



Time to start planning

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne County Fair is just a little over a month away and it is time for people to start planning their fair parade entry.

This year's theme is "The Winds of Change," which is a little different from themes of year's past. However, there are many interpretations and there should be a variety of floats fashioned within the theme.

Carla Lampe, president of the St. Francis Area Chamber of Commerce, said people have been asking about the theme and seeing if there are any changes.

"We will be keeping the same parade route, starting at the high school and traveling west down Main Street," she said.

There will be no entry registrations but, closer to the day of the parade, a map of where the different entries are to meet before the parade will be printed.

The parade is coordinated by the Chamber.

"We are urging everyone to start planning now," she said.



RICK REESER runs the 100-meter race at the senior games held in Colorado.

Man earns three golds

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On June 15, Rick Reeser, St. Francis, ran in the Greeley/Rocky Mountain Senior Games and ended up taking home three gold medals and breaking a record. Five years ago, he had run in two races and earned silver medals.

"I wanted the gold," he said. "It is fun when you win."

For two months, he practiced running in his backyard which is mostly sand.

"I had no idea what my time would be and I had no one to run against," he said.

He was in the 60- to 64-age group and entered the 50-meter, 100-meter and the 200-meter dashes.

He broke the Colorado record in the 50-meter, running the race in 6.83 seconds. The old record of 7.21 seconds was set in 1994.

In the 100-meter, he had a time of 14.55 seconds. The second place finisher had a time of 15.62 seconds, almost a whole second behind him.

Mr. Reeser's wife Laura asked



REESER with the three gold medals he won.

him why he was running so fast because the guy was way behind him. He said he had no idea where the guy was — "I just wanted to win the race!" he said.

In the 200-meter dash, Mr. Reeser had a time of 31.08 seconds. His next opponent was timed at 31.98 seconds.

The next Rocky Mountain Senior Games will be held in June, 2008.

Extension Notes

Risk of Poison Ivy Exposure High and Growing

This growing season's rather damp beginning in the central High Plains is fostering rampant weedy vines - including poison ivy.

"In late May, female poison ivy plants produce flowers, too, which soon become berries that the birds love. That means new 'plantings' will soon be showing up all over the area," said Chuck Otte, natural resources agent with Kansas State University Research and Extension.

Health experts estimate two-thirds of the population is susceptible to poison ivy's sap. It holds an oily toxicant that causes reactions ranging from an itchy inflammation to a severe rash with water blisters.

"But, humans' susceptibility can change - often gradually, but sometimes as a surprise after years of being 'immune.' So, always acting as if you're at least somewhat sensitive is smart," he said.

The sap easily becomes available for human touch every time a leaf, stem or other poison ivy part is bruised, torn or chewed. The clear fluid turns sooty black after just a few hours exposure to air.

Mr. Otte warned that the toxic oil in that fluid can remain active for years.

"It can spread on pet fur, clothing, tool handles, gloves - even steering wheels," he said.

The only solid clue that a plant

may be poison ivy is compound leaves, each with three leaflets. These "leaves of three" can be glossy or dull and 1-inch to 4-inches long. Their edges are often smooth but can be toothed or lobed. Leaf shape and shade of green can vary, too - sometimes on the same plant, Mr. Otte said.

The plant prefers damp shade with trees, shrubs and other vines. Yet, it can grow alone in full sun.

"Just to keep things interesting, poison ivy also can be a small to large shrub, a low-growing groundcover, or an aggressive vine that attaches itself to trees with lots of hairy aerial roots. The vine can grow more than 50-feet long," he said.

DO YOU WANT TO BE SAVED?

Only one time in the entire Bible, is the question asked. "What must I do to be saved?" (Acts 16:30). In the next verse (Acts 16:31) the question is answered, **"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house"**

Remember:

Hell's Hot

Life's Short

Death's Sure

Eternity's Long

and, "There Ain't No Exits in Hell."

NO MAN KNOWS, HOW SOON IT IS TOO LATE

"Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His Name in vain." Exodus 20:7

Anyway that you use God's Name, the Lord's Name, Jesus' Name, other than in a Holy manner, is taking His Name in vain.

