



The Weapons of our Warfare, Part 3

from the desk of Pastor John

When I was a young boy, my friends and I would often pretend that we were soldiers in a war. Most of us had fathers who had been in the military and perhaps fought in the Korean war. Most of us had uncles or cousins who had gone to Vietnam to fight. Though we were children—and our idea of war was what we had seen in John Wayne movies—we pretended to fight an invisible enemy using croquet mallets as rifles and pinecones as grenades. Miraculously, we always survived the battles and won the war.

As Christians, we have been conscripted into the service of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are tasked with fighting an invisible enemy. While the enemy is invisible to our eyes, he is very real. The battle is fierce and there are plenty of actual casualties. Croquet mallets and pinecones won't cut it! We need a real

weapon that is truly effective against a brutal enemy who is bent on destroying lives. Mercifully, the weapons of our warfare are mighty through God, to the destroying of the enemy's fortresses (2 Cor. 10:4).

The chief offensive weapon we have been given is the Bible. **Hebrews 4:12-13** says, "**For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged**

sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."¹³ And

there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do." In this passage, the author of Hebrews lists seven important characteristics of the Word of God. We have previously looked at the

“*We are tasked with fighting an invisible enemy. While the enemy is invisible to our eyes, he is very real. The battle is fierce and there are plenty of casualties.*”

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fact that the Word of God is divine and living (you can find those articles in the [February](#) and [March](#) newsletters).

The third important characteristic of the Word of God is that it is *the Active Word*. **For the Word of God is living and active...** In many ways the words **living and active** are two sides of the same coin. To be **living** implies that one is **active**, at least on some level, and to be **active** requires that one is **living**. The word that is translated **active** also gives us our word "energy." The idea is that the Word

Weapons of Warfare

Continued from page 1

of God is effective and is busy at work accomplishing its purpose. Moses warned the Children of Israel in **Deuteronomy 32:46-47**, “Take to your heart all the words with which I am warning you today, which you shall command your sons to observe carefully, *even* all the words of this law. For it is not an idle word for you; indeed it is your life. And by this word you will prolong your days in the land, which you are about to cross the Jordan to possess.”

The book is alive, and it is active. It pleads with me. It convicts me. It converted me. It convinces me. It consoles me. It is the **active** Word of God that has power to save. It is the **active** Word of God that slays the sins of man. It is the **active** Word that imparts grace to the heart of man. It is the **active** Word that brings life to the soul of man. Speaking of the active Word, Charles H. Spurgeon said, “We have seen men shut up as in the devil’s own dungeon, and we have tried to get them free. We have shaken the bars of iron, but we could not tear them out so as to set the captives at liberty. But the Word of the Lord is a great breaker of bolts and bars. It not only casts down the strongholds of doubt, but it cuts off the head of Giant Despair. No cell...can hold a soul in bondage when the Word of God, which is the master-key, is once put to true use...”

The **active** Word of God accomplishes God’s great purpose. **Isaiah 55:10-11** declares, “For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; So will

My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.”

The **active** Word of God has the power to change lives. **1 Corinthians 1:18** says, “For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” And **1 Peter 1:23** proclaims, “For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God.” Jesus affirmed the transforming power of God’s Word when He prayed in **John 17:17**, “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.”

The **active** Word of God nourishes us, **Matthew**

4:4, “... MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.” The **active** Word of God guides us, **Psalms 119:105**, “Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.”

We are at war with an enemy that is dedicated

to destroying the souls of man; an enemy who has established multiple speculations and lofty things raised up against the knowledge of God. We must fight that battle with the weapons God has given us. The Word of God is divine, it is living, and it is **active**.

Too many soldiers in God’s army have abandoned their spiritual armament and picked up inferior weapons. We are called to destroy the demonic fortresses that hold the souls of men captive. For that reason, we must abandon inferior weapons and fight the battle with the divine, living, and active Word of God.



Upcoming Events

Easter at Eastridge



Death Defeated
DEFEATED
Good Friday
SERVICE
APRIL 15 AT 6:30PM

A poster for a Good Friday service. The background is a dark red, cracked texture. The text is in white and yellow. The words 'Death Defeated' are written in a cursive font at the top. Below it, 'DEFEATED' is written in a circular pattern. The main text 'Good Friday' is in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below that, 'SERVICE' is in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, 'APRIL 15 AT 6:30PM' is written in a bold, sans-serif font.



