

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1576

May 4, 2025

Psalms 103:12, “*As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.*”

We often think about east and west. We note the rising of the sun and the setting as well. Most storms come from the west and go east. We think much about those two directions. Note some of what the LORD has said about east and west. There is much in the Bible.

I’m always reminded of the great comfort from the above verse, Psalm 103:12. We all have certainly sinned, but we are forgiven when we obey the LORD. It’s easy to let the mistakes of the past come back in our minds and even weigh us down. We can know that the LORD has removed our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west. Our forgiven sins are so far away from us, the distance cannot be measured. We can take much comfort in that.

Matthew 8:11, “*And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.*” Jesus had been talking with a centurion which was a Roman soldier over a hundred men. When

Jesus saw his faith, Jesus actually marveled and said, “. . . *Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*”

The fact this man was a centurion almost certainly meant he was a Roman citizen and therefore not of the people of Israel. I’m sure when those following Jesus heard of his great faith they were surprised. They probably felt no one outside of Israel had faith and was close to God.

Before the people could even question Jesus concerning this, He told them that many would come from the east and west. All over the world people would come to the LORD. This includes us today. Jesus was letting them know that it was not only the Israelites who would be in the kingdom of Heaven.

Jesus mentions three early Bible patriarchs who were held in high esteem by the Jews. He told them that those coming from the east and west would sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of Heaven.

We learn much about Heaven from this verse. We find out that we will be with the saved who have gone on before. The saved will still be known as the people they were on Earth. The saved will have a new name (Revelation 2:17), but we will be able to visit with all the saved who have gone on before us. That includes not only these people of the Bible, but our loved ones gone on before us and those yet to even live who will be saved. What a wonderful thought and great hope that gives us.

Zechariah 8:7-8, “⁷*Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country; ⁸And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness.*”

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Munfordville Church of Christ
104 Back St — P.O. Box 322
Munfordville, KY 42765

Marty Edwards, Minister
(270) 528-1298

www.munfordvillechurchofchrist.com martywedwards@gmail.com

Sunday 9am, 10am, 12pm; 6pm (Online) — Wednesday 6pm (Online)

News

—Continue to remember **Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Ken & Erin Davis, Becky Hatcher, Richard & Meg Connolly, Larry Compton, Linda Terry, Rick Gibbs, Sandy Duncan, Jerry Reynolds, Betty Franklin, Lauren Candela, Alice Vanderstoep, Carol Riffle, Stewart Franklin, and Karen Burd.** **Felicia Ballard**, daughter of Mistie Bush, is recovering at home after having a kidney removed due to a cancerous tumor.

—Tonight we will have our monthly singing with the LaRue County congregation. They will be visiting us. Services will be in person tonight at 5:00 p.m. Central Time.

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The LORD through Zechariah said He would save His people from the east country and from the west. Those living in that part of the world were the east. The west would have been this side of the world which includes us. Even before Jesus spoke regarding people coming from the east and west to the kingdom of Heaven, the LORD had spoken of the same in the Old Testament. He would save His people and they would dwell in Jerusalem. I feel certain this is a spiritual Jerusalem which would be the church now, and then after this life, “new Jerusalem” or Heaven. John called Heaven the new Jerusalem in Revelation 3:12 and 21:2.

The last time the terms east and west are mentioned in the Bible is Revelation 21:13. John mentions all four directions. Regarding the gates of Heaven we are told, “*On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates.*” The gates of Heaven face all directions. This represents people going into Heaven from all over the earth, but only those who are saved can enter these gates.

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Sunday, April 27, 2025		
Classes	23	John 1:1-7
Preaching	44	Matthew 13 (Parable of the Sower)
Contribution	\$1185.00	
Afternoon	12	Revelation 9:1-10; Genesis 38:1-30

Bible Quiz

We are told the marriage of whom is come?

Last Week's Answer—One hour (Revelation 18:17)

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Whether we are from the east or west, and wherever our lives take us, let's make sure we live in such a way that we enter into those gates of Heaven which face east, north, south, and west.

—Marty Edwards❖

“I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, [and] the bright and morning star.”

—Revelation 22:16

—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)