

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

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

November 2018

"A HOUSE OF MERCHANDISE or A HOUSE OF PRAYER?"

Dear Friends & Family,



[10/8] This past [Saturday evening](#), I felt the need to give myself to prayer in a more focused way than I normally do, i.e., striving to keep in a constant attitude of awareness of the presence of God, communing with Him throughout the day. I had ministry the next morning out of state so this time of focused intercession would be good for that as well. I put worshipful music on my desktop computer & played it somewhat loudly, so that I could hear it in the four different rooms on the main floor of our house that I would pace, or prayer-walk through. As I began to do so, Kim began to join me, following me around the house. Some of the first words I spoke aloud as I paced were, "My house shall be called a house of prayer." Of course, our Lord Jesus exclaimed this in His holy anger toward the vendors & moneychangers who had "converted" the temple of God of His day into a house of merchandise [Jn. [2:16](#)]. In our context, I quoted that same Scripture in a somewhat different context: I wanted *our house*, at 3 Windsor Road, North Hills [neighborhood], Wilmington, Delaware, to be a "house of prayer". I pray that it already is & has been so, both via family devotions when our 3 children lived here, but also because our home is where our *Caboose!* ministry is based. Our home is my study, my prayer closet, my recording studio both for music & narration for my various Time Machine & ministry dramas, & my "sanctuary". Kim & I "strive" to have & keep the peace of God in our home as much as possible. Ironically, we have 3 flat-screen TVs in our home, but we very rarely watch them. If we do, it's almost always an old movie from the 30's or 40's or some vintage

Bible movies. “Current television” in my opinion, brings a “spirit” into your home [I’m not saying a demon “spirit”, although most of the sounds & images of present-day programming certainly contain doctrines of devils!], an “attitude”, and “atmosphere”, if you will, that brings with it all that that entails. I even stopped watching national news many, many years ago-not only because of its contents, but with said news one had to endure the vile & worldly commercials that came with it!

“HOUSE WITH A VIEW”



I had no sooner quoted that Scripture re: our house being a house of prayer than a vivid “mind-picture” entered my thoughts. Most of you have seen either on a documentary or TV commercial, or perhaps even via Google Earth, an aerial/satellite view of a (or your) home in a neighborhood. This is what I saw as I walked, prayed, & quoted that Scripture. With that “vision”, as so often happens with me, i.e., when I “see” the Scriptures [hence, a MAJOR reason I use so many object lessons when I preach], immediately the burden came in my heart to have it be so. We used to sing a song at Elim Bible Institute decades ago which went, “...for without a progressive vision, we dwell carelessly...”. Many years ago I paraphrased it to say, “for without a progressive vision we dwell without a care”. It is vision, birthed by the Scriptures, that births burden. I saw in my mind’s eye the Lord’s view of our house in our neighborhood, looking down upon us. I entreated Him to so cause our house to always be a house of prayer, i.e., when He looked down on our neighborhood He could “count on” prayer “going up” from 3 Windsor Road. It was almost as if I wanted Him to see our rooftop “glowing” in His eyes because it was one of the countless houses in our neighborhood that had prayer arising-that He would be pleased with “this house”.

“COOKIES...”



By the time you read this I will have learned if it's "doomsday" for my almost 19 year-old ministry vehicle. I get it inspected the day before my birthday, vis, October 15. The engine light has been on & off for years. It has at least 3 codes it is registering. If it doesn't pass inspection we will have to decide if it is worth fixing. This is where "cookies" comes in. Our mechanic of over 20 years, a.k.a., "Donny Palmer", who is a brother in the Lord & friend, & who, really, should have his own reality TV show, given how frustrated he is whenever I go to see him with the auto-repair business. I tease him all of the time about it. Donny's wife years ago that he is a "cookie monster". Hence, for years, from time to time, I'll bring him a box of cookies to cheer him up. I did so the other day after he had his son check my truck engine codes.

[10/30] Huge praise report: the truck passed! I get at least 2 more years out of it! 😊

"...& MILK"



After I bought said cookies for Donny at a nearby general store, I came out to the parking lot to find two older ladies speaking with each other. One of them had two big bags she was carrying. The other called out to me as I was getting into my truck & asked if I could take the "bag lady" to a convenient store which was down the road on the way to my home. I said "sure". When the woman got into my truck my first thought was this can be a

good witnessing opportunity. I brought up the Lord, etc. & she asked me where I went to church. After she told me how “needy” she was she then began to ask questions re: the church but the more she talked the more it became obvious there was only one reason she wanted to know: if she could get “goods” from the church. In other words, she wanted to “milk” the church. How very grieved it made me. I can’t help but think of the crowds of Jesus’ day who only diligently followed Him for a free meal [Jn. [6:26](#)]. I dropped her off at the convenient store, put my hand on her shoulder, prayed for her, gave her a gospel tract, & some money. My heart ached though as we parted, as all that was on her mind was her next “need”. Oh God. Oh God.