Celebrate the Risen Savior!
SUNDAY, APRIL 17
resurrection sunday
Easter services at 8:30 & 10:30am

No Sunday School for any age

A poster for Resurrection Sunday. The background is a dark purple with a dotted pattern. The text is in white and orange. The words 'Celebrate the Risen Savior!' are written in a cursive font at the top. Below it, 'SUNDAY, APRIL 17' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The main text 'resurrection sunday' is in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Below that, 'Easter services at 8:30 & 10:30am' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, 'No Sunday School for any age' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. A white eucharistic symbol is centered below the service times.



Annual Meeting
& POTLUCK DINNER

Sunday, May 22, 2022
Eastridge Baptist Church

A poster for an Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner. The background is a light blue and white. The text is in blue and black. The words 'Annual Meeting' are written in a cursive font at the top. Below it, '& POTLUCK DINNER' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The main text 'Sunday, May 22, 2022' and 'Eastridge Baptist Church' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. A photograph of a silver fork and knife with wooden handles is centered in the middle.

- ✓ Potluck begins at 5:00pm followed by the business meeting at 6:00pm
- ✓ EBC members will be voting on the 2022-2023 budget and the calling of elders to the Elder Board.
- ✓ Watch for details about the potluck in the bulletin and on Realm



A Life Well Lived: Remembering Jack Gaines

Jack Edward Gaines, beloved of God, called to be a saint, continues in the grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom 1:7) He came into this world March 5, 1929 and joined his Lord on March 15, 2022 at the age of 93.

Jack grew up in Osage, Iowa, the son of Willis and Verna Gaines, during the great depression and the second world war that followed. Willis was from midwestern farming stock and Verna was from a prominent local newspaper family. After spending a fruitless year at a small college in Iowa, Jack joined the US Air Force where he became a B-29 pilot. While a cadet in flight school he met his beloved Mavis, a nursing student at the time, with whom he shared the next 71 years. After he and Mavis were married and had started a family, Jack elected to leave active military service. Declining an offer to fly for United Airlines, he headed back to Iowa and Iowa State University in Ames to get a degree in electrical engineering, while Mavis supported the family as a nurse.

In 1957, with Jack as a new engineering graduate, they packed their new '57 Chevy station wagon, loaded up little Tommy, Jacquie, and Jill and headed for Seattle to join thousands of engineers working for the Boeing company. Jack became an engineering personnel manager and recruited and placed generations of Boeing engineers. He persevered through the booms and busts of the aerospace industry, working diligently to keep his engineers placed. During the early 1970s when it seemed almost everyone around Seattle worked for Boeing, a billboard wryly declared, "Last one out, turn out the lights" as contracts were lost and the Boeing workforce was drastically cut.

Eventually, Jack would spend a total of thirty-five years with the company.

The Lord richly blessed Jack and Mavis during their working years. They were an inseparable team, with Mavis working evenings and some weekends as a nurse at Renton Hospital (which later became Valley Medical Center). Jack took on evening and weekend family duties for the household which grew to include Gay, Peter, and Willis. He often packed the lot of them into the little red Fiat 600D on Sundays for church (morning and evening) while Mavis worked (or slept, having worked the evening before).



Jack and Mavis Gaines

With a full quiver of the LORD's heritage (Psalm 127) and a diligent and frugal lifestyle, the LORD built the Gaines house as a blessing for them, their children to the third generation, and the churches and charities with whom they were able to share.

Jack loved the forests and mountains of Western Washington. He left his footprints from the North Cascades to the Olympics to Spirit Lake at the base of Mt. Saint Helens before the cataclysmic eruption of 1980. His hiking companions were not only from the Gaines clan but generations of Boy Scouts with whom

he shared the trails, campfires, rosy sunsets, and cool, dewy sunrises of the Northwest summers. He was a scoutmaster for many years.

Jack loved the Pacific shore and especially Cannon Beach and the conference center there where he presided over yearly family trips that will always remain as cherished memories for many in the Gaines clan. Jack was also a frequent volunteer at the conference center.

