

Responsive Reading

GENESIS 15:5-7

He took him outside and said,
“Look up at the heavens and count the stars—
if indeed you can count them.”
Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

**Abram believed the Lord,
and he credited it to him as righteousness.**

He also said to him, “I am the Lord,
who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans
to give you this land to take possession of it.”

EXODUS 19:1-5

In the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—
on the very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai.

After they set out from Rephidim, they entered
the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there
in the desert in front of the mountain.

Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord
called to him from the mountain and said,
“This is what you are to say to the house
of Jacob and what you are to tell
the people of Israel:

‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt,
and how I carried you on eagles’ wings
and brought you to myself.

**Now if you obey me fully and keep
my covenant, then out of all nations
you will be my treasured possession.**



Sermon Notes

For the Bible, history is neither maya (Egyptian) nor a circular (Greek) process of nature; it is the arena of God’s purposeful activity.

What is at stake when we ask if there is meaning in history? At stake is our whole attitude toward the social order and man’s collective life. If we decide that history is meaningless, it follows that the social, political, and cultural contexts of life are unimportant and matters for indifference.

If the powers of nature reside in many gods—in Mesopotamia their number was in the thousands—there was always the danger that these gods might fall out among themselves and universal chaos result. As a consequence, religion’s attention was directed towards keeping things as they were.

The Jewish estimate of history was the exact opposite of this attitude of indifference. To the Jews history was of towering significance. It was important, first, because they were convinced that the context in which life is lived affects that life in every way, setting up its problems, delineating its opportunities, conditioning its fulfillment.

In Judaism history is in tension between its divine potentialities and its present frustrations. There is a profound disharmony between God’s will and the existing social order. As a consequence, more than any other religion of the time Judaism laid the groundwork for social protest. As things are not as they should be, revolution in some form is to be expected. The idea bore fruit. It is in the countries that have been affected by the Jewish perspective on history, which was taken over by Christianity and to some extent by Islam, that the most intensive movements for social reform have occurred.

—Excerpts taken from *The Religions of Man*, Huston Smith

In Memory

We were stunned and saddened to hear of the death of Robert "Bobby" Herr who served the Glendale City Church congregation three different times, for a total of 15 years. Bobby ranked with the finest of Choral Directors and had the unique ability to get the most out of those who sang under his direction. Today’s anthems and music are dedicated to his memory. Other services to follow the latter part of January.

City Church Announcements

Flowers. Today's flowers are given in honor of Carol and Meredith Jobe's wedding anniversary.

Announcement. Due to extensive flooding in the Sabbath School classrooms during the recent rainstorm, Godly Play classes have been rescheduled for next week, January 14th.

Flower Schedule. The flower schedule for 2006 is now in the Narthex. Please write your request clearly and include who the flowers are for and what occasion you are honoring.

Rose Parade Thank You. The Glendale Pathfinders want to take this opportunity to thank the more than 100 of our supporters who joined us at the Rose Parade Monday. We had a great and unusual time. Visit our website for pictures <http://www.glendalepathfinders.org/>.

Interested? in a noonday Bible Study and discussion group from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 pm....give us your name on a pew card and give us a day of your choice: Monday or Wednesday. Or call the church office. Several have already responded.

Share Your Memories. Throughout 2006 as a part of our Centennial Celebration, we invite individuals and families to share their pictures and mementos from their time at City Church in the display case located in the Narthex. This case will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. Sign up now! Contact Victoria at the church office.

Welcome. We welcome Marcel Schwantes today to our worship service. He is the project director of Churches Without Walls, an organization co-sponsored by Glendale City, Vallejo Drive, Eagle Rock, and Glendale Adventist Medical Center. Soon you will receive notice of the exact dates for the Disaster and Terrorism Attack training. A number of you have volunteered. Thank you and we will be in touch.

Mark Your Calendar

Today	Elder of the Day Dorothy Colvin
January 27	Christian Edition Concert
January 28	Special Guest Speaker: Gordon Bietz

Sunset tonight - 4:52 p.m. Sunset next Friday - 4:58 p.m.

Order of Worship

10:50 am – 12:10 pm

Prelude "Fireworks Suite - Overture" *Handel*

Entering of the Light

Morning Hymn "Can You Count the Stars?" No. 98

Call to Worship Mitchell Henson

We have gathered to worship;
to listen
to covenant
to praise your name
to remember our heritage
to celebrate our destiny.

Oh God, we joyfully receive your grace

Gifts in the Congregation Robert Peterson

Anthem "I Will Lift My Eyes" *D. Nolan*

Worship in Giving

Morning Offering Dorothy Colvin
Offertory "Day by Day" *Sandell/Ahnfelt/Phillips*
Don Greathouse, *solo*

Children's Sermon Michael Quishenberry

Greeting & Prayers of the Congregation Mitchell Henson

Prayer Response "In the Stillness of This Moment" *arr. Fontana*

Scripture Leif Lind

Anthem "Amazing Grace" *arr. W. Hall*
Grace Oh, *violin*

Sermon "How Religion Began" Mitchell Henson

Blessing & Sending

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.

Postlude "Water Music Suite - Hornpipe" *Handel*

Sabbath School Options

Class	Age	Location	Symbols/Leaders
Beginners	0-3 yrs	Room 3	Elephant
Kindergarten	3-5 yrs	Room 4	Giraffe
Primary	6-9	Room 2	Eagle
Junior	10-13 yrs	Room 1	Lion
Teen	14-18 yrs	Room 10b	Fish
Open Door	19-99 yrs	Youth Center	
Armenian	General	Room 11	
Romanian	General	Room 13	
Pastor	General	Fellowship Hall	Mitchell Henson
SS Quarterly	General	Chapel	

Worship Options

Option	Location	Sequence
Sanctuary Service	Main Sanctuary	Every Sabbath
Romanian Service	Chapel	1st and 3rd Sabbaths
Armenian Service	Chapel	2nd and 4th Sabbaths

Activities

Event	Location	Sequence
Bell Choir	Youth Center	Friday at 8:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	Sabbath at 9:15 am
Pathfinders	GAMC Gymnasium	Tuesday at 6:45 pm
Sunshine Singers	Room 10b	Sabbath at Noon
Bible Study	Council Room	Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Church Directory

Pastors

Mitchell Henson

Denise Kasischke
Michael Quishenberry

Vartkes Azadian
Hovik Sarrafian

Officers

Head Elder
Head Deacon
Head Deaconess
Church Board Chair
Sanctuary Choir Director
Organist
Children's Choir Director
Bell Choir Director
Secretary
Treasurer
Church Clerk
A+ School Principal
Pathfinder Leader

Douglas Schultz
Skip Foster
Eleanor Posner
Robert Marsh
Brenda Mohr
Kemp Smeal
Lissie Quishenberry
Ariel Quintana
Victoria Lucero
Dean Vendouris
Mindi Rub
Anoosh Keshishzade
Warren Dale

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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One Hundred Years of Grace
1906 - 2006



Glendale City Seventh-day Adventist Church

The Covenant
January 7, 2006