

Audio Sermons: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/caboose-ministries/audiopodcast/id506049887mt=2>

YouTube Channel [for dramas, sermons, & puppet shows for kids]: Michael Robert Guertin

Website: www.cabooseministries.org **Caboose!** Facebook Site: “Michael ‘Guerty’ Guertin”

FEBRUARY 2022

“22 YEARS-IN 2022”



Dear Friends & Family,

This month marks **22 years** of our itinerant living-by-faith ministry. O, how these years on the road have flown by! I still remember consulting with some respected brethren in the Lord re: this life-course-change decision. Back then, the “cloud & fire’s” presence in my heart had been waning for quite some time re: ministering almost *exclusively* to **children**. I was feeling the **Time Machine** dramas & messages I had been receiving were at times too intense for children. In that same vein, I also felt these messages were for older audiences but also for older audiences across the spectrum of the **Body of Christ**. This sense has been confirmed so many times over the past 22 years. I have been doing what I feel I was called & made & gifted to do.

"A GARDEN, A TENT, & A TEMPLE"



[1/26] God planted a garden. It was a lovely garden-a beautiful garden-a perfect garden. Why? For a place for man to live in. But it was much more than that. It was a place for God to *meet* man in. God never met man on another celestial body. He never met man in another part of the world. He met man in the garden. And, even more lovely than the luscious fruit & colorful diversity in the garden, was the presence of God in the garden. This made it the most lustrous. This presence made it the most savory place on Earth for all of the longings & hungering in man's heart. Man's fullest experience in life was being in the presence of God in the garden. Alas, this wondrous scenario was not to last. Man distrusted & violated his God. He obeyed the voice of God's arch-enemy & listened to this adversary's falsities about God. The sweetness of His presence in these glorious surroundings was over. Now, God stationed **holy angels** to bar man from ever entering this paradise of God again. Their *meeting*-place was gone. Before long, their meeting place would not exist anymore. It, along with the rest of the Earth, would be washed away-wiped away-inundated by the waters of **the Flood**-never to be the same. Many years later, God had man build a tent. It was a **Tent of-Meeting**. God, being Who He is, still wanted to *meet* with man. This tent was not in a garden, but in a desert. And yet-because God filled this tent with that same sweet presence that was in the garden, it, like the garden, became a most sublime spot. Heaven on Earth happened again. "I will meet with you...& speak to you..." [Ex.25:22]. And, He did. Yet, unlike the garden when God placed man in it, this tent was much more dangerous now that man was fallen. This tent had limitations, boundaries, restrictions-very severe restrictions. In fact, something alive had to die & shed its blood for man to even think of entering this tent. And yet, God still wanted to *meet* man there. And, He did. When this tent was dedicated, God's sweet presence in the form of a cloud "covered & hovered" over this tent of *meeting*. At night this cloud had fire mixed with it too. As with God's presence in the garden in the cool of the day, now His "glorious aura" filled this tent-so much so that man could not even enter it. "Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, & the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, & the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle" [Ex. 40:34, 25]. Yet, once again, as with man's rebellion in the garden, man rebelled. **Israel** repeatedly violated the God Who so graciously chose them over all of the other nations whom He chose *not* to choose. As the Flood destroyed the garden, so now idol-worshiping pagans, the **Philistines**, destroyed "the functioning" part of the tent, & stole the "centerpiece" & glory of this 2nd "meeting place" of God with man. "**The Ark of God** was captured..." [I Sam.4:11]. The Tent was relocated to other places. The Ark was eventually returned, but at Shiloh, "the glory had departed" [I Sam.4:22]. As