Jack and Mavis loved to travel and share time with many friends along the road. After they retired, they traveled the country, often in motor home

Jack Gaines

Continued from page 4

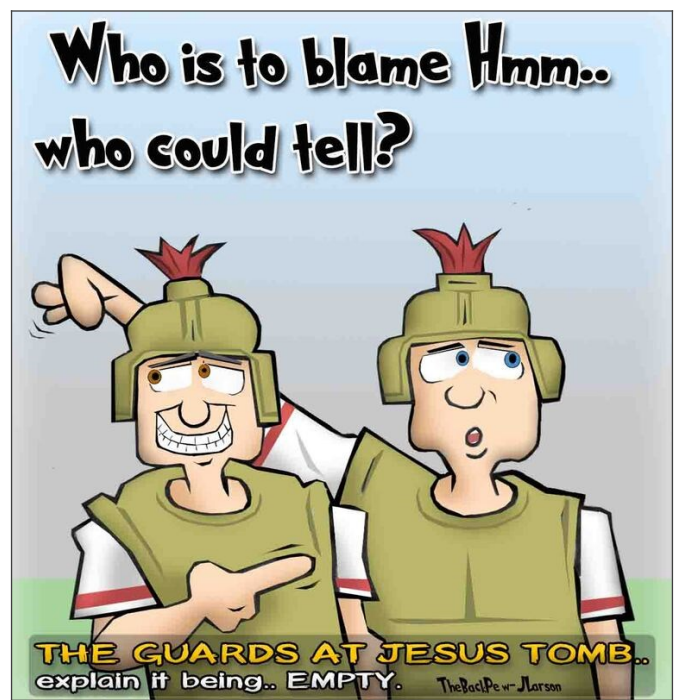
caravans. A trip with Grandma and Grandpa in the motor home was a high point for several of the grandchildren. Later they established a home in Tucson at Voyager Resort where they spent many winters in the company of a host of wonderful friends. Jack and his team at Voyager were state shuffleboard champions and he sang in the Coyote Chorus and acted in theater productions. Jack and Mavis were able to host visiting family and friends in the warm Arizona winter for a respite from the cold and damp.

Jack loved his country. He was proud of his fellow veterans and included veterans' causes as the beneficiaries of his giving. He quietly endorsed his political preferences with dignity and duty. His desire is that his earthly remains join in the company of veterans at Tahoma National Cemetery. His country was a gift from God to be preserved and supported.

At the center of all that Jack loved was a profound faith in our Lord Jesus Christ (Rom1:16, 17). The

warm glow of his relationship with Jesus touched all those around him. Each morning after breakfast he and Mavis prayed for every family member for three generations by name. They prayed for the missionaries and ministries the Lord lead them to support. As Jack loved the Lord, he demonstrated his faith by his love for others. Jack had a passion for the Scriptures and loved to study the Bible and share its lessons. For many years he lead Bible studies and worked in Sunday school. He was a quiet servant leader, a deacon, and an elder. Jack and Mavis were charter members of two churches during their long lives. Jack pitched in wherever there was a need, from hammering nails or painting to leading singing and drafting budgets. Jack loved the preaching of the gospel and he loved to sing to the Lord. Jack loved the company of fellow believers and the mutual faith they shared. Jack loved the church.

Just for Laughs



WHO'S WHO OF EASTER?

Can you answer each of these "Who Am I?" questions from the Easter story?

Level 1—Easiest (1 point each)

1. I betrayed Jesus for 30 pieces of silver (Matt 26:14-15).
2. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on me (Matt. 21:7).
3. I denied Jesus three times before the rooster crowed (John 18:15-27).
4. The people called for me to be set free instead of Jesus (Matt 21:7).
5. I was crucified beside Jesus (Matt 27:38).
6. I told the women at the tomb not to be afraid and that Jesus had risen (Matt 28:5-6).

Level 2—Harder (3 points each)

1. When Jesus was on the cross, He asked me to take care of His mother (John 19:26).
2. I laid Jesus in my own tomb (Mark 15:43-44).
3. I was the High Priest who accused Jesus and wanted Him dead (John 11:49).
4. I anointed Jesus with expensive perfume (John 12:1-8).
5. They brought Jesus to me for trial, but I found no guilt in Him (John 19:4).
6. I cut off the ear of the High Priest's servant (John 18:10).
7. I went early to the tomb and saw the stone rolled away (John 20:1).

WHAT WAS YOUR QUIZ SCORE?

_____ **POINTS**

Quiz answers on page 7

PUZZLE

Resurrection refresher

All four gospels confirm Jesus' resurrection, and each one offers important details.

