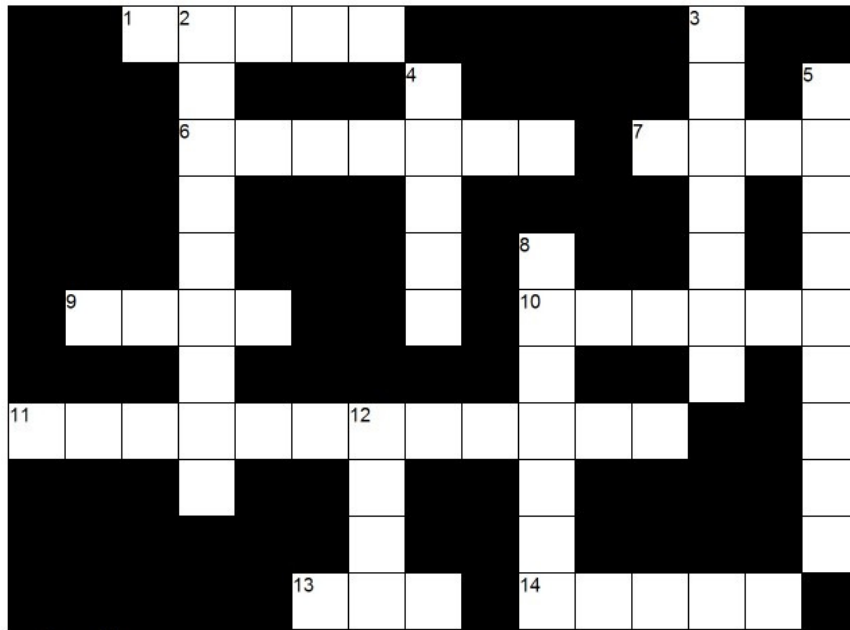


## A Bible Crossword on Genesis, Part 6

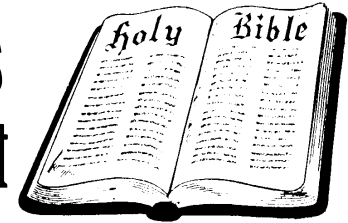


Across: 1. Sarah did this within herself, though she denied it. 6. Abraham asked that this child might live before God, but God said Sarah would bear Abraham's heir. 7. The name of the city Lot escaped to with his daughters. 9. Lot's wife looked back and became a pillar of this. 10. God sent two of these to deliver Lot. 11. The sign of God's covenant with Abraham. 13. God wouldn't destroy a city if this many righteous were found within. 14. God destroyed this wicked city in which Lot resided.

Down: 2. This king of Gerar was told Sarah was the sister of Abraham. 3. In a dream, God told the king of Gerar that Abraham was one. 4. Sarah's name before God changed it. 5. God rained this on the cities of the plain. 8. God told Abram that he would be the father of many of these. 12. Lot came to live in one with his two daughters.

-All answers found in Genesis 17-20, NKJV

# Chapman Acres Church of Christ



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## It's A Boat!

During our trip to Florida last month, our family paid a visit to central-Florida theme park. The first thing we got in line for was the flume. The flume is a water ride in which riders sit in log-shaped boats and take a river ride with a big drop at the end. Even Lily, our 3 year old, was able to ride the flume, sitting with me.

After the flume ride ended, we moved on to a nearby snack bar. The table at which we sat was directly under the route of a large rollercoaster. As one of its cars went screaming by, Carina asked Lily what it was. Without hesitation, Lily replied, "It's a boat!"

It made sense to her. Since riders in the attraction she had gone on rode in boats, she assumed that the cars in all rides were boats.

The thinking Lily displayed is provincial in nature. The term "provincial" means "belonging or peculiar to some particular province" (dictionary.com). Provincial thinking is believing that the customs of one's province are the standard for everyone. We define the world in terms of our own, limited experience. We accept things and people who conform to our view of things and reject anything or anyone different.

Religion is an area in which provincial, or as it is called in religion, parochial thinking abounds. It exists because we struggle to differentiate between traditions of human and divine origin.

Divine traditions must be honored and followed. Paul told the Corinthians, “Now I praise you, brethren, that you remember me in all things and keep the traditions just as I delivered them to you” (1 Corinthians 11:2). To the Thessalonians he said, “Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle” (2 Thessalonians 2:15). Faithful children of God stand fast in and keep the traditions that come from Him.

The Scriptures take a very different tone regarding the traditions of men. Jesus contended with the Pharisees in Matthew 15:1-3, “Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying, ‘Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.’ He answered and said to them, ‘Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?’” After condemning their tradition of Corban (see also Mark 7:11), Jesus added, “Hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy about you, saying: ‘These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men’” (Matthew 15:7-9).

Since man’s doctrines produce vain worship which God rejects, differentiating between the doctrines of man and the doctrines of God may be the greatest challenge for those who want to serve Him. God has given us an infallible tool for just this person.

Paul told Timothy, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Telling the difference between the traditions of men and the traditions of God is a simple matter of reading. God’s traditions are revealed in His word. God has revealed what men must do to be saved. He has revealed the manner in which He is to be worshiped by the church. He has revealed how churches must be organized.

Are you provincial in your thinking? Do you think that what you’ve know must be right because it’s all you’ve known? Look into God’s word and learn what traditions are truly from Him. —RAB

## News and Notes

### Prayer List

Keith Copeland	Herman McKenzie	Faye Seiler
Dennis Depew	Louise Moore	Gene Shannon
David Depew	Sara Nance	James Howard
Sarah Howard	June Copeland	

### Area Meetings

4/5 – 7 at Shoal Bluff with Jonathan Reeder  
 4/5 – 8 at Jordan Park with Greg Litmer  
 4/5 – 10 at Helton Drive with Tommy Hagedwood  
 4/5 – 10 at Elk Valley with Donnie Radar  
 4/19-22 at Chapman Acres with Jeff Henderson