

February 2001

"DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN ...?"

by Mark Legendre

Do you remember when television had its beginning in the United States? It was on April 30, 1939 at the New York World's Fair when President Franklin D. Roosevelt opened the fair with a speech that was the first talk by a president to be televised. Since then the TV has come a long way including the introduction of color TV in 1962 when ABC began 3 1/2 hours of color telecasts a week.

But television has some drawbacks as well. Much of what is shown on TV today is not worth watching. While it may be true that television portrays real life in America, it is also easy to see that real life in America has a lot of problems. The constant bombardment of fornication, drunkenness, and other sinful activities along with the vulgarity has become a powerful influence in the lives of a lot of people, especially the young. We as parents need to be very careful what our children are exposed to on TV. The apostle Paul said in 1st Corinthians 15:33 that "... evil companions can corrupt good morals." And this statement is true not only of the people our children spend time with, but also of the programs they watch on TV that may have a way of shaping the way our children grow up and the way they think about things in general. Let us make sure our children know and love God most of all!

"THIS & THAT!"

by Mark Legendre

Our Gospel Meeting with Steven Deaton from Lufkin will be starting Sunday March 11th and continuing through Friday March 16th. Brother Deaton will be guest speaking each night Monday - Friday at 7:30 p.m. He will also be speaking that Sunday morning at 10:20 a.m. And Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. Please make an effort to be here as much as possible and try to bring someone with you as well.

Jim McDonald will be making another trip to the Philippines in the near future. He will be coming to the North Main Church of Christ Sunday morning February 25th to speak about the work of preaching the gospel in the Philippines. We will once again be helping him financially to make this trip. We look forward to having Jim to come here to talk about this work.

The answer to last month's riddle is the word "whale." It is found only four times in the king James version of the Bible: Genesis 1:21; Job 7:12; Ezekial 32:2; and Matthew 12:40. The whale was made before Adam and it does not have any arms, hands, or feet. The whale had a soul for a brief time when Jonah was inside and then lost the soul when Jonah left again. The whale travels from pole to pole in its migration. And the whale also furnished man light because of whale oil. I hope you had fun working on this riddle. Here are some more questions for

you to look for. We will give the answers in next month's bulletin Lord willing.

1. What are the longest and shortest chapters of the Bible?
2. There is also something else about the shortest chapter in the Bible; do you know what that might be?
3. What are the longest and shortest verses in the Bible?
4. What angel had a dispute with the devil about the body of Moses?

"A REASON TO BELIEVE!"

by Mark Legendre

The Bible is the most unique book ever written by men. It alone is the "inspired word of God." (2 Tim. 3:16-17) And it alone gives to us the intimate details of the most unique life ever lived; the life of Jesus Christ. (Jn. 20:30-31) The gospels reveal to us who Jesus was, what He did, and what He said. The Jesus of the Bible is not a mythological character, but a person of history just as much as Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus, Pontius Pilate, or any other historical character spoken of in the Bible. JESUS ACTUALLY LIVED!

Around 33 a.d. Jesus was put to death by Pontius Pilate. Before His death He had said to His disciples that He would be "raised from the dead" after three days. (Mt. 16:21) On the third day after His death, some of the women came bringing spices to anoint the body of Jesus, not knowing who would remove the stone from the grave that they might accomplish their work. (Mk. 16:1-3) It was the first day of the week and when the women arrived at the tomb, the stone had already been removed. They entered the tomb only to find the body of Jesus gone. The angel then told the women that Jesus had been "raised from the dead" just as He said He would. (Mt. 28:1-6) JESUS DIED, BUT NOW HE LIVES AGAIN! (REV. 1:18)

We, as Christians, have a "REASON TO BELIEVE!" Not only is the Bible the "inspired word of God" but it is also an accurate document of history. It is correct in every way; scientifically, geographically, archaeologically, and yes historically. It is always up to date and never needs changing because some error is discovered in it. IT IS TRUE FROM BEGINNING TO END! Therefore Jesus lived, died, and was raised from the dead. He did real miracles during His lifetime proving that He was indeed the "only begotten Son of God". He lived a perfect life and died for sinful man. (1 Pet. 2:21-25) He was "God in the flesh" who came down from Heaven to offer salvation to lost mankind. AND JESUS FULLY ACCOMPLISHED HIS MISSION! And so we have a "REASON TO BELIEVE, A REASON TO HOPE, AND A REASON TO LIVE!"