

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

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

**October 2018**

**"WEAPONS FOR WEE ONES", "ANCHORS FOR ADOLESCENTS", & "BATTLEAXES FOR BABES"**



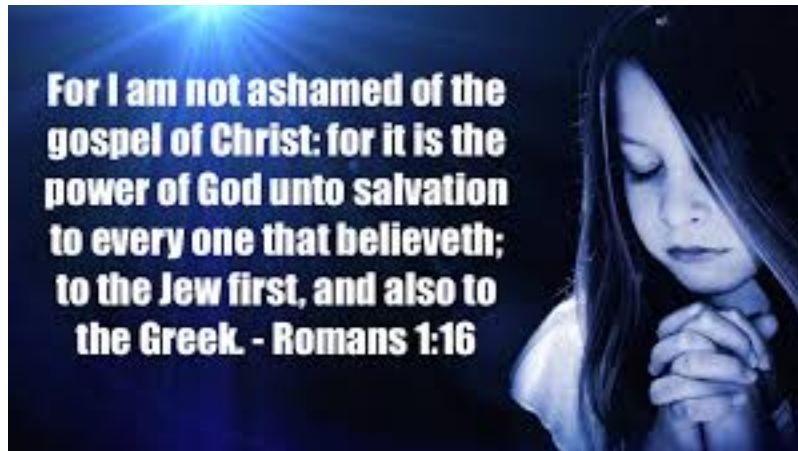
**\*Note:** I had neglected to include this short kids' camp vision-casting video in last month's newsletter: May you be moved as I was when the idea came to me while cutting the grass this past summer. <https://youtu.be/1eGRLCXsBAo>

***Dear Friends & Family,***

[9/13] Some of you may recall the opening article of last month's newsletter, vis, "Juveniles & Judgment Day". I related how so many of the children at camp, actually, the vast majority of them, testified that the teaching of Judgment Day impacted them the most that week. Most of you adults would agree that most of you have yet to receive a detailed teaching re: this awe-inspiring message. And yet, here Guerty is teaching this sobering subject to young children! I had mentioned in that newsletter how very much I wished I had been taught that invaluable lesson from the Word of God when I was a little boy. It would have saved me from so much sin & heartache & instilled in me a healthy fear of the Lord, which is the beginning of wisdom & truly knowing Him [Prov.9:11]. Jesus commanded His disciples to teach & preach that He was the One Who would judge the living & the dead [Acts 10:42]. The judgment is part of the gospel [Rom.2:16], & yet how very, very little do we ever hear of that element of the gospel when it is presented in our "Word-watered-down" day. Eternal judgment is one of the elementary doctrines of the Word of God [Heb.6:2]. My ***Caboose!*** business card reads "Elementary Truth for Adults, Teens, & Elementary Youth". I've have striven over the decades to clearly, thoroughly, & illustratively present the basics of the faith to both old & young. I see myself as a "supplement" to pastors who have so many topics & subjects they must teach in their roles

to feed the flock of God. Given my particular calling of teaching & evangelism in itinerant work my scope of subjects is limited compared to theirs.

### “ROMANS 1 for ‘RUNTS’”



In the light of this I have felt compelled to equip God’s people of all ages lately with the armament of Romans 1 [particularly verses 16-32]-definitely one of the most important chapters in all of the Bible-especially in these God-ignoring, denying, blaspheming days. The section begins explaining Paul’s boldness [vs.16] re: proclaiming the gospel-because it is the power of God to save lost souls from an eternity of damnation, woe, & torment of conscious suffering [Lk.16:19ff]. How? Because the gospel contains the righteousness of God within it [vs.17]-a perfect righteousness-a righteousness that every man needs in order to stand before & be accepted by an infinitely perfect, holy, just, & righteous God. It is a righteousness that God must demand despite the fact that men cannot attain to it [He must be faithful to Himself], & one that He freely gives to those who place their trust in the Person & work of His Son. Paul then explains why this righteousness is so desperately needed: because men are so desperately wicked & presently stand under the wrath of God [vs.18; Jn.3:36; Eph.2:3]. This chapter is a battleaxe versus **atheism & agnosticism**. It dissipates the plea of **ignorance**. It declares that all men know God exists. They know He is eternal. They know He is powerful. They know He has a Divine nature-unlike their sinful nature [vv.19-21]. All of these truths are clear & plain to men because GOD Himself has made it so through **creation** [hence, it is also a battleaxe versus **evolution**]. Because the evidence God has provided is so undeniably clear [despite the fact that most men deny it], it leaves men **inexcusable**. On Judgment Day, when each person has their turn-standing naked before God-with every thought, fantasy, daydream, imagination, secret, deed, & motive they’ve ever had or had done totally exposed before God, themselves, & anyone else these said deeds affected in any way-they will be exposed for what they really are. Jesus’ words in Jn. 3:19 will surely be quoted to them: “This is the verdict [as far as God is concerned]: “Light has come into the world [“light”, as in truth, reality, the way things really are], *but* men loved darkness rather than light, *because* their deeds were evil, & will not come to the light lest their deeds be exposed.” [emphases mine]. As far as The Lord is concerned, evolution is not a scientific issue-it is a **moral** one. It