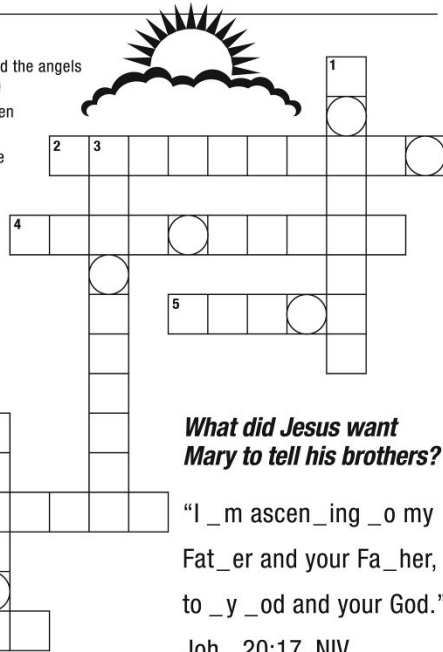
Directions: Complete the crossword. Then insert the circled letters (in order of the clue numbers) to complete John 20:17 below.

ACROSS

2. The women did this when they heard the angels talk about Jesus' death. (Luke 24:8)
4. The women at the tomb did this when they saw Jesus. (Matthew 28:9)
5. The man in Jesus' empty tomb wore this color robe. (Mark 16:5)
7. Jesus instructed his brothers to go here. (Matthew 28:10)
8. Peter saw strips of this in the tomb. (Luke 24:12)

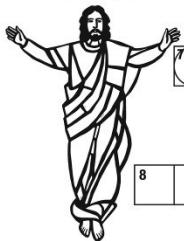
DOWN

1. At first, Mary thought Jesus was this person. (John 20:15)
3. As an angel came from heaven, this happened. (Matthew 28:2)
6. She went with Mary to anoint Jesus' body. (Mark 16:1)



What did Jesus want Mary to tell his brothers?

"I _ m ascen_ing _ o my Fat_er and your Fa_ her, to _ y _ od and your God."
Joh_ 20:17, NIV



Answer: ACROSS 2. remembered, 4. worshipped, 5. white, 7. Galilee, 8. linen; DOWN 1. gardener, 3. earthquake, 6. Salome; "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." John 20:17, NIV

Level 3—Hardest (5 points each)

1. My book in the Bible prophesies that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.
2. I was the High Priest's servant who had his ear cut off (John 18:10).
3. I went with Joseph to bury Jesus in the tomb (John 19:39).
4. I saw Jesus after His resurrection on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:18).
5. I carried the cross for Jesus when He could no longer (Luke 23:26).

Declutter for a Cause!

by Cathy Mickelson

Eastridge will be sending a short-term mission team to Lautoka, Fiji in July to help our missionaries, Premend and Ashwin Choy, run a Vacation Bible School. In support of the team's trip, they will be hosting a fundraiser at the church in May (date TBD). The fundraiser will include a car wash (by donation) and a garage sale (in the Youth Center).

The team is seeking donations of garage sale items in good to excellent condition. So, declutter your house by cleaning out those closets and your over-stuffed garage and donate your unwanted items to the Fiji team. **Donations will be accepted at the church the week of the sale.** Watch for more information in the bulletin and through our Realm system about donating items.



WHAT WE NEED MOST



- * Baby and toddler clothes
- * Baby equipment and toys
- * Children's toys
- * Kitchen items and small appliances
- * Sporting goods
- * Tools and yard equipment
- * Books
- * Small electronics
- * Household items
- * Wall décor
- * Quality jewelry
- * Small furniture

WHAT WE DON'T NEED



Please, no large furniture, beds, TVs, computers or monitors, outdated electronics, or large appliances.

For more information about donating items, please contact Cathy Mickelson at camickelson@msn.com or Bill Mickelson at mickelsons5@msn.com

Quiz answers (from page 6)
Level 1 answers: (1) Judas; (2) donkey; (3) Peter; (4) Barabbas; (5) thief; (6) angel
Level 2 answers: (1) John; (2) Joseph of Arimathea; (3) Caiaphas; (4) Mary, Lazarus' & Martha's sister; (5) Pilate; (6) Peter; (7) Mary Magdalene
Level 3 answers: (1) Micah; (2) Malchus; (3) Nicodemus; (4) Cleopas; (5) Simon of Cyrene

What Does “The Lord is My Portion” Mean?

from the desk of Pastor Samuel

When I was in high school, my youth group regularly sang a song that was taken directly out of the end of Psalm 73: “My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart *and my portion forever*” (v. 26). I’ve searched for that song again and cannot find it, but that imagery of God being the psalmist’s portion left me curious. In the Old Testament, particularly in the Psalms, we find a few variations of this phrase “The LORD is my portion.” Because it is used somewhat frequently, we ought to understand what that means.

