

# Two Dates on the Calendar

Sunday AM 03/08/20

## Introduction:

There are two days on the calendar that I want to focus on - - February 29, 2004 and March 3, 2020.

### I) February 29<sup>th</sup>

#### A) Why do we have a February 29<sup>th</sup>?

1. The earth's rotation around the Sun is not a perfect 365 days. It is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 5 seconds.
2. Our calendar would eventually shift seasons. In my life time there have been 15 leap years. One can see where eventually the summer would be in December and 4<sup>th</sup> of July would be observed in the snow.
3. This also keeps "religious holidays" on their proper day, i.e. Christmas, Good Friday, Easter, etc.
4. This also means those born on this day have very few birthdays!

#### B) February 29, 2004

1. Was on Sunday. We had a member at Stone Street whose birthday was on February 29<sup>th</sup>.
2. For me it was the chance to preach a sermon relating to February 29<sup>th</sup> to something religious.
3. My sister in-law, Peggy died on February 25<sup>th</sup> a Wednesday. Instead of preaching I was helping to carry her body to her grave on the 29th.

**C) Lesson learned, *Ps. 118.24***

1. Special days are not determined by the calendar.
  - a. A man was going through his wife's things and came upon some clothing his wife had bought eight or 9 years earlier for some special occasion. She never saw that piece of clothing.
  - b. Some days are special because of some event that occurred on that day, such as Wedding Anniversaries, birthdays, etc
  - c. Some are unexpectedly special.
  - d. Some are special because we make them special.
  - e. You don't know what special thing will happen each day. A number of years ago a young preacher got ready to go to services. He met a young lady. That was a special day.
2. Just like the calendar, if we don't make adjustments in our life, we will be off course.
  - a. None of us are sinless, all need the blood of Christ.
  - b. Christians are not perfect, we need God's forgiveness, ***1 John 1.9***

**II) March 3, 2020**

**A) The tragedy of the tornado hitting Tennessee**

1. We can see the devastation, loss of property, loss of lives, and sorrow.
2. My own reaction: a young couple is missing (that is bad); a

young Christian couple with their child is missing (I wondered who they were); I saw their picture (that could have been one of our children, their spouse, and grandson).

3. That made it really hard for me to deal with.

### **C) Instead of questioning God**

1. Live in God's presence, ***Matthew 28.20***
2. Remember God's promises, ***Phil. 4.19*** (An observation made concerning the television interviews in Cookeville, was God being mentioned in every interview).
3. Lean on God's power, ***2 Chronicles 32.7-8***
4. Look for God's purpose, ***James 1.17-18.***

### **B) Lesson learned**

1. The uncertainty and brevity of life. ***James 4.13ff***
2. Some things we have to leave in the hands of God. ***2 Samuel 12.22-23***
3. The power of sympathizing, ***Hebrews 4.15-16.***
  - a. We read various passages of Jesus feeling compassion for others, ***John 11.35-36 Mt. 14.14, Mark 6.34.***
  - b. Definition of sympathize –1. to be in sympathy or agreement of feeling; share in a feeling (often followed by with). --2. to feel a compassionate sympathy, as for suffering or trouble (often followed by with). --3. to express sympathy or condole (often followed by with). --4.to be in approving accord, as with a person or cause: to sympathize with a person's

aims. --5. to agree, correspond, or accord.

- c. To put yourself in the place of others.
4. Jesus put Himself in our place – He understands the pain of betray, the sorrow of losing love ones, the hurt of ridicule, the temptation of temptation, and death.
- a. We are to take comfort in this and be emboldened with such knowledge.

**Conclusion:**

Both dates will never be the same. Those who loss love ones who are in Christ can be comforted by **1 Thess. 4.14-18**.