“THE VALUE of the SOUL”



I have been preaching much in my recent travels re: Charles Hodge’s Princeton Sermons’ sermon outline from Feb. 7, 1864 re: the soul’s inestimable value due to its being in the higher class of created beings, viz, that of rational, moral, immortal creatures, its capacities re: intellect, emotions, & morality, it, & it alone being a bearer of the image of God, it being “highly-sought-after & valued by” the enemy of our souls, & above all the incalculable price God paid via His Son’s ignominious death to redeem it. I recently gave it at our own church’s youth group’s annual “Lock-In”. A number of unsaved friends of the youth were there. One of the leaders later texted me re: one of their reactions to the message: ***“...a girl shared with me after your talk how she has been going to church but it was the first time she felt the Holy Spirit like that...she said she has never felt it [Him!] like that before...she is in for camp next summer!!...you should have seen her...it was abundantly in her heart, eyes and soul...SHE CAN’T wait for more...she was completely wrapped and in awe.”***

“COWS, CUDS, & CHRISTIANS”



[10/29] Last week I returned home from two trips that encompassed NJ, DE, OH, & VA & 1,200+ miles of driving. Twice in one day I shared with two different youth groups in NJ & DE respectively a Bible study/marketing method I have used for decades & that I taught our own three children when they were young. It's based on the principal of a cow chewing the cud in each of its 4 stomachs. Interestingly enough, one of its stomachs is called the "rumen", from which we get our English word "ruminate" from. The Holy Spirit inspired approximately 40 different men over a period of about 1,500 years to record sacred truth which comprised the 66 books of the Bible. Paul told Timothy that all of Scripture is "God-breathed" [II Tim.3:16]. One of the evidences of this is the unity & agreement of the 66 books with themselves, revealing one Divine Author. To get the most out of the text, it's crucial that reader allows the Holy Spirit time to "illuminate" the text, i.e., to give His meaning, His interpretation to what He had the sacred authors write. Usually, casually or rapidly reading through the text does not afford this glorious experience, although one can assimilate basic Bible knowledge by doing to. I've often said that "the life is in the text". This "life" is experienced when the Holy Spirit's illumination occurs. All of us have experienced it one time or another. You've read the same passage of Scripture 10X but on the 11th time it "jumps out at you" & your put in awe by its truths. That is illumination. Many mistake this for *revelation*. It is not. The text of Scripture is the revelation. The *understanding of it* is illumination. To help enhance the process of illumination, I use this method of Bible study. Rapid & casual reading of the Scripture produces casual Christians! My hope is that by reading the same portion again & again & again, like a cow chewing its cud, that this will afford the Holy Spirit time to impart His understanding. Basically, you read through the text about 8 different times, each time looking for something different while you do. 1st reading: no marking. 2nd reading-using a **pink** highlighter or colored pencil you highlight all references to "persons", either Divine, angelic [not demonic-that will come later], or human, & sometimes even animals if they are one of the main characters in the text, eg.: Balaam's donkey. 3rd reading: **orange**-all references to Satan & demons & "blatant" enemies of God [Antichrist, False Prophet, Pharaoh, etc.]. 4th reading: **green**-all references to time. Eg.-the 2-letter word "as" in the parable of the Sower is one of the most powerful & sobering words in all of the Bible.

Why? "As" he [the sower] sowed...the parable itself is being fulfilled *while* it is being taught! [as with all of the Bible!]. 5th reading: **blue**-all references to location. 6th reading: fine-point black pen: capitalizing all pronouns that refer to Deity, vis, "He, His, Him, Who, Whom, Himself", etc. Many Bible versions don't capitalize these pronouns because the original Greek manuscripts did not. I prefer to do so as it produces honor in my heart for the Lord by doing so, it distinguishes pronouns referring to Him from those referring to men & demons, etc., & it affords yet one more reason to read through the portion in the hopes of obtaining that precious illumination of the text from the Holy Spirit. 7th reading: **yellow**-this is what we've been hoping & waiting for by now: all references to the character & majesty of God, references to godly traits of God's people, sobering words or statements, etc., vis, anything that "jumps out at you" & causes you to pause & reflect & adore. 8th reading: **red** under-liner-if one of the highlighted yellow words, phrases, or sentences *really* "puts you on the floor", this gets underlined in red. 9th reading: fine point **black** pen [again]: if you feel you're about to go to Heaven via worship, awe, & adoration, your yellow-highlighted, red underlined text can be further underlined in black! You have chewed the cud, Beloved! You have "ruminated"! Meditated! What happens next?

