

June 21, 2025

The Way

West Valley End-Time Ministries

In This Issue

Bible Study Passage — Page 2

Paul & Barnabas In Antioch — Acts 14

Honest Questions — Page 3

Thanks for the questions!

Prophecy in the News — Page 7



Darrell Chilson, Pastor



Jessica Lindsey, Bible Instructor

Join Our Weekly Virtual Bible Study

Acts of the Apostles

Every Saturday 2 PM MST

WebEx Link


[Click Here!](#)

How to Support the WVM Ministry
Your Prayers
Your Participation In Class
Your Gifts — **[Click to Donate](#)**

Additional Resources at
WVETM.com

The mission of
West Valley
Ministries is to
help Christ's
followers
recognize the
signs of His
approaching
return and be
prepared for
that Great Day

Got questions?
**[WVETM.com/
Contact](http://WVETM.com/Contact)**



Bible Study

Acts 14

At Iconium

1 Now it happened in Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed. 2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brethren. 3 Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

4 But the multitude of the city was divided: part sided with the Jews, and part with the apostles. 5 And when a violent attempt was made by both the Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to abuse and stone them, 6 they became aware of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding region. 7 And they were preaching the gospel there.

Idolatry at Lystra

8 And in Lystra a certain man without strength in his feet was sitting, a cripple from his mother's womb, who had never walked. 9 This man heard Paul speaking. Paul, observing him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, 10 said with a loud voice, "Stand up straight on your feet!" And he leaped and walked. 11 Now when the people saw what Paul had done, they raised their voices, saying in the Lycaonian language, "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!" 12 And Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. 13 Then the priest of Zeus, whose temple was in front of their city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates, intending to sacrifice with the multitudes.

14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard this, they tore their clothes and ran in among the multitude, crying out 15 and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, 16 who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways. 17 Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." 18 And with these sayings they could scarcely restrain the multitudes from sacrificing to them.

Stoning, Escape to Derbe

19 Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. 20 However, when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and went into the city. And the next day he departed with Barnabas to Derbe.

Strengthening the Converts

21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, 22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God." 23 So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed. 24 And after they had passed through Pisidia, they came to Pamphylia. 25 Now when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia. 26 From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work which they had completed.

27 Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. 28 So they stayed there a long time with the disciples.

Honest Questions

Honest Question: Does the Bible tell us anything about what happened to the dinosaurs?

Bible Answer: No, but – the Bible speaks of creatures which may have been what we call dinosaurs today.

Job 40 describes a large land beast that eats plants and whose description sounds strikingly like that of how dinosaurs are described. Here is a portion of its description:

- 15“Look at **Behemoth**,
which I made along with you
and which feeds on grass like an ox.
16 What strength it has in its loins,
what power in the muscles of its belly!
17 Its tail sways like a cedar;
the sinews of its thighs are close-knit.
18 Its bones are tubes of bronze,
its limbs like rods of iron.
19 It ranks first among the works of God,
yet its Maker can approach it with his sword.

Leviathan is a feared sea creature described in Job 41. Its description has similarities to the descriptions of legendary dragons:

- 20 Smoke pours from its nostrils
as from a boiling pot over burning reeds.
21 Its breath sets coals ablaze,
and flames dart from its mouth.
25 When it rises up, the mighty are terrified;
they retreat before its thrashing.
26 The sword that reaches it has no effect,
nor does the spear or the dart or the javelin.
27 Iron it treats like straw
and bronze like rotten wood.
28 Arrows do not make it flee;
slingstones are like chaff to it.
29 A club seems to it but a piece of straw;
it laughs at the rattling of the lance.
30 Its undersides are jagged potsherds,
leaving a trail in the mud like a threshing sledge.

The prophet Isaiah also mentions Leviathan:

- In that day,
the Lord will punish with his sword—
his fierce, great and powerful sword—

Honest Questions

Leviathan the gliding serpent,
Leviathan the coiling serpent;
he will slay the monster of the sea. (Isaiah 27|1)

Psalm 104 also mentions this creature:
There the ships go to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you formed to frolic there.

