

Audio sermons: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/caboose-ministriesaudiopodcast/id506049887mt=2>

YouTube Channel for Time Machine Dramas & Sermons: "Michael Robert Guertin"

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ullG3cgBCbrJDdCGbLAjFwDBg3FaxDgf/view?usp=sharing> [for those of you who were unable to attend Via Dolorosa this year this link will take you to one of my opening night episodes which was filmed by a friend.]

June 2019

"TWO TRUCKS & A BOAT"



Dear **Friends & Family**,

[5/23] I'm not the only one who has been dealing with hip replacement issues. My neighbor down the street of many years, who is a few years younger than me, is facing the same dilemma. When he drove past & chatted a couple of months ago I strongly encouraged him to pursue the doctor I used who does the most joint replacements in DE & is considered the best. I've often teased this neighbor as like me, he owns a black pickup truck-in fact, he owns two. However, his newer truck, 8 years newer than mine, unlike mine, looks like it just drove off a showroom floor! And his other truck which is surely an antique-even IT looks much better than

mine! He has a speedboat in his driveway too. I've often teased him over the years not to make the mistake of accidentally driving off in my truck [since it's black] instead of his.

"DEATH COMES UNEXPECTEDLY"



Kim & I have watched & loved Haley Mills' movies for many years. It has become a tradition to watch "Summer Magic" after every camp season. One of Mills' most popular films she made as a child is Pollyanna. In the movie, Karl Malden plays the legalistic, fire & brimstone, controlled-by-the-town-matriarch preacher. Before he is "converted" to preaching grace by chatting with Pollyanna later in the movie, he preaches a very fiery sermon entitled, "Death Comes Unexpectedly". The townspeople sit riveted in their pews half-scared out of their wits. Sadly, the producers of the film are mocking the minister. Nonetheless, no matter how they portray him, whether he be hard, harsh, & legalistic [& I've often said if a man isn't broken over people going to **Hell** he isn't worthy to preach on the subject], the truth still remains-death *does* come unexpectedly. How very stunned, shocked, & saddened I was to learn that this neighbor is now on his deathbed! When he went for X-rays for his hip & spine for hopeful surgeries to rectify them, cancer was discovered throughout many areas of his body! His cancer is too widespread to operate. He was put on life-support last week. Just weeks ago he was driving his truck around. Now-he's fighting for life on the precipice of eternity! I have tried to go see him but as of this writing only family is permitted to do so. I've been praying our Lord would send one of His many servants who work in the hospital he to minister to him. Now, when I go out of my house, I look up the street to his house. I see his two black trucks & speedboat-which he will never get in & drive again as he has for so many years & go past my house. Yes-the gospel must go out-for death comes unexpectedly. [5/31-I learned this a.m. via some neighbors that this neighbor now has about 2 months to live. I trust to visit him in the hospital and share with him the **Good News**.]

"NOT SO PUMPED-AT THE PUMP?"



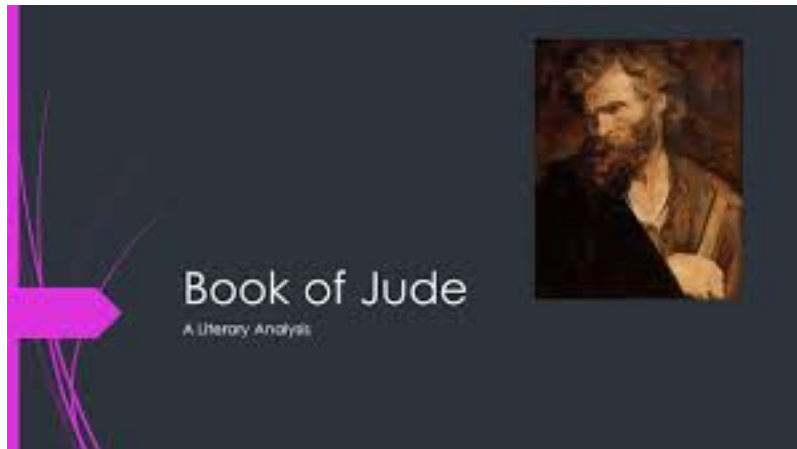
About this time, I went to get gas for our car. Coincidentally, another neighbor of ours was also getting gas. Of course, I greeted him & asked if he knew of our neighbor's demise. He didn't. I was a bit stunned when I poured out the story to him in a compassionate way [which I feel was from the Lord], how unempathetic & nonchalant he was about it. I couldn't believe it. I didn't sense an ounce of neighborly care. It was a "yeah, that's the way it is" attitude. I felt this underlying attitude of "I'm not interested in religion [he knows I'm a Christian & a minister]; I've got my comfort; I'm doing OK; I'm retired; I'm living the American Dream;" etc.

"CUT THE CRAB"



When I went to cut my grass, I purposed to use the time to pray instead of listening to my movie soundtracks as I usually do. I couldn't shake this neighbor's attitude. I started to pray that the Lord would rock his world-that He'd scare the living daylights out of him-to shake him from his complacency & "ease in Zion". I don't often pray this way-but I have! And I could not help but pray in this manner for this neighbor. If I was him & in his place, I hope he'd pray for me this way!

"HEY JUDE!"