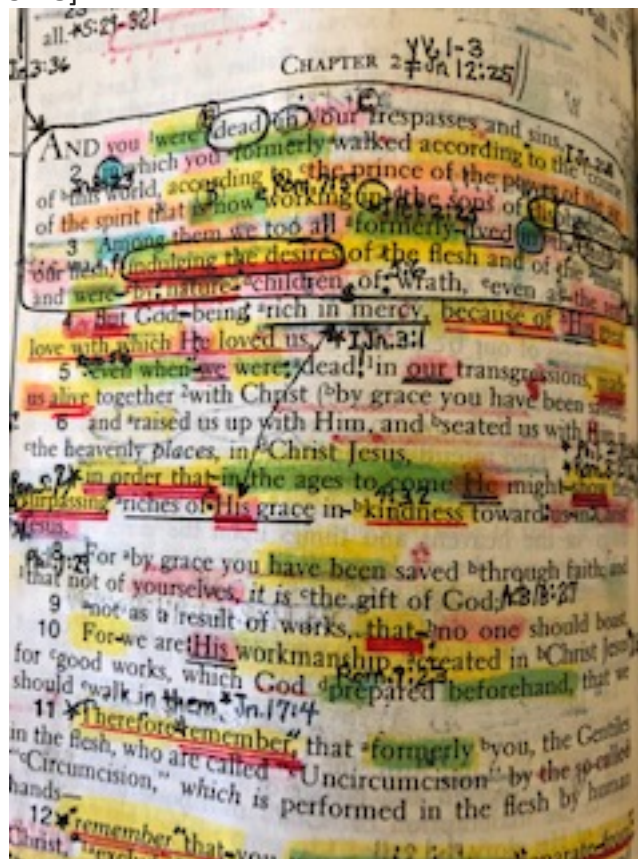
JEWELS/WATER FOUNTAIN/NUCLEAR LIGHT/PROPANE TORCH/THERMOMETER:



Huh?? That emboldened list are the object lessons I use when teaching this! When the illumination finally comes, all at one you discover the “jewels” of truth. Then, worship [fountains of living water welling up from deep within your soul] erupts. Then, you “go nuclear”: you have a faith, confidence, authority, & power just moments ago you didn’t have. This results in you being “on fire for God”, which resultantly increases your spiritual temperature. After teaching the youth this method, I’d then have them go to my Caboose! **“Scripture Quizzer”** to review what they learned.



All are amazed how much Scripture they remember & inadvertently memorize via this method! This is how I get what I preach. [<https://youtu.be/2CBn2xzFx6k>] Here is a link of me sharing this method at a kids camp in FL in 2005. Here also is the handout I give to those I teach this method to. For those of you receiving this newsletter in email format, it is an attached file. I pray the precious illumination of the Holy Spirit happens to you, Beloved, should you decide to try it. "Open my eyes, that I might behold wondrous things from Your Law." [Ps.119:18]



Bible Study Methods Highlighters:

*pink-God, humans, angels, & sometimes animals [eg.: Balam's donkey]

*orange-Satan, demons, & “blatant” enemies of God [egs.: Antichrist, Beast, False Prophet, Pharaoh, Scribes, Pharisees, Sadducees, etc.]

*green-references to time

*blue-places

*yellow-character traits of God & godly men & women, ways of God, etc.

*red underlining pen-yellow highlighted verses that "really grip" you!

*.2mm very fine black ball point pen-capitalizing personal pronouns that pertain to Deity [He,

His, Him, Himself, Who, Whom, etc.]

*6" ruler for underlining



**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 various Bibles I have studied from]: "Even between the worldliest carnal Christian & the most noble & respectable sinner there is a trillion-mile gulf." [[12/22/'02](#)]; "Our *deeds* indicate our spiritual temp-erature." [Rev.3:16][[1/10/'03](#)]



Caboose! On the Loose:

***Lookin' out for the little guys...**

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

Oct. 16, 23, 24: My bd, our 41st anniversary, & Kim's bd respectively. I forgot to post last month!

[Nov. 3](#): Hopewell Christian Fellowship, Telford, PA: Joel Kolb wedding

[Nov. 4-6](#): Lancaster, PA: Elim Fellowship credential holders' annual regional mtg.

[Nov. 6](#): Sight And Sound Theater, Lancaster, PA: "Jesus" production

Nov. 9,10: Tel Hai Camp, Honey Brook, PA: Immanuel Church men's retreat: attendee

[Nov. 20-23](#): Herndon, VA: Thanksgiving with both sides of the family

[Nov. 27-Dec.3](#): Coral Springs, FL: visiting our daughter & her family

*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 sized amount would be greatly appreciated! Thank you! [click here](#)

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