

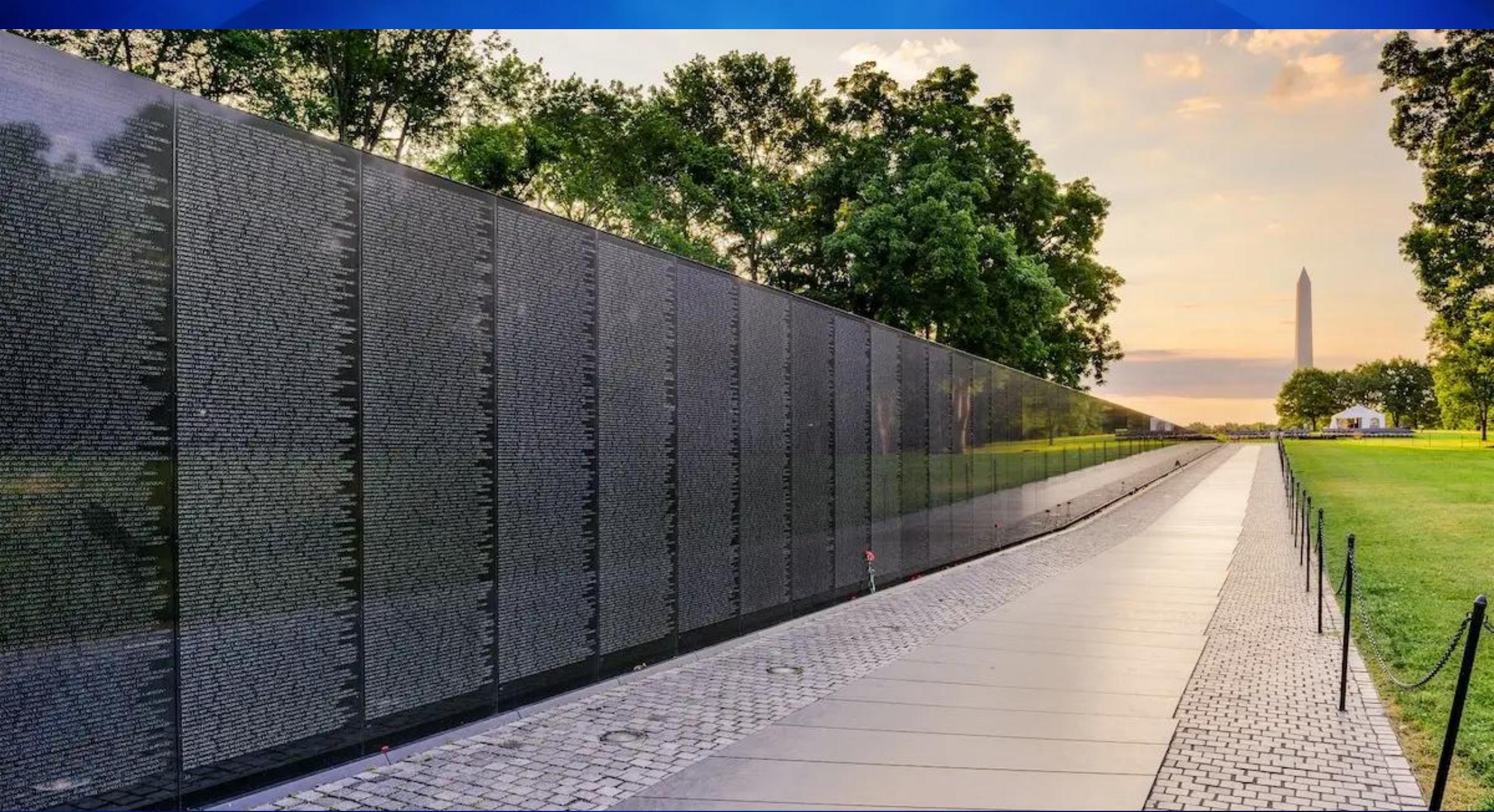
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Pleasant Hill
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH

A wide-angle photograph of a natural landscape. In the foreground, there is a calm body of water, possibly a lake or a wide river. The middle ground features a range of mountains with snow-capped peaks. The sky is a vibrant mix of blue, white, and pink, suggesting either a sunrise or a sunset. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

Names that Matter

Matthew 1:2-15



Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

1 Corinthians 10:11



1

God's Ways Are Often Unexplainable

Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac
begat Jacob; and Jacob begat
Judas and his brethren;

Matthew 1:2

KJV

And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother, and conceal his blood? Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites, and let not our hand be upon him; for he is our brother and our flesh. And his brethren were content. Then there passed by Midianites merchantmen; and they drew and lifted up Joseph out of the pit, and sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

For thy servant became surety for the lad unto my father, saying, If I bring him not unto thee, then I shall bear the blame to my father for ever. Now therefore, I pray thee, let thy servant abide instead of the lad a bondman to my lord; and let the lad go up with his brethren.



2

God's Plans Through History Are
Unstoppable

And Zorobabel (Zerubbabel) begat Abiud (Abihud); and Abiud begat Eliakim; and Eliakim begat Azor; And Azor begat Sadoc (Zadok); and Sadoc begat Achim; and Achim begat Eliud; And Eliud begat Eleazar; and Eleazar begat Matthan; and Matthan begat Jacob;

Matthew 1:13–15

KJV



3

A Personal Lineage of Godliness Is
Unpredictable

And he (Hezekiah) did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did. He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.

Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem: But did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, like unto the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD had cast out before the children of Israel. For he built again the high places which Hezekiah his father had broken down, and he reared up altars for Baalim, and made groves, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served them.

(His repentance)

And when he was in affliction, he besought the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, And prayed unto him: and he was intreated of him, and heard his supplication, and brought him again to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God.

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty and one years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Jedidah, the daughter of Adaiah of Boscath. And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left.

Salvation and faithfulness are not inherited; each conversion magnifies the grace of God, not the merit of family heritage.

“The saved are singled out not by their own merits but by the grace of the Mediator.”

Martin Luther



4

Tests of Faith and Obedience Are Unforeseeable

And Ozias (*Uzziah*) begat Joatham; and
Joatham begat Achaz (*Ahaz*); and Achaz
begat Ezekias (*Hezekiah*);

Matthew 1:9

Sixteen years old was Uzziah when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty and two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Jecoliah of Jerusalem. And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah did. And he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper.

And he made in Jerusalem engines,
invented by cunning men, to be on the
towers and upon the bulwarks, to shoot
arrows and great stones withal. And his
name spread far abroad; for he was
marvellously helped, till he was strong.

But when he was strong, his heart was
lifted up to his destruction: for he
transgressed against the LORD his
God, and went into the temple of the
LORD to burn incense upon the altar of
incense.

“God does not help us by removing the tests, but by making the tests work for us. Satan wants to use the tests to tear us down, but God uses them to build us up.”

Warren Wiersbe

"Satan, like a fisher, baits his hook according to the appetite of the fish."

Thomas Adams



5

The Game Plan of God Is
Unconventional

By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.



6

No Lost Sinner Is Unredeemable

And the men said unto her, We will be blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear. Behold, when we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee.

Application:

- * No sinner is beyond the reach of God's mercy and grace; Christ can redeem anyone, regardless of past sin.
- * Believers should look back at their own past only long enough to marvel at grace, then follow Christ in the present and anticipate their future life with Him in heaven.

“... the Christian church seems to have a variety of concerns, but in reality it has only one reason for being—and that is to show forth the life and mercy and grace of Jesus Christ.”

A.W. Tozer

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