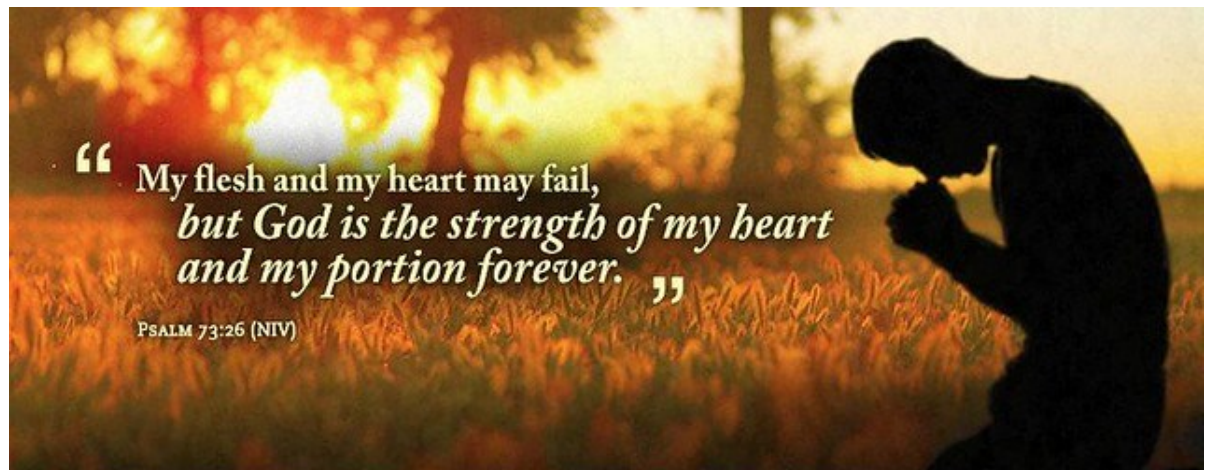
When we think of the word portion today, typically it refers to a part of a whole. If this is true, it would seem odd that a psalmist would describe God in such a manner, since He ought to be the central focus of our lives. However, portion is also used in the

context of dividing up an inheritance; a portion of a person’s inheritance is given to another individual, etc. This definition carries over to the Hebrew word we translate as portion. It can also be translated as inheritance, which ties our reference in the Psalms back to an instruction in Numbers 18.

As Israel wandered in the wilderness, the LORD appointed the tribe of Levi, particularly the house of Aaron, to be His dedicated priests who would facilitate the nation’s worship. This was a very special distinction and meant that much more was expected of the Levites, but it came with a great blessing. In lieu of receiving an inheritance of land

in the Promised Land, the Levites received the LORD Himself as their inheritance (Numbers 18:20; Deuteronomy 10:9)! What a rich blessing, to have such an intimate connection with their God! This is what God’s people in all generations ought to desire.

And it is that desire for deep fellowship with the LORD that prompts such statements as “The LORD is my portion” in the Psalms. This is a true statement for all who have trusted in the LORD, including all who have placed our faith in Christ’s work of salvation. We can have confidence in this rich inheritance, this close relationship with our God and Father. It is a confidence that surpasses any circumstance. William Plumer says it well in his commentary on the Psalms: “A child of God,



though he suffer long and severely, fares well; for he has God for his portion.”

Are you living well? Wonderful; praise the LORD for His rich blessings! Are you facing a particular challenge? Well and good; use it as an opportunity to grow in your trust in our wise and merciful God. Are you suffering severely? Hold tight to Him; find rest in the promise that the LORD is your inheritance. Whatever you gain or lose in this world, your ultimate prize is this deep relationship with God. Though our heart and flesh may fail, He strengthens us. He is our portion forever.

SPRING CHURCH WORK DAYS

MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR!

Saturday, April 2
Saturday, April 30
Saturday, May 14
9:00am to 2:00pm

*Refreshments
and lunch will
be provided*

Help us beautify the church grounds and garden beds!