Scripture definitely seems to indicate that there were large land and sea creatures that were feared, but it is unclear if they were dinosaurs. *Misha Hulett, Pastor of 2 42 Community Church*

Comments:

The word "dinosaur" comes from the Greek words "deinos" (terrible) and "sauros" (lizard), **coined by Sir Richard Owen in 1842** to describe a group of extinct reptiles according to the Natural History Museum. Owen used this term to classify fossils that were unlike any known reptiles at the time, highlighting their impressive size and features. The term "Dinosauria" was first used in his report and has since become the name for this distinct group of prehistoric animals says the Natural History Museum.

So what happened to the dinosaurs? We have evidence they existed, but the remains of dinosaurs reveal that they existed prior to the flood which covered the earth during Noah's time. We have fossil records of dinosaurs, and the attached pictures are two of several skeletons of dinosaurs displayed in, among other places, the Natural History Museum.



Job, the primary biblical reference to what may represent dinosaurs, is the oldest book of the Bible and was written by Moses – the same inspired writer of the story of creation, the flood, and the beginnings of the Church of the Old Testament. The flood changed the geography, topography, and nature of the entire earth. The vestiges of all that existed before God destroyed the world and all the life within it (except for Noah and his family) are found in the layers of the earth that exist today. You can see evidences of the flood in the Grand Canyon, in the tar pits of La Brea, and in the fossils found in numerous places upon the earth. Even the fuel we burn to heat our homes and power our cars is a result of all the life (vegetable, animal and human) that died in the flood and was transformed into hydrocarbons! (A hydrocarbon is an organic compound made entirely of carbon and hydrogen atoms. These compounds are the primary components of fossil fuels like crude oil and natural gas).

Honest Questions

Honest Question: Is hell real? If so, isn't God cruel for creating humankind, many of whom will eventually end up there?

Bible Answer:

“Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to **destroy both soul and body in hell.**” Matthew 10:28.


Comments: Yes, hell is real. The above words are the words of Jesus Himself – the Savior of the world who left heaven to come to earth, live among us as one of us, bear our sins, then die on Calvary the eternal death that was ours so we wouldn't have to experience hell! The word “hell” in this verse is the Greek word *geenna*, “the place of the future punishment called ‘Gehenna’ or ‘Gehenna of fire.’ This was originally the valley of Hinnom, south of Jerusalem, where the filth and dead animals of the city were cast out and burned; a fit symbol of the wicked and their future destruction.” Interlinear Greek Concordance.

There are numerous references in the Bible to the place where evil and evildoers will be punished for their wickedness and forever **destroyed**. John speaks of hell as “the lake of fire,” and calls it “**the second death.**”

When God created Adam and Eve and gave them the Garden of Eden as their home, they were perfect in every way – and without sin. They were made “in the image of God,” “in His likeness.” He made them capable of thinking, reasoning, communicating with Him, and capable of making choices. They weren't AI robots! God wanted to have fellowship with His creation and did so, even in the garden! Genesis 3:8 suggests that God came to visit Adam and Eve in the “cool of the evening.” He walked with them, talked with them and cultivated in them a trust in Him. And even after they ate of the forbidden fruit and found themselves naked, He came to them in the garden and covered their nakedness by killing a [lamb], making garments of skin, and offering the first sacrifice for sin, a symbol of the Savior to come.

God wanted to have a relationship with His creatures, but relationships are built on trust and a freedom to choose who and how to love someone – reaping the rewards of good choices and the consequences of bad choices. Any relationship based on coercion or control does not bring happiness, and God didn't create mankind to relate to Him out of a sense of obligation or coercion. But in order to have that kind of relationship with us, He had to risk our rejection of His love and His desire for our eternal good! Adam and Eve were deceived by the serpent to think God was betraying their trust and withholding something good from them by forbidding them to eat the fruit of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, and they chose to believe the Devil over their Creator. Their choice resulted in a severed face-on relationship with God and the curse of death. God had said to them, “In the day that you eat of it [the forbidden fruit], you will surely die.”

Today God gives us the **choice** of embracing His grace and the life it brings, or we are free to **choose** to reject that grace and remain under the curse of “the second death.” To embrace His offer of life through faith in Him is to be redeemed from the curse of eternal death. To reject His offer is to receive what is already due the sinner, eternal death. God could have chosen not to create mankind; then we would have never had the opportunity to experience heaven and the joy of eternal life in a perfect land – that which God offered Adam and Eve at the time of their creation. Or, God could have created a human family that was programmed to



Honest Questions

love Him and always live in harmony with the principles of righteousness upon which His universe was built. Then He would have created obedient robots – and to what end!?