I've been studying in the book of **Jude** for many weeks. Near the end of his brief epistle he counsels Christians to "save some with fear, pulling them out of the fire..." vs.23. I pray our very gracious Lord does so for this neighbor of mine. I've tried in the past to reach him. Speaking of Jude, the Lord's half-brother, along with James who authors the epistle that bears his name, I was once again put in awe via an illumination of the text by the Holy Spirit. Do you notice I said "illumination" & not "revelation"? The latter is done-sealed in the canon of Sacred Scripture. The former happens constantly when the Author of Scripture imparts His understanding to the human mind. Speaking of illumination, I was put in worshipful awe weeks ago as I pondered Jude & James living in the same house in Nazareth & growing up with their Elder Brother Jesus-for decades. For many years neither brother knew Who He was, nor believed in Him [Mt.13:55]. We're not sure how much of Jesus' childhood events Joseph & Mary shared with His siblings. Nevertheless, even if so, these two brothers did not believe. They did chores together, attended school & synagogue together, ate thousands of meals together [I pondered that years ago with my own 5 siblings], & most likely roomed together! And yet, His identity was hidden from them. Imagine, Beloved, sleeping next to The One Who spoke the universe into existence, Who created the myriads of angels, not to mention HE being worshipped by them in a deafening roar, the least-ranking one of which would give a man a heart attack if all of his glory were revealed, Who drowned by some estimates millions of people with the Flood, Who rained fire from the Lord upon Sodom & Gomorrah-reducing them to ashes as Peter writes in his epistle, Who sent the plagues that decimated the nation of Egypt not to mention personally sending the angel of death to take the lives of their firstborn-& here He is-lying next to you at night. Surely, all of Jesus' siblings had to notice there was something different about Him: they never saw Him sin, never heard Him speak one crass word, never saw Him exude a bad attitude-He was THE "Model Child". Jesus' siblings wouldn't be human if they didn't experience envy, jealousy, & at times resentment toward Him for being such a "Goody-Two-Shoes."



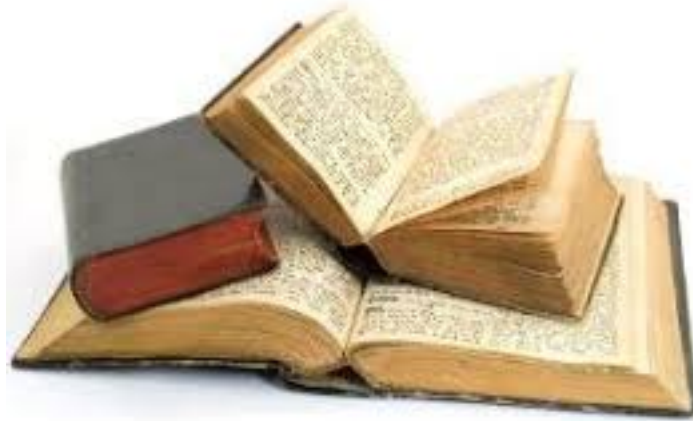
How I would have loved to have been there to see Jude & James at the moment they were given the insight from the Father [it is not only Peter who received it that led to his famous confession-to be saved each person must have the revelation from Him re: Who His Son is]. What a powerful dramatic moment it must have been! Surely a bolt of holy fear shot through their hearts. I couldn't help but think of the two disciples on the Emmaus Road [Luke 24:31] when Jesus, Who had hidden His identity from them, broke bread with them. It was then He chose to reveal Himself & then vanished from their sight. It's no wonder that both of these epistle-authoring disciples refrain from mentioning their blood-relation to the Savior. I consider that just one of many attestations to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit overseeing their writing. Any "normal", fallen, sinful human, being compulsive name-droppers by nature, would surely have dropped Jesus' Name, i.e., being a blood relative of His. I'm sure Jude & James were just humbly content to be included into Jesus' spiritual family, which was not guaranteed by being related to Him in the flesh.

"MEANWHILE, 'BACK' AT THE RANCH"



Three weeks from tomorrow I head to my first of three summer camps. Besides the ongoing recuperation from my hip replacement in February, I have been dealing with pinched nerves in my back, most likely a side-effect from the surgery. I will get another round of injections in my spine next week to help alleviate them. I continue to work-out, walk, use my elliptical, eat well, & take some over-the-counter medications as well as some supplements. This recuperation

process has been a long, slow, hard climb-not to mention a perplexing one. My trust continues in the love and faithfulness of God. I press on. I have to. What else is there in this life for me but knowing Him, & making Him known? May it be so. As I've said, the fire is still there-in the heart & the mind & the gut. Breathe on me breath of God. Amen.



***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]:
"Aside from the sovereign grace of God, we sinners are all 'kNOT'-heads: we do *not* recognize Him [Jn.1:10]; we do not receive Him [Jn.1:12]; we do *not* accept the things of the Spirit of God [1 Cor.2:14] & we can not know them; we *cannot* come to Jesus [Jn.6:44,65]; we do *not* submit to God's Law [Rom.8:7]; we *cannot* submit to God's Law & *cannot* please God [Rom. 8:8].



Caboose! On the Loose:
***Lookin' out for the little guys...**

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

May 15: New Covenant Community Church, Audubon, NJ: Elim area pastors' mtg.//Zirbel ordination

June 4: Petra Church, New Holland, PA: hsc board mtg.//network pastor's mtg.

June 13-19: Tel Hai Camp, Honey Brook, PA: hsc Sr. Hi. Camp: pastoral director

*Various graduation parties of campers.



*Michael is an ordained [Elim Fellowship](#) itinerant Stateside missionary & is also licensed to preach the gospel by the local church he attends, [Immanuel Church](#). [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. Any gift no matter how small would be greatly appreciated! Thank you! [click here](#)

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