



*The Old-Fashioned Thanksgiving*

(Edgar Albert Guest, 1881-1959)

It may be I am getting old  
and like too much to dwell  
Upon the days of bygone  
years, the days I loved so  
well;  
But thinking of them now I  
wish somehow that I could  
know a simple old  
Thanksgiving Day,  
like those of long ago,

When all the family gathered  
round a table richly spread,  
With little Jamie at the foot  
and grandpa at the head,

The youngest of us all to  
greet the oldest with a smile,  
With mother running in and  
out and laughing all the  
while.

It may be I'm old-fashioned,  
but it seems to me to-day  
We're too much bent on hav-  
ing fun to take the time to  
pray;

Each little family grows up  
with fashions of its own;  
It lives within a world itself  
and wants to be alone.  
It has its special pleasures,  
its circle, too, of friends;  
There are no get-together  
days; each one his journey

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# Who Was Flavius Josephus?

From time to time you have heard a Bible Teacher, Evangelist or Pastor refer to the writing of Josephus. Usually a historical fact will be prefaced with, "Josephus said." Perhaps you have asked yourself, "Who is this Josephus?" In the next few moments I hope to share some insights into the life of Josephus and some of his writings.



Flavius Josephus

Josephus was a priest, a soldier and a scholar. He is mostly remembered as an accurate Jewish historian. He recorded the ancient life and social order of the Jewish people. But he lived during the years the New Testament was being written.

Josephus was born Yosef Ben Matityahu or Joseph son of Matthias, in Jerusalem in 37 AD or approximately 4 years after the death of Christ. The reference to Matthias links Josephus to both royal and priestly roots.

When the Jewish wars broke out with Rome he was made commander of the revolutionary forces in Galilee. One of the mysterious tales that followed the life of Josephus was his escape from death. The Roman legions found Josephus and his followers in a cave. When it seemed capture and death

was inevitable Josephus and his men made a death pact. Each soldier was to kill the one next to him. Only Josephus and his aid escaped.

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The two survivors were taken prisoner by the Roman general Vespasian and became his slaves. Josephus convinced Vespasian he was a prophet of Israel. Josephus prophesied that Vespasian would become Emperor of Rome. When the prophecy came true Josephus was rewarded with great treasure, freedom, and adoption into the family of Flavian. This is how he got the Roman name Flavius Josephus.

As a privileged Roman, Josephus became very educated. He wrote and published two major works along with some minor writings.

His first historical account is *The Jewish Wars*. This book served to record the historical data of the Roman siege of Israel and Jerusalem. It also warned the enemies of Rome of her strength and terror.

His next work *Jewish Antiquities* recorded ancient Jewish life. This work was completed to help Gentiles understand Jewish customs and beliefs. This work was published in Rome in 93 AD.

Here is an excerpt from *Jewish Antiquities*: *About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he was one who performed surprising deeds and was a teacher of such people as accept the truth gladly. He won over many Jews and many of the Greeks. He was the Messiah. And when, upon the accusation of the principal men among us, Pilate had condemned him to a cross, those who had first come to love him did not cease. He appeared to them spending a third day restored to life, for the prophets of God*

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## Who Was Flavius Josephus? continued from page 1...

had foretold these things and a thousand other marvels about him. And the tribe of the Christians, so called after him, has still to this day not disappeared... Jewish Antiquities, 18.3.

Josephus regarded Daniel as a true prophet from God with the ability to interpret dreams and prophecy. It is because of the works of Josephus that Biblical scholars have been able to accurately date books like Daniel and verify early authorship. Since Josephus lived through the time that Daniel predicted there is no doubt that the Book of Daniel was written many years before the events took place.

Here is just one example concerning a very evil Roman ruler called Antiochus Epiphanies. Daniel compares the evilness of Antiochus to the coming anti-christ: "...and indeed it so

came to pass that our nation suffered these things under Antiochus Epiphanies, according to Daniel's vision, and what he wrote many years before they came to pass. In the very same manner Daniel wrote concerning the Roman government that our country should be made desolate by them. All these things did this man leave in writing, as God showed him insomuch that such as read his prophecies and see how they have been fulfilled, would wonder at the honor wherewith God honored Daniel...Jewish Antiquities 10.11.

