



# MOUNTAIN STREAM NEWS

eBulletin weekly issue No. 122 • August 8, 2022

www.mountainstreamchurch.com

## NO DISCOUNTS

### MESSAGE FROM PASTOR



*2 Samuel 24:24  
But the king said to Araunah,  
"No, but I will buy it from you  
for a price. I will not offer  
burnt offerings to the LORD  
my God that cost me nothing."  
So David bought the  
threshing floor and the oxen  
for fifty shekels of silver.*

I love a good bargain. I'm sure most of you do too. If someone offers us a discount, we very rarely refuse it. Yet there are occasions when we should insist on paying the full price, because discounts are not appropriate.

King David found himself in such a situation during his reign. In direct disobedience to God, David counted the number of soldiers that were available to him for battle. God had assured him that

whenever he needed an army, there would always be sufficient warriors. David was to demonstrate his trust in God's promise by refraining from ascertaining the exact size of his army. Unfortunately, David disobeyed God and numbered Israel.

His disobedience triggered severe consequences. David chose the best of three challenging options for judgment by electing to endure three days of pestilence on the nation at the hand of God. On the first day David's heart was crushed as the plague killed 70,000 Israelites because of his sin. He fell on his face before God in deep penitence, and God instructed him to present a sacrifice to appease God's wrath. When David came to the place, the landowner was not only willing to give David the land for free, but he also begged David to take the team of oxen he had been plowing for the sacrifice. But David would have none of it. He insisted on paying the full price for the land and the oxen. He determined he could not, and would not, offer to God what cost him nothing.

David's actions revealed his understanding of

the steep price of sin. Sin can never be expunged at discount prices. Full payment must be made. Praise God, Jesus came and paid the full price of sin. As He hung on the cross in agonizing surrender to the full wrath of God, He endured the unmitigated consequences of sin. That is why we can be forgiven. While salvation is free to us, it cost Jesus His life. When we sin, we should not look for easy escapes. We need to bow in penitence before God and be willing to accept the full consequences of our sin. God in His mercy will often graciously forgive us – but we should not expect nor demand spiritual freebies.

Those who chose to reject Christ will one day find themselves suffering the eternal torments of hell as they experience the full, awful price of their sin. There will be no discounts.

Trust Christ today!

God bless you,

Pastor James

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WHAT'S HAPPENING

**CORPORATE PRAYER**  
TUE @ 7 PM

**AUG 9**

Join us via Zoom video  
Please contact Pastor James  
for log on information at  
rcantio@gmail.com

**YOUTH GROUP**  
FRI @ 6:45 PM

**AUG 12**

In-person at church.  
For teens  
ages 13 and over

**EVENING SERVICE**  
1st & 3rd  
SUN @ 6 PM

**AUG 21**

Join us in-person  
at church

**KIDZONE & NURSERY**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**AUG 14**

These ministries are  
available every Sunday  
during the morning service  
Kidzone for ages  
6-12 yrs. old.

**WORSHIP SERVICE**  
SUN @ 11 AM

**AUG 14**

In-person service & livestream

Livestreaming is only on  
Facebook and our  
church's website.

- Men's Breakfast this Saturday @ 9:00 am at church. Invite a friend and bring something to share for breakfast if you can.
- Join us on 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 3:15 at the Meadows at Stroud as we sing and share the gospel with the residents. Contact Tom for more information.
- We'd love to see you at the in-person services soon.
- Bible Reading plans for 2022 are available at the Information Center. Also, read Pastor Jimmie's daily blog on the readings via the link on our website.

### QUICK TIPS ON WAYS TO GIVE YOUR OFFERING

Traditional during the Sunday morning service, with a check by mail or through our secured website. Please remember to hit "SAVE" after you give if you did not set up an account so the church can have a record of who gave for tax purposes. Thank you!