

Are you digging for treasure or waiting for it?

People often think if they attend church regularly and/or have accepted Jesus as their Savior, they are set. They have all they need.

But in the Bible, gaining knowledge of God and Christ is likened to digging for treasure. If someone told you something valuable, a true treasure, was buried in your yard, would you believe you could just think about your yard, believe the treasure is there and visit your yard once a week, and the treasure would fall into your hands? I didn't think so. Why would you feel that way about your relationship with God?

Proverbs 2:1-5 says, "My son, if you will receive my sayings and treasure up my own commandments with yourself, so as to pay attention to wisdom with your ear, that you may incline your heart to discernment; if,



sharon corcoran

• use it or lose it

moreover, you call out for understanding itself and you give forth your voice for discernment itself, if you keep seeking for it as for silver, and as for hid treasures you keep searching for it, in that case you will understand the fear of God, and you will find the very knowledge of God."

Do you read the Bible regularly? Do you do research on things you don't understand? Do you read parts of God's word that you haven't noticed before? When was the last time

you thought, "I didn't know it said that!""? If you haven't read the whole Bible, there are treasures you haven't even walked past yet. Even if you've read it many times, there are more treasures left for you to find.

In Colossians chapter 2, the apostle Paul was encouraging members of that Christian congregation to gain knowledge of Christ, referring to him as the "sacred secret of God." Verse 3 says, "Carefully concealed in him are all the treasures of wisdom and of knowledge."

Again, we're digging for treasure, looking for what's concealed. Sacred secrets aren't magically revealed to people who are sitting

back waiting — they're revealed to people who are digging, looking for answers to life's questions, looking for wisdom and knowledge.

In Revelation 19:10, the apostle John records an angel's reply when he fell at his feet to worship: "Be careful! Do not do that! All I am is a fellow slave of you and of your brothers who have the work of witnessing to Jesus. Worship God; for the bearing witness to Jesus is what inspires prophesying."

We have to know Jesus to know prophecy, to know God, to know kingdom truths.

John 1:18 says, "No man has seen God at any time; the only-begotten god who is in the bosom position with the father is the one that has explained him."

Through his ministry, Jesus taught

his disciples about his Father, showed who his Father is by displaying His qualities in his actions and filled the earth with his Father's words.

At John 7:16, 17, Jesus said, "What I teach is not mine, but belongs to him that sent me. If anyone desires to do His will, he will know concerning the teaching whether it is from God or I speak of my own originality."

What Jesus taught and did while on earth is contained in the gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. The following books were recorded by Jesus' apostles, some in letter format, and tell us how the Christian congregation was formed and grew in the first century. They are full of information Christians need today to "walk the walk," as people say.

The last book of the Bible, Rev-

elation, contains prophecies recently fulfilled, being fulfilled now and yet to be fulfilled. The first part of the Bible, the Hebrew Scriptures, also known as the Old Testament, are full of past examples of people who served God faithfully and prophecies about Jesus' role as the Messiah, High Priest, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father and Prince of Peace.

Proverbs 2:9-11 tells us some of the benefits of digging for treasure in the Bible: "In that case you will understand righteousness and judgment and uprightness, the entire course of what is good. When wisdom enters into your heart and knowledge itself becomes pleasant to your very soul, thinking ability itself will keep guard over you, discernment itself will safeguard you."

Leaf scorch caused by damaged roots, limited soil area, dry winds

Leaf scorch is starting to show up on trees and shrubs around the state. This is not a disease



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• ag notebook

but rather a physiological problem associated with damaged roots, limited soil area and hot, dry winds.

Moisture is lost so quickly from the leaves that the roots can't absorb and transfer water quickly enough to replace it. Though scorch is usually associated with dry periods, it can appear even when the soil is moist.

Scorched leaves turn brown or, in some cases, black from the edges and between the major veins. If severe, the leaf may drop. Leaves may be affected over the entire tree or only on one side. While it usually affects broad-leaf trees, white pines are prone to this condition due to the delicacy of their needles.

Though scorch can be due solely to the weather, the condition of a plant's roots can make them more susceptible. Shallow soils such as those over hardpan or rock lead to a limited root system that may not be able to absorb all the water a plant needs.

Trees may be more sensitive to scorch this year because of the heavy rains many areas received this spring. Though soils were recharged, in many cases so much rain

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was received that oxygen was driven from the soil, resulting in root damage.

That damage is now making it more difficult for trees to provide all

the water needed by the leaves. Root damage due to disease, insects, poor drainage or construction also can cause poor water uptake.

To help alleviate damage due to

dry soils or limited root systems, water trees once per week if there is no rain. Mulching small trees or shrubs will help conserve moisture.

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United Methodist Church Brewster: Pastor: Dorine Chambers Worship Service: 10:45 am CST Sunday School: 9:45 am CST Winona: Minister: Sheryl Johnson Worship Service: 9 am CST Sunday School: 10:15 am CST	First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Pastor: Rev. Ted Amos Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233 Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 am Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler Nurseries Available	Kanorado United Methodist Church Pastor: Leonard Cox 399-2468 Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am Worship Service: 10:15 am
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Seventh Day Adventist Church 1160 Cattletrail Pastor: Mike Larson Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 am Worship Service: 11 am	Emmanuel Lutheran Church 13th & Sherman • 890-6161 Sunday: Christian education/fellowship: 10:15 a.m. Worship Service: 9 am Wednesday: Confirmation: 6 pm	Church of Christ 401 Caldwell 890-6185 Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 am Worship Service: 10:45 am Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 pm
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