is a smoke-screen men hide behind. If they admit creation, they must concede there is a *Creator*-& hence be accountable to Him. On That Great Day when their true motives are exposed, they will admit before God & all that they knew, just as Romans 1 declares, that God exists, is eternal, powerful, Divine in nature, etc. They will concede with Paul: "Let God be true, & every man, including me, be a liar." [Rom.3:4] This potent chapter of the Word of God further indicts men when it charges them, *despite their knowledge of God*, that they "neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks". They exchanged God & His glorious perfections-so very worthy of adoration, for images of things created. Hence, Romans 1 also is a battleaxe versus **idolatry**. God's wrath mentioned in verse 18 is now seen how it is manifested. Unlike His wrath from Heaven poured out so many times in the Old Testament via rains, floods, hail mixed with fire, fire & brimstone, fiery blasts, 100 lb. hailstones, etc., now He pours out His wrath in a most terrifying way: He "gives men over" to what they want, vis, evil lusts, desires & passions [vv.24,26,28]. Hence, Romans 1 is also a battleaxe versus **immorality**. Their degradation & depravity is so vile that the Holy Spirit through Paul cites that even their women [who *naturally* have mothering, nurturing instincts] left the natural use of the man & conjoined with one another. In the same way, men *burned* [the Greek word, used only here in the N.T. is a very intense one-it's a burning outward-like a solar flare!] with lust for each other. Hence, Romans 1 is also a battleaxe versus **homosexuality**. In their futile thinking & darkened understanding [vs.22] men think their "freedom" to pursue such lusts without "evident" consequence is either a sign of God's non-existence or indifference, or as even many of them believe, *God's pleasure* in their shameless acts, when, in actuality, His removing His Divine restraint to "sin as they please" is a judgment! In these very wicked days we live in, with the U.S. rapidly declining morally & rushing toward a socialist state with zero tolerance for Christians & their biblically-based beliefs, Romans 1 is an absolute essential to have in the minds of God's people-both old & young!

### "GOLDEN ANCHOR"



The young are being bombarded daily via peers & media of every kind to tolerate that which God says is abominable in His sight. Romans 1 provides God's "golden anchor" to hold our ground against the various & numerous atrocities of men it refutes listed above. Christian leader after Christian leader, Christian denomination after Christian denomination, Christian institution after Christian institution, is caving & compromising daily re: these issues. The devil knows the power of Romans 1. Even he knows what a battleaxe, weapon, & anchor it is to God's people. That is why he has & uses his "scholars" to attempt to refute it via countless ways. They pick it apart, they say the Apostle Paul had "issues", they say it was for the culture of Paul's day but not ours, etc. Rightly Peter spoke of these people in II Pet.3:16-they "distort, wrest, etc." the Scriptures-the Greek word Peter used is from the root word meaning "to torture". And that's exactly what they do-they torture the text of Sacred Scripture to make it say what *they* want. And Peter says they do so to their own destruction. Yes, Beloved-these are heavy issues. But serious & eternal ones.

### "THE NIAGARA OF GOD"



One must not finish preaching/teaching/elaborating on Romans 1 without also providing the good news of the gospel as Paul did in Romans 3. He first had to indict the Gentiles in Romans 1 & the Jews in Romans 2 before he could do so. After citing how Paul

does the vileness of homosexuality, I then want to remind my audience of the Niagara River in Upstate N.Y. just above the famous falls of the same name. If you've never stood on its banks may I tell you it is one of the most terrifying things I have ever done. Its power-& the roar of the falls just downstream, strike fear in the heart-fear as one daydreams of accidentally falling in. If you do, you are certainly doomed. And yet, Niagara Falls speaks of another glorious attribute of God: the immense & intense flow of His forgiveness of sin, because of the blood of Christ. To the *repentant* homosexual-& to them alone-not to ones who say God is OK with their sin, etc.-the deluge of God's forgiveness roars & falls upon them. Paul told some of the Corinthians that such *were* some of them. But, God's Son's blood & the precious Holy Spirit of God had justified, washed, redeemed, & purified them [I Cor.6:9-11]. For a recent delivery of this message go to: <https://youtu.be/eN83p1nR6-M>

May our God empower-so that we will not cower-in these evil days. May He do so first with me-the weakest of men. If not? I will cave just like all of the others. Apart from Jesus, I can do nothing.