My favorite historical event recorded by Josephus is his account of the High Priest showing Alexander the Great the Daniel scrolls. From the Jewish Antiquities, 11.337:"...And when the

book of Daniel was showed him, wherein Daniel declared that one of the Greeks should destroy the empire of the Persians, he supposed that himself was the person intended; and as he was then glad, he dismissed the multitude for the present, but the next day he called them to him, and bade them ask what favors they pleased of him..."

Alexander recognized himself in the writings of Daniel and did not destroy Jerusalem, as he intended leaving Jerusalem untouched.

Josephus is just one more example of how God has preserved *HIS STORY* through history.

## Gospel Jam



Albert Svenddal of Brentwood, Tennessee, will be heading up the lineup for Gospel Jam on Saturday, November 7, 7:00 PM.

Albert has invited a number of his friends to join him for an evening of good old fashioned Gospel and Southern Gospel music. You'll want to bring along a friend and enjoy this great time together.

*Time Change  
Fall Back 1 Hour  
Sunday, November 1*

## The Old-Fashioned Thanksgiving

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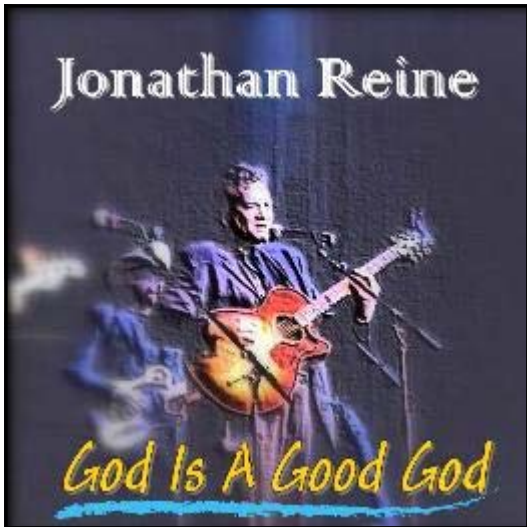
wends,

Pursuing what he likes the best in his particular way,  
Letting the others do the same upon Thanksgiving Day.

I like the olden way the best, when relatives were glad  
To meet the way they used to do when I was but a lad;  
The old home was a rendezvous for all our kith and kin,  
And whether living far or near they all came trooping in  
With shouts of "Hello, daddy!" as they fairly stormed the place  
And made a rush for mother, who would stop to wipe her face  
Upon her gingham apron before she kissed them all,  
Hugging them proudly to her breast, the grownups and the small.

Then laughter rang throughout the home, and, Oh, the jokes they told;  
From Boston, Frank brought new ones, but father sprang the old;  
All afternoon we chatted, telling what we hoped to do,  
The struggles we were making and the hardships we'd gone through;  
We gathered round the fireside.  
How fast the hours would fly--  
It seemed before we'd settled down 'twas time to say good-bye.  
Those were the glad Thanksgivings, the old-time families knew  
When relatives could still be friends and every heart was true.

*Have a Blessed Thanksgiving*



Jonathan Reine will be at Rejoice Christian Center on Sunday evening, November 1, 6:30 PM.

Jonathan is an accomplished musician and writes many of his own songs. His recordings have blessed many. Numerous healings have taken place as people have lis-

tened to Jonathan's CD, He Healed Them All.

You will be blessed and up lifted by the ministry of Jonathan Reine. We encourage you to bring someone that is in need of a miracle.



Jonathan and Arlys Reine

**Men's  
Breakfast  
Saturday  
November  
14  
8:00 - 10:00 AM**

**Women Of God International  
Persuing Our Destiny In God**

*You Are Invited to a Special Service  
For Men and Women*

**A Night With The King**

**Friday, November 6, 2009  
Service 7:00 pm**

**This is a special service ordained by God.**

There will not be a special speaker. God has directed that there be prophetic worship as Holy Spirit leads the service. Come expecting to receive from Him!

**Deb Lehr** is a licensed minister and a prophetic worshipper at Way of the Lord church in Blaine, MN. She will be ministering in praise and worship, plus minister as Holy Spirit ordains.

**Rev. Dee Tanner** is an ordained minister and prophetic worshipper. She attends Resurrection Life Church in Eden Prairie. She will be ministering in praise and worship, plus minister as Holy Spirit ordains.

