

NEWSLETTER



“New Beginnings”

By Pastor Steve Gibson

After the flood and resettlement on the dry ground, Noah had a new project to absorb his energy, He planted a vineyard (Genesis 9:20). And like most gardeners, he sampled the fruit of his labor. Unfortunately, he overindulged and made a fool of himself (v. 21).

How would God react to this situation? Did He immediately distance Himself from Noah and leave him to sober up and repent before He could be connected to God in a meaningful way?

Ham decided to broadcast what had happened to dad. Instead of being a problem solver, he tended to be a problem multiplier. Thankfully, his brothers were interested in helping their dad when he was in need, so they took action to minimize the problem (v.23).

Noah took some time before responding, but when he did, he cursed his grandson, the son of Ham (v. 25). Why did Noah draw his grandson into the picture? Did he simply confuse names in an angry outburst?

No. The pronouncement by Noah was made under the influence of divine inspiration (Patriarchs and Prophets p. 117). Noah was not confused. But why did he name Canaan as the cursed party? Is it possible that the characteristics exhibited in Ham’s life were being more fully developed in the life of his son, Canaan? Did the words come true?

While most of us have not heard of the Hamites, we are familiar with the Canaanites. We associate them with the inhabitants of the land of Canaan who were to be driven out by the children of Israel in their conquest of the Promised Land. They were idol worshippers and had generally no interest in following or obeying God.

Could it be Noah’s curse on Canaan was not so much a hateful punishment which subjected all Ham’s descendants to a life of misery, as it was a warning message about how life would be apart from God? We understand that the curses were to be the result of disobedience, while the blessings were the result of obeying God (Deuteronomy 28). It was a simple case of consequences.

Just as the sons of Noah related differently to him when he was down, we too have a choice to make when someone is down. Do we step in to help? Do we act to remedy the problem or do we share the bad news about the person with others, thus expanding the problem? Those who are led to be helpful to those in need will inherit a blessing. Are you looking for ways to aid someone when they are down? Are you praying for Holy Spirit wisdom to be led day by day? If so, brace for an assignment and a blessing.



Church Services Resume in Person

Starting September 5th at 11:30 a.m.
We will also be live streaming for those who cannot make it.
Each Sabbath @ 11:30 a.m.
Look for an email with the YouTube link.

Prayer Group

Wednesday’s 7:30 p.m.
Call 1-972-224-6616 Code: 278589

Adult Sabbath School

Each Sabbath @ 8:45 a.m.
Look for an email with Zoom information.

Great Controversy Reading

Sabbath afternoon @ 3:30 p.m.
Look for an email with Zoom information.

Tithes & Offerings

Because of faithful giving we are meeting our budget and our tithe base is normal during this time. Below are a couple of ways you can give your offerings:

Mail to: **Cathy Fields**
P.O. Box 15332
Scottsdale, AZ 85267

Go to www.desertcovesda.com and click on ‘Online Giving’ and follow the prompts to give that way.

OR...Bring it Sabbath mornings at 11:30 a.m. and there will be a box in the hallway to put it in before or after the service.

Email: pastorstevegibson@hotmail.com **Physical Address:** 12400 W Desert Cove Road, El Mirage, AZ 85335

Mailing Address: 13954 W. Waddell Road, Suite 103 #616, Surprise, AZ 85379 **Website:** www.desertcovesda.com

MINISTRY NEWS!

Upcoming Events & Announcements

SHINGLES

Shingles is a viral infection that causes a painful rash. Although **shingles** can occur anywhere on your body, it most often appears as a single stripe of blisters that wraps around either the left or the right side of our torso. **Shingles** is caused by the varicella-zoster virus—the same virus that causes chickenpox. The blisters that develop as a result of **shingles** contain virus particles. If you have not had chickenpox before, you can **catch** it from direct contact with the fluid from the blisters of someone who has **shingles**, or from something that has the fluid on it, such as bed sheets or a towel.

A person with active shingles can spread the virus when the **rash** is in the **blister** phase. You are not infectious before the **blisters** appear. Once the **rash** crusts, you are no longer infectious. While it isn't a life-threatening condition, **shingles** can be very painful. Vaccines can help reduce the risk of **shingles**, while early treatment can help shorten a **shingles** infection and lessen the chance of complications.

Simple methods that can also be used against the varicella zoster virus is get plenty of rest, eat well-balanced meals, try simple exercises like stretching or walking, apply a cool washcloth to your blisters to ease the pain and help dry the blisters, avoid stress, wear loose-fitting clothing. Antiviral medications are most effective when started within 72 hours of the first appearance of the rash, however, in select cases of shingles (for example, in an immunocompromised person), it can be started after 72 hours. There are several other antiviral medications that can be used, including acyclovir, famciclovir, and valacyclovir. Well with all the stress that many individuals have been facing, more and more individuals are being seen with shingles. Follow simple healthy habits and one can be Shingles free.

“He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds.” Psalm 147:3

Thank you and God Bless, Dr. Sylvia Hayashi—Health/Prayer Ministry Leader

CHURCH REOPENING SEPTEMBER 5, 2020

We look forward to reopening our Desert Cove Church for church service at 11:30 a.m. this Sabbath, September 5, 2020. Thank you for your patience as we have been in pandemic mode and as we start returning to our more customary Sabbath morning.

I say 'start' returning because we will still have Sabbath School only on Zoom. Our building will be open just for the church service at 11:30. And as you have observed on our live stream these past weeks, the service is simplified to not go beyond about an hour. We will have announcements, pray, sing a couple songs, and share in a message. Then we will leave. There will be no fellowship meal or after meetings.

This 11:30 a.m. service will still be available as a live stream on YouTube each Sabbath.

While the church will be open, we are certainly not wanting to imply that every person is obligated to be present. Those who have special concerns about exposure to a virus are encouraged to avoid public gatherings. Anyone who is not feeling well, has a cough, or is running a fever should not attend.

Those of us who attend are asked to wear a mask or face shield, and to practice social distancing. Ushers will be glad to assist with finding an appropriate seat. Masks will be available for those who need one. And we heartily encourage thorough hand washing and use of sanitizer.

We will be reviewing our service each week and making adjustments as seems advisable. We hope to soon offer Sabbath School for children, but that will not be available initially.

Thank you for your consideration of others in this process. And thank you for your prayers for your brothers and sisters in our church family.

Not everyone receives emails so if you know of someone who may not see an email or this newsletter, please give them a call and share this information with them.

God bless as you serve Him today, Pastor Gibson