May.
Also pray for the Mormons we had some great conversations with in Manti UT this past June. Pray for the Japanese exchange students who heard the Gospel during a sermon I gave at a church in the Philippines. Pray for the orphans and alumni from the college and others that we spent time with in the Philippines. Pray for the Urantia lawyer I have met with twice!
- 6) Pray for the Haven staff. Pray for their support raising efforts. Pray for their ministry and for all of us as we go to different events. Pray for the Lord's grace and mercy to mark everything we do. The staff continues to grow with new associates and interns. Pray especially for one of our staff - Rose – who has some difficult health concerns. Pray for her husband Mark and all the family please. The staff is up to 17 including interns, so we thank the Lord for the fellow workers and we all thank you for your prayers!
- 7) Please pray for our many friends and their children who are serving with our military. The reality of militant Islam is that we are now in what many think is another chapter of a very old war. This sadly is getting much worse lately. Hardly a day goes by without Muslims killing innocents somewhere in the world. Pray for soldiers like Miguel and Matt and Josh and Nick and Heath and Will. Pray for the Marines like our nephew Eddie and Matt. Pray for Chang and Gabe and many others who are serving the country right now. We thank the Lord for all of them and so many others who serve us.

Answer to the Big Prayer Request!

We had a great trip of ministry while in the Philippines. I taught two classes on Romans and Apologetics at the Bible College in Dumaguete. I spoke at seven churches and several Bible studies and youth groups. I got to give the Gospel to some Japanese exchange students and to others. Terri and I met virtually every night with alumni, teachers, staff from the College and students and Pastors and their families. We took everyone out to eat and fellowshiped and tried to bless as we could. We went out with the remaining members of the Agape girls and with orphans at Precious Jewels. We thank you for the money that we had and we spent all of it buying dinner and supplies and clothes and taking kids to the movies (We ended up seeing the new Spiderman movie three times! – that's what they all wanted!) We thank the Lord for the time there and we thank yall for your support of the trip. Your help enabled us to bless many in need there and we are grateful.



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NON PROPHET SECTION

Non – Prophet Update – So many heretics so little time!
We just got back from the Philippines and sadly there is even more of a mess! Between Pope Francis picking yet another pro-homosexual advocate for leadership within the Vatican (Father James Martin as communications director) to go along with other Pro Homosexual appointees like Father Tim Radcliffe and a host of others. As some Roman Catholics have noted the “lavender lobby” has been inside the Vatican for quite a while, but with Francis it seems like transparency is the new order. In a bizarre twist of logic, Cardinal Raymond Burke has recently argued that the reason that there have been so many pedophiles in the church is that the church has been “feminized” and doesn’t attract enough “manly men”. You know this excuse didn’t go over when Adam blamed Eve and God for his rebellion, and I don’t think Cardinal Burke can get away with it this time either. I am not holding my breath for Pope Francis to clean up the RC mess – he seems to be taking the church into even murkier waters for inclusions sake. What will happen, as it is already being promoted by numerous academics, psychiatrists, therapists and others, when pedophilia is destigmatized and made legal? Will the church embrace the horror? So much confusion – even following God’s word does not ensure compliance with the Lord’s commands. But when you don’t have the Bible as your sole authority – you pretty much can guarantee an abandonment of God’s commands.

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