the waters of the Flood decimated & carried away the 1st “meeting place”, so the Philistines disrupted the 2nd. Israel was unfaithful. Yet, years later, God moved on the **heart** of a man, **David**, to build a permanent meeting place. This honor would go to his son **Solomon**. And, Solomon did so. God *still wanted to meet with man*. Upon the completion & dedication of The Temple, once again, as He did with Moses in the 1st Tent, that precious cloud of His presence & glory “filled the Temple of the Lord, & the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled His Temple” [I Kings 8:10]. Once more, however, the people of God proved horrifically unfaithful to their covenant-keeping God. Hence, He sent another “Temple-destroyer”. “God gave them all into the hands of **Nebuchadnezzar**...they carried to Babylon all of the articles from the Temple of God, both large & small, & the treasures of the Lord’s Temple...they set fire to God’s Temple & broke down the wall of Jerusalem; they burned all of the palaces & destroyed everything of value there...” [II Chr.3:17-19]. The Flood destroyed the 1st “meeting” place. **Dagon** worshippers destroyed the 2nd. Once again, pagans destroyed the 3rd. **Where once the fire of God filled a place now the fires of His enemies did**. And yet-God *still* wanted to meet with man. That’s the way He is. Faithful to Himself-faithful to the end. He moved on the heart of another man, **Zerubbabel**, to rebuild this Temple. And, he did. And yet, & yet, once more, the people of God did not reciprocate to any degree the love & faithfulness their God had shown to them. His Own Son while on Earth said of this rebuilt Temple, “Truly I tell you, not one stone here will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down” [Mt.24:2]. And, so it was. Another idol-worshipping pagan named **Titus** destroyed this Temple & thus was used by God to fulfill Jesus’ words.

“ULTIMATE TEMPLE’ DESTRUCTION”



The wickedness of man has no bounds. This was most vividly displayed in the destruction of the “Ultimate Temple”, the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Himself. Here however, the Lord *allowed* MEN to destroy *This Temple*. “Destroy this temple, & in three days I will make it rise again” [Jn. 2:19]. And, He did. It was the Father’s ordination that This Temple be destroyed, so that He might build upon Its “ruins” yet another Temple-the **Church**. God is so protective of *this Temple*, The Bride of His Son, that the Apostle Paul wrote, “Whoever destroys God’s Temple, God will destroy him [I Cor.3:17]. This Temple, The Church, will stand for all of time-& the Gates of Hades will not prevail against It [Mt. 16:18].

"TEMPLES TODAY"



The Lord still builds “temples” today-&-like Jesus did in the Temple of His day, He cleanses them, &, if cleansing proves to be of no avail, He destroys them. It is a Divine pattern in Church history for the Lord to begin new movements, churches, groups, denominations, etc., i.e., new “temples”. And, yes-He also cleanses & destroys them-for the very same reasons He did so in the Scriptures-in the Garden, in the Tent of Meeting & in the Temple in Jerusalem: the unfaithfulness of the people therein. In fact, I would dare say our Lord destroys more temples than He cleanses. The prophet **Isaiah** 700 years before Christ bewailed & mourned the fact that “Your people possessed Your sanctuary-*for a little while*” [Isa.64:7]. Countless individuals, churches, denominations, movements, revivals, etc. have arisen, flourished, & then have waned, weakened, & collapsed-so often due to unfaithfulness. How many of us have witnessed former churches which have become antique stores or coffee shops? These edifices were once havens of God’s Word & precious presence! Now, they are filled with pagans & used for pagan purposes! They were not originally built for such things! Beloved, this sobering truth drives me to my face-to prayer-to helpless dependency upon God. “O Lord-who can stand?”. This small phrase in The Scriptures “for a little while” digs a hole in the bottom of my spirit. It haunts me in a sobering *godly* way. How so? In the ministries the Lord has given to me, whether they be the **Caboose!** itinerant ministry, **Via Dolorosa**, **Summer Camps**, etc., these four words drive me to Him! They drive me to fervently entreat Him not to allow me only to have His O, so very sweet presence & anointing & “dwelling” place upon me for only “a little while”! I can think of fewer things in life that bring despair to my soul should this ever happen! May He help me greatly in my very deep need of Him!

"THE ETERNAL INDESTRUCTIBLE TEMPLE"



There is another Temple, that is beyond wondrous & spectacular-it is the ultimate dwelling place of God for His people-for all time. It is *God Himself*. "I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty & the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, & the Lamb is its lamp" [Rev. 21:22,23]. O, wondrous thought! No one will ever breach its walls. No one would dare try! God's people will be safe & secure "in their God". There is no higher longing nor fulfillment thereof in the heart of redeemed man than to be "in God". Even as I type these words they produce an ache in me to be eternally "in Him". In the meantime, may He enable me to help usher in His presence & His "cloud" wherever He sends me & in whatever venue He enables me to minister. Come, Lord Jesus-come. Amen.