**Rev. Carol Fraser** is the director of Women of God International, plus founder/director of On Eagles Wings Ministries. Carol will M.C. this service, plus minister as Holy Spirit ordains.

**Time Change  
Fall Back 1 Hour  
Sunday, November 1**

**Rejoice Newsletter**

Editor—Dr. Daniel E. Cole

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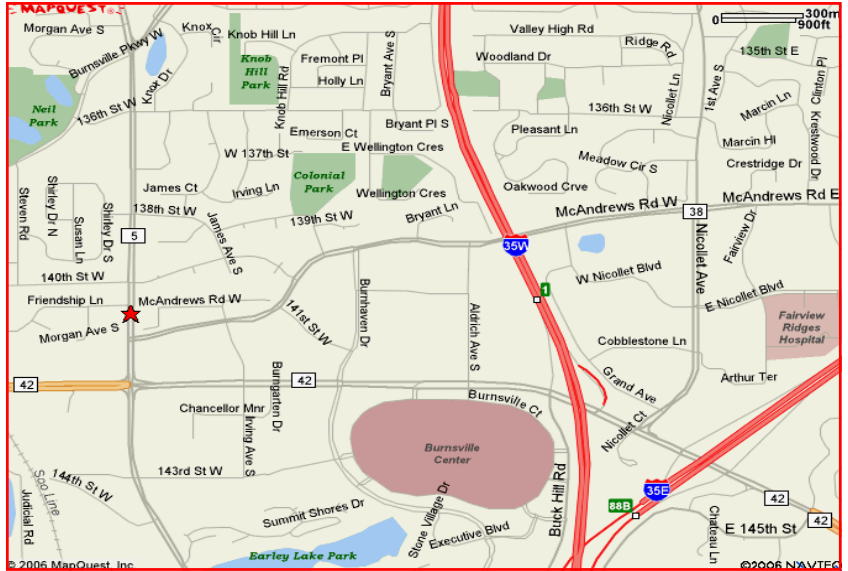
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**Cranberry Pecan Bars**

- 1-1/2 cups pecans
- 2 cups flour / 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup coconut / 1/2 cup oatmeal
- 1 cup butter (cut into bits)
- 1 12-oz. jar seedless raspberry jam
- 3/4 cup dried cranberries

- 1 - Chop 1/2 cup of the pecans and place in bowl.
- 2 - In another bowl mix the remaining 1 cup of pecans, the brown sugar, butter and flour until the dough clumps together.
- 3 - Stir 1 cup of the dough with the reserved pecans. Set aside.
- 4 - Put remaining dough over baking pan bottom.
- 5 - In small bowl, mix preserves and cranberries. Spread over dough in pan.

- 6 - Mix coconut and oatmeal with reserved dough, pressing some together to form clumps.
- 7 - Sprinkle over dough in 9 x 13 inch pan.
- 8 - Bake at 350° for 30-40 min. or until top browns.

*Wonderful—Simply Wonderful!!!*

# NOVEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday School—9:15 Hour of Power—10:15 Communion Jonathan Reine—6:30 Healing Service	2	3	4 Prayer—6:30 PM Prophecy Seminar & Discussion 7:15 PM	5 Rejoice Bible Way Institute 6:30 PM	6 Women of God International 7:00 PM <i>A Night With The King</i>	7 Gospel Jam 7:00 PM
8 Sunday School—9:15 Mike McCraney Singing 10:15 AM & 6:30 PM	9	10	11 Prayer—6:30 PM Prophecy Seminar & Discussion 7:15 PM	12 Rejoice Bible Way Institute 6:30 PM	13 Fasting & Prayer Day Faith Clinic	14 Men's Breakfast 8:00—10:00 AM
15 Sunday School—9:15 Hour of Power—10:15 Evening Service—6:30	16	17	18 Prayer—6:30 PM Prophecy Seminar & Discussion	19 Rejoice Bible Way Institute 6:30 PM	20 Fasting & Prayer Day Faith Clinic	21
22 Sunday School—9:15 Hour of Power—10:15 Evening Service—6:30	23	24	25 No Service	26 Thanksgiving Day	27 Fasting & Prayer Day Faith Clinic	28
29 Sunday School—9:15 Hour of Power—10:15 Evening Service—6:30	30					