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Acts 2:21 and Romans 10:13 indicate that "whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." In the next verse, Romans 10:14 it says "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?" Believing precedes calling upon the Name of the Lord. Jesus himself said in John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**" God reaffirms this truth in I Timothy 2:5 saying "For *there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*" When someone says "repeat this prayer after me to be saved" it is making people feel like they have to "do" something to be saved, other than **believing**. If someone is asked to say a prayer to be saved, the person who says the prayer is still on his way to hell, after repeating the prayer, if he hasn't believed in his heart. Nowhere in the Bible is it found that a person has to pray a prayer to be saved. God does not hear a prayer unless you go to God in the name of Jesus Christ. **The Only Mediator between God and man.** Jesus Christ is not your Mediator unless he is your Lord and Savior. So according to God, the steps are, first you **believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior.** By **believing** as Acts 16:31 indicates you are **saved!** Acts 16:30,31 is the only time in the Bible where the question is asked, "what must I **do** to be saved? God answering through Paul said, "**Believe** on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." By being saved, Jesus Christ is your Lord, Savior and Mediator between God and yourself. Now you can pray to God because you have the Mediator, Jesus Christ.

I believe that when a person "prays" to God, without being saved, his prayer goes no higher than the ceiling, and God probably says, "Who do you think you are, to think that you can come to Me, without coming to Me in the only possible way that I have set out in My Word? For you come to Me, through My Only Begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the One and Only Mediator between you and Me." You don't just pull Jesus Christ out of the air, and say today I want You to get me to God, be my go-between for God! It doesn't work that way. Jesus Christ is either your Lord and Savior, making Him your Mediator, or, if Jesus Christ is not your Lord and Savior, He is not your Mediator. I believe it is very important to stress that you are saved by **believing only.** John 3:16, probably the most quoted verse in the Bible, says that, "whosoever **believeth** in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Again, this passage clearly prescribes believing, not repeating a prayer. In John 3:4, Nicodemus asks Jesus, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?" He was asking this in regard to Jesus' statement in John 3:3, that a man needs to be born again. Jesus' answer in John 3:5 and following is "Except a man be born *of* water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Nowhere does Jesus say, pray to be saved, it is **always believe.**

Years ago, I heard Dr. Donald Grey Barnhouse say "I'm deeply offended when I hear a prayer that does not end with the idea that God must be approached only the Name and the Being of the Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 1:13 says "In whom (Christ) ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye **believed**, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise." Romans 10:9 tells us "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe**, in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. ¹⁹For with the heart man **believeth** (first) unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession (next) is made unto salvation." How many people have gone to hell or are going to hell by putting their trust in the ungodly "pray the sinners prayer" or repeat this prayer after me", instead of **believing** John 3:36: "He that **believeth** on the son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

Luke 23:39-43 tells us "And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. ⁴⁰But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. ⁴²And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. ⁴³And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in paradise." In these verses in Luke, we see that a man was saved by believing only. The malefactor did not, and was not instructed by Jesus, to pray, to receive salvation. He said unto Jesus, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. **You don't fool Jesus.** Jesus **knew** that this man **believed** in Him; that this man **believed** that this Jesus that he was talking with was the Lord, The Messiah, the Only Begotten Son of God, the Savior, and in believing the man was saved. Now if you think that you have to pray first, repeat first, or **anything** first, before believing, why did Jesus tell him "today thou shalt be with Me in paradise?" OR if there is a need to do for anything to go along with **believing**, why didn't Jesus tell him what that was? Jesus doesn't make mistakes! God's Word is true. You don't (really you can't), add to or take away from God's Word, and it be true. Just leave His Word alone, and do what God said, **believe.** Psalm 119:89 "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven." Revelations 22:18,19 ¹⁸For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things. God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: ¹⁹And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book." Take your Bible and check the references that we contained herein - nothing added to and nothing taken away; and when you hear "the plan of salvation" from anyone, get your Bible out and see if it is God speaking or "someone's" idea. I can't see "ten steps" to salvation, I can see only one step: **believe.** The malefactor on the cross had but one step, and he took it. You, I, we all have "one step," **believe.** Please take it, and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation.

¹All Scripture references are from The King James Version, (Cambridge: Cambridge: Cambridge) 1769.

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