"OVER 600 THOUSAND"



Kim & I visited a church recently. After enjoying some sweet fellowship at the rear of the sanctuary with a brother/friend I knew there, I noticed a young man up on the platform doing all kinds of break-dancing moves while a friend of his filmed him with his phone. My friend gestured to him & said, "Do you see that young man up there? He has over 600, 000 followers on **Tik Tok**." I was taken aback. "**600,000??!**", I retorted. "Over a half-million people??!" He replied, "Yes". Note well, Beloved, that that is the number of men who came out of Egypt in the Exodus! I asked if that is what he posts, vis, break-dancing, etc. My friend replied that it was, & other daily events in his life. I told my friend in my astonishment & dismay, "Man, I produce a verse-by-verse Bible exposition video each week [called "**Cab!Talks**"] & have only a pittance of followers", et al. My heart just sank with bewilderment, confusion, & a deep sadness. "Oh God,

oh God-why? Why, dear Lord? I strive to make my video productions all about You, not me. Even the portions of Scripture I choose are “choice Christological chapters”, which specifically focus on the Person & work of Your Son. And here, this young man is just doing foolish amusements-& his audience has over a half of a million people. Help me, Lord. I cannot take this in. Help me.” I told my friend that I post these productions on **Facebook & YouTube**. He replied, “They’re [meaning younger people] not on those”. I pondered later if I should go to **Tik Tok** {& other venues} to further spread His Word. I’m praying very much about this. Just wanted to share my heart re: a current struggle I’ve been agonizing over. May He show me His wisdom & way. Amen. Thanks for reading, friend.

Sincerely, **Michael**



***Caboose! Commentary Corner:** [Our daughter Laura once said she’d love to have my old Bibles when I passed for all of the notes I have written in them over the decades. This was quite humbling to say the least, especially coming from one of your own children. Hence, I’ve decided to post each month random notes/comments from Bibles I have studied from]: “The most detrimental thing that can be said of any place on EarthàThere is no fear of God in this place.” [M.R.G. 4/5/’21]



Caboose! On The Loose!

Ministry/Events for FEBRUARY & those not listed in last month's newsletter:

Jan. 7: Children’s ministry consultation Zoom mtg.

Jan. 10: Elim Fellowship Global Workers’ Zoom mtg.

Jan. 25: Parkview AG Church, Newark, DE: “Villains of Via” coordinators mtg.

Jan. 30: Parkview AG Church, Newark, DE: exploration visit [re: decision to do Villains of Via]

Feb. 1: Petra Church, New Holland, PA: hsc board mtg.//Network Pastors' mtg.

Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23: **Cab!Talk** Bible exposition video postings

Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27: *Chip Sunday Show* video postings



*Michael is an ordained *Elim Fellowship* itinerant Stateside missionary & is also licensed to preach the gospel by *Immanuel Church*, Wilmington, DE. *Caboose!* is also an affiliate ministry of *The Hopewell Network of Churches*. For 14 years he served on various local church staffs as their children's pastor. Since 2000 **Kim & he have lived by faith, having no set salary, retirement, etc. to speak of.** Yet-this is their calling at this season of their lives. Michael preaches God's Word & systematic theology, using both drama & visual aids, to all age groups, from children to senior citizens, either separately or combined. **To help support this work [any amount no matter how small is greatly appreciated!], please make all tax-deductible gifts payable to: Elim Fellowship, c/o 1703 Dalton Rd., Lima, NY 14485, marking it "Preferred-Michael Robert Guertin" or you may click on the link below to give directly. Thank you! [click here](#)**

Michael Robert "Guerty" Guertin

3 Windsor Road

Wilmington, DE 19809-2144

(302) 764-0490

www.cabooseministries.org

YouTube: Michael Robert Guertin

FaceBook: Michael Robert Guertin

www.hopewellsummercamps.org