### "END OF AN ERA"





I have had the privilege & blessing of serving the Hopewell Network as pastoral director now for 28 years, having done so for 65 camps. By the Lord's [& the Hopewell overseers'!] permission I shall continue to do so as long as I am able. When I arrived in 1991, two of the original 1950 cabins, vis, "Walnut" & "Maple" were there-& still are-but not for long. As I type Walnut is in the process of being torn down & Maple will be relocated to a farm in nearby Lancaster. While to many these are just two antiquated, moldy cabins, to me they are "history".

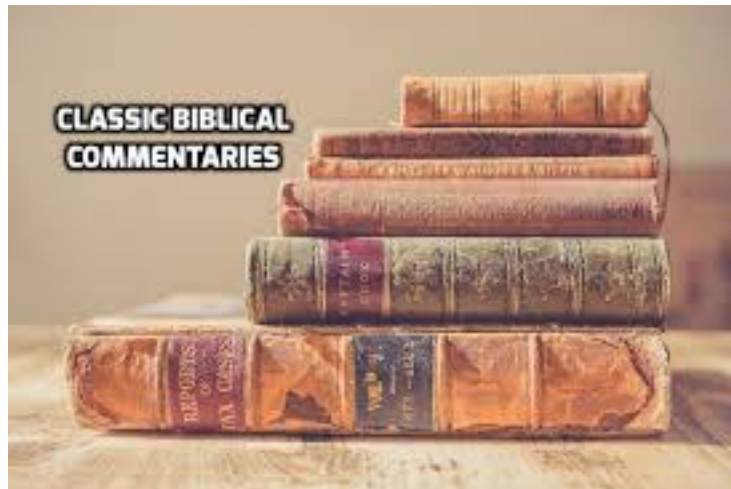


***Devin Blankenbiller***, whom Kim & I call "our 4<sup>th</sup> son", pastors a thriving church in Birdsboro, PA. He's in his 40's now. But, when he was 9 years old he got saved in Maple cabin. A curious aside-his oldest child, Lydia, is 13. That is how old Devin was when I first met him. How very precious it was to me to be ministering to her at the altar this past summer, recollecting while doing so I did the same to her father so many years ago. "Walnut" is particularly sacred to me, as this is where "my boys" were-my oldest boys, i.e. Before the 4 new cabins arrived about 8 years ago, I would always put the oldest boy campers in Walnut.

**"A 'WALNUT' IN MY HANDS"**



Throughout the years, from time to time, before camp season, I would drive up to camp to pray-sometimes with some of my assistants & sometimes alone. “Being there” made a significant difference re: vision for the camps. And vision always is the seedbed of *burden*. I would walk around the camp & lay my hands on the cabins as I prayed for the campers who would dorm there for their particular camp. Nowhere throughout the camp did I feel this burden more than at Walnut. As I laid my hands on the front wall & begin to pray my mind would always wander back to my first two years there. Some of the oldest boys from my first year at camp would now be 47. 47! I remember some of them & their names. I would pray for them by name. Many of them would fall on hard times-just as Jesus promised they would. Some have not fared so well. Some have wandered, come back, then wandered again. Oh God-to be able to stay in the same place ministry-wise has its pros & cons. One sees the sweet fruit of the Lord passing through the generations [so many campers now are children of former campers!], but also the heartaches. I ponder the brevity of life every single day-& for good reason. I ponder it for myself & observe it in others. Oh God-it does truly help me to number my days & redeem the time. Very soon, Walnut & Maple cabins will be only “shadows of things that have been” at Tel Hai Camp, as the ghost of Christmas Past put it to Ebenezer Scrooge in Charles Dicken’s “A Christmas Carol”. But, I will still remember them, and pray for “my boys” when I do so. [Note: I’m having the Tel Hai maintenance man salvage me two light socket receptacles from Walnut so that I can mount them on my Time Machine.] May the Lord’s great faithfulness be evidenced in their lives, for His glory’s sake. 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 various Bibles I have studied from]: "Error is often 'sincere'-& 'spiritual'" [3/4/'05]  
"God ordains all things in people's lives to 'reveal' & 'deal' with them." [3/3/'05] "As with the earth's core, the deeper you delve into the heart of fallen man, the darker, & hotter, & more dangerous it becomes." [1/20/'05].





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

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

**Sept. 14: Tel Hai Camp, Honey Brook, PA: Fall fund-raising banquet: association member**

**Sept. 28: IC, Wilmington, DE: "Warehouse" youth group "Lock-In": speaker**

**Oct. 7: Spring City Fellowship, Spring City, PA: Sun. a.m. adult service**

**Oct. 12-14: Camp Haluwasa, Hammonton, NJ: Converge Church "Boot Camp" Youth  
Retreat**

**Oct. 14: IC, Wilmington, DE: Warehouse youth group: teaching**

**Oct. 15-21: Bay Village, OH: visiting oldest son & family**

**Oct. 30: IC, Wilmington, DE: "Kids Kandy Carnival" Fall Kids' Festival: game booth  
operator**

**Oct. 31: Home: passing out candy & gospel tracts to Trick O' Treaters 😊**



**\*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](#)**