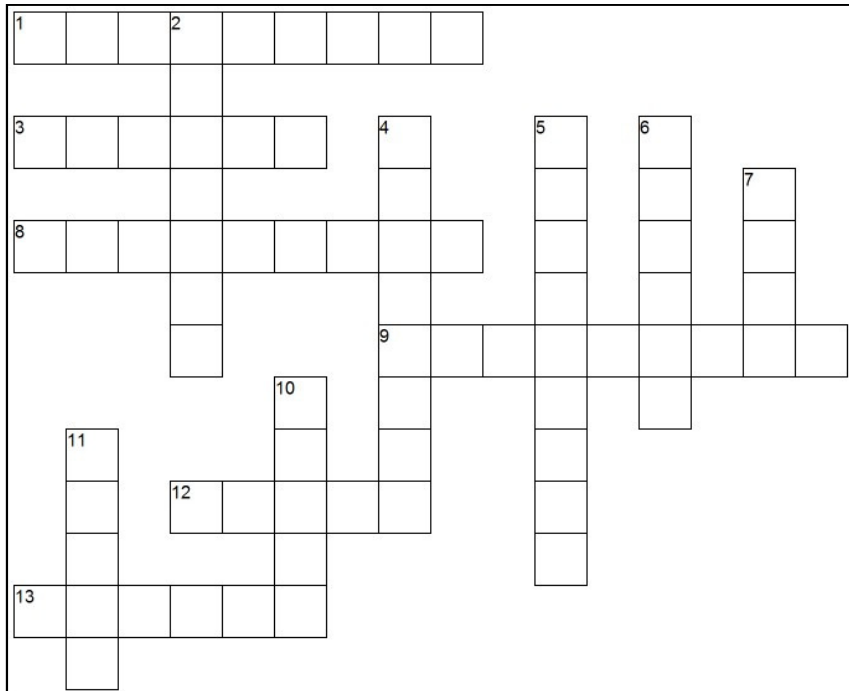


A Bible Crossword on Genesis, Part 14

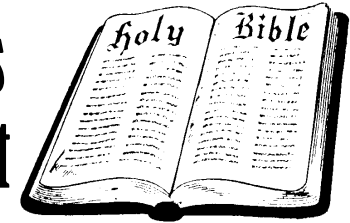


Across: 1. The number of years Jacob lived in Egypt. 3. Area in Egypt where the Israelites dwelt. 8. Egyptians physicians spent 40 days doing this to Jacob before his burial. 9. The occupation of Joseph's brothers. 12. The scepter would not depart from this son of Jacob. 13. At his death, Joseph was placed in one and kept in Egypt.

Down: 2. Joseph's younger son who received the greater blessing from Israel. 4. Joseph's firstborn. 5. Jacob was buried in a cave in this field. 6. Jacob told him he would not excel because he defiled his father's bed. 7. Israel was mourned for seven days at his threshing floor in Canaan. 10. Zebulun's land would border this sea-faring city of Phoenicia. 11. He told Pharaoh that his days had been few and evil.

-All answers found in Genesis 47-50, NKJV

Chapman Acres Church of Christ



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Worldly Influences

As I was driving the other day, a radio commentator stated that when a fast-paced song was on the radio, motorists who are listening drive faster. I didn't think much about the comment at the time, but later as I was driving on the interstate, listening to an up-beat song, I looked down at the speedometer and noticed I was going faster than I realized.

The physiological effects of music have been studied in detail. A song with a quick tempo raises the heart-rate and sometimes increases the pressure one applies to the accelerator. We may deny it at times, but outside influences have a definitive effect on us.

Paul warned the Corinthians, "Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits'" (1 Cor. 15:33).

Peter wrote, "For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles; when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you" (1 Pet. 4:3-4).

Wickedness is like a flood that tries to carry us away. Unless we stand firm against the flood, it will sweep us to our doom.

—RAB

IMMATURITY

Robert F. Turner

Irresponsible, shortsighted, rash and selfish conduct is often proof of immaturity. But we do not refer to years. People sixty and above may be immature --- acting like little children when they do not get their way, or are forced to face the realities of this life. They are incapable of objectivity, their pride is easily hurt, and they throw a tantrum. That is bad enough in secular life, but it can be tragic in the church.

Bible knowledge maturity is found in those who dwell on something more than first principles (Hebrews 5:12f). They have learned that justice, mercy, and faith are the grounds upon which their concern for tithes of mint, anise and cummin can have validity. Ignore the first, and one becomes an hypocritical nit-picker with all else (Matthew 23:23-24). He may strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel.

People-dealing maturity comes only after we learn that we are all sinners (Romans 3:23), and are completely humbled before God. The "babe" seeks an "issue" and perhaps make a "name" for himself. But maturity seeks for souls, hoping to "give 'em Heaven," and save them from Hell. The babe sees himself as a General in the Lord's army; the mature saint is an expendable servant of the Lord.

Doctrinal maturity is not compromise with error. It is simply wisdom enough to know we do not know it all. The babe paddles wildly about on the surface of the water, loudly proclaiming his domination of the seas; but maturity is aware of the unexplored depths below. The fool has an answer, the wise, a reason.

Paul told Timothy to "flee youthful lusts" and "foolish and unlearned questions avoid" (2 Timothy 2:22f). There is no "instant maturity" for any of us. We must start with instruc-

tions to youth, and "by reason of use" we may "grow up" in Christ. All of us are in the process in many facets of the Christian life, not having attained (Philippians 3:12f). We can be patient and tolerant of blustering spiritual babes without appointing them as elders, preachers, and editors. In time, with enough milk and nurture, we may all learn to act like men.

-From *Walking In The Light*, 4/19/09

Prayer List

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

Gospel Meetings

6/14-17 VBS at Elkton with Dr. David Eakin teaching adult class, Creation vs. Evolution, S-W at 7 p.m.

6/14-17 at Brookhill with Johnny Felker for a singing school.

6/14-19 at Elgin Hills with Frank Richey, M-F at 7 p.m.

6/21-26 at Midway in Florence with Bill Hall

6/22-26 VBS at Jordan Park, M-F at 10 a.m.

7/5-10 at Parkway with Paddy Kendall-Ball, M-F at 7:00 p.m.

7/6-10 VBS at New Georgia with Greg Chandler, M-F at 10 a.m.

7/12-17 at Jones Road with Lowell Sallee

7/18 Young People's Lectureship at Hughes Road in Madison with Jeff May, Edwin Crozier and Eric Reynolds

7/19-24 at Highway 157 in Cullman with Jeff May, Lessons on the Home and Family, M-F at 7 p.m.

7/26-31 at Woolly Springs