Or, He could have created a race who would live to see what an amazing God He is and love Him and serve Him because, from the depths of their hearts, they could not help themselves from doing otherwise! When we are finally rescued from this sinful world, we will see just how much He loved us and gave everything for our eternal happiness, and our devotion to Him will bring about the fulfillment of the very reason He created us in the first place – to have an enduring and intimate relationship with us!

Those who perish in the fires of hell will do so because they had the choice of life but chose death. They will not be lost because of their sin, but because they chose to reject the saving work of a gracious God who came to redeem them from their lostness!

Please send your “Honest Questions” to Pastor@wvetm.com — then watch for them to be answered in this newsletter. To subscribe, send an email to the above email address with “Subscribe” in the subject box.

Prophecy In the News

The Progress of Politics and Religion In Prophetic Fulfillment

What an incredible week this has been! ICE is handling business in our cities, nearly one million illegal immigrants have “self-deported” under the Trump administration (New York Post, June 15, 2025), riots are continuing in protest of ICE arrests, prompting President Trump to deploy an additional 2,000 troops to L.A. last Wednesday (making a total now of 4,100 National Guard troops and 700 Marines), and city mayors resisting ICE are being arrested.

On the world stage, Israel has completely crippled the Iranian regime in just one week and now controls the skies over Iran. The Ayatollah Khamenei has fled the country, and others are fleeing after many leading officials of the Revolutionary Guard were killed by Israeli forces. And President Trump is now, for all practical purposes, the “Commander In Chief” of the world! He is negotiating peace through strength, working with international leaders to promote his America First agenda. China is silent, Putin is offering Trump his assistance, and on the religious front, Christianity is flourishing in America and the world. In fact, according to one Christian ministry, “China is experiencing a significant rise in Christianity, positioning itself to potentially become the world’s largest Christian nation by 2030.”


Wednesday, two new giant U.S. flags were lifted up over the White House lawns. On the same morning, pastors in the White House lifted up their voices to Jesus in the White House – “Faith is back in style. Freedom is back in style. America is back in style.” So says Pastor Travis Johnson of Pathway Church of Mobile, AL who was present that day.



And an Instagram posting and video of a similar event one month ago – “POWERFUL WORSHIP AT THE WHITEHOUSE!!! Today at the White House, the Faith Office hosted 100 Pastors and Faith Leaders from around the country for an in-depth briefing dealing with policy, religious liberties, foster care and adoption, flourishing minds and brain health (mental health care), and so much more! We prayed for the president and the decisions he is making on world matters! **Click the link to watch: [Worship at the White House, April 26, 2025](#)**



According to another post on Instagram, “Christian Revival is Spreading and Gen Z Is leading It. Something powerful is happening around the world. Christian revival isn’t just in churches anymore — it’s on social media, in classrooms, in music, and on the streets. Christianity is still the world’s largest faith with over 2.6 BILLION believers. The fastest growth? It’s happening in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. Revival is global. Gen Z Is Spiritually Hungry. According to Barna, 74% of Gen Z wants to grow spiritually. This isn’t about religion; it’s about real encounters with Jesus. Campus Revivals Are Breaking Out. Students are leading worship nights, prayer gatherings, and baptisms across the world. Worship Is Going Mainstream. Artists like Maverick City, Upper Room, and Lecrae are shaking the music scene and leading people straight to Christ. This isn’t a trend. It’s a Jesus movement.”



And finally, last Monday, June 16, the Religious Liberty Commission appointed by President Trump on May 1, 2025, convened its first session. In our May 24 issue of the newsletter, this commission and the presidential assignment given to it by the president was examined at length, along with its prophetic implications. For those with an interest in watching the whole proceedings of that day, the video links are included below:

[The First Hearing of the Religious Liberty Commission – Part 1](#)

[The First Hearing of the Religious Liberty Commission – Part 2](#)

[The First Hearing of the Religious Liberty Commission – Part 3](#)

I am watching with great interest the increasing dominance of America in the world and the rise of Christianity as the dominant religion of the world. It's prophetic!