Sign-ups for each workday will be available in the foyer or through your Realm account. For more information, contact Cherryl Boston at crboston12@gmail.com

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Cindy Rutherford 4/1
Abygail Williams 4/1
Wendy Martinez 4/2
Shannon Blakey 4/2
Christian Lopez 4/3
Josiah Swenson 4/3
Laurie Tolonen 4/4
Daná Freeland 4/5
Jordan Olson 4/8
Caleb McArdel 4/9
Graham Schrock 4/9
Caleb Cummings 4/9
Sandy Crawford 4/10


Eden Hammett 4/10
Mark Zaveruha 4/13
David Dudley 4/15
Dean Peyton 4/16
Nathanael Bonn 4/17
Jacob Reeves 4/18
Greg Turner 4/18
Karin Kerr 4/18
Brad Meeuwse 4/20
Tim Tolonen 4/21
Marco Domingo 4/22
Bret Turnbull 4/25
Michelle Dron 4/26
Luke Sundvall 4/27

Katelyn Mickelson 4/27
Cheryl Benjamin 4/29
Ezykiel Latta 4/29
Joe Pratt 4/30



Anniversaries

Tyler and Susan Anderson
4/14
Mike and Karen McArdel
4/21
Dan and Shannon
Benavidez 4/21
Chris and Emily Reed 4/27

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:00-9:00pm Ladies' Charcuterie and Chit Chat @ EBC	2 9:00am-2:00pm Church Workday
3 1:00pm Lunch with the Browns 6:00pm Prayer Meeting	4 2:00-3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:45pm Men's Bible Study	5 5:00pm-8:30pm Taekwondo	6 10:00am- 12:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30pm Youth Group	7 5:00-6:30 Bible Quizzing Practice 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study	8 8:00am Men's Bible Study	9
10	11 2:00-3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:45pm Men's Bible Study	12 10:30am Missions Prayer Ministry (@ Alaire Irish's) 5:00pm-8:30pm Taekwondo	13 10:00am- 12:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30pm Youth Group	14 5:00-6:30 Bible Quizzing Practice 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study	15 8:00am Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Good Friday Service @ EBC	16
17 Easter Sunday Services at 8:30am and 10:30am No Sunday school for any age	18 2:00-3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:45pm Men's Bible Study	19 5:00pm-8:30pm Taekwondo	20 10:00am- 12:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30pm Youth Group	21 5:00-6:30 Bible Quizzing Practice 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study	22 8:00am Men's Bible Study	23
24 Communion	25 2:00-3:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:45pm Men's Bible Study	26 5:00pm-8:30pm Taekwondo	27 10:00am- 12:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm Adventure Club 6:30pm Youth Group	28 10:00-11:30am Ladies' Bible Study 5:00-6:30 Bible Quizzing Practice 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study	29	30 9:00am-2:00pm Church Workday

May 2022

Sunday, May 1	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Sunday, May 8	Mother's Day	
Tuesday, May 10	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's
Saturday, May 14	Church Workday	9:00am-2:00pm
Saturday, May 21	Ladies' Craft Morning	10:00am-12:00pm (@ EBC)
Sunday, May 22	Annual Business Meeting & Potluck	5:00pm Potluck 6:00pm Business Meeting

June 2022

Wednesday, June 1	Ladies' Summer Bible Studies Begin	10:00am & 6:30pm @ EBC
Sunday, June 5	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Tuesday, June 14	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's
Sunday, June 19	Father's Day	
Sunday, June 19	Promotion and Graduation Sunday	
Wednesday, June 22	Kids' Summer Bible Study Begins	6:30pm @ EBC

July 2022

Sunday, July 3	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Monday, July 11- Friday, July 15	Vacation Bible School	6:00-8:30pm Daily
Tuesday, July 12	Missions Prayer Ministry	10:30am @ Alaire Irish's
Monday, July 18- Friday, July 22	Youth Summer Camp	Cascades Camp (Yelm, WA)

LOOKING AHEAD





Jesus Paid It All Elvina M. Hall, 1865

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small;
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Verse 2

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy power and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Verse 3

For nothing good have I
Whereby Thy grace to claim,
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Verse 4

And now complete in Him
My robe His righteousness,
I'll rejoice with all my might,
I am now divinely blest.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Verse 5

And when before the throne
I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save,"
My lips shall still repeat.
Jesus paid it all, All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.



EASTRIDGE
BAPTIST CHURCH