



# FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

51 North Franklin Road • Indianapolis, IN 46219 • 317.897.1298

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 1, 2019

## FOOLS



HAPPY APRIL FOOLS' DAY! A DAY FOR WHICH NO PARTICULAR HISTORY CAN BE VERIFIED! MANY THINK IT RELATES TO FRANCE'S MOVE FROM THE JULIAN TO THE GREGORIAN CALENDAR IN 1582. THOSE WHO WERE SLOW TO BE INFORMED OR ADAPT STILL CELEBRATED NEW YEARS AT THE END OF MARCH AND BEGINNING OF APRIL. THOSE WHO DID SO WERE CALLED APRIL FOOLS.

THE BIBLE USES THE WORD "FOOL" SIXTY-FOUR TIMES. MOST PROMINENTLY IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS AS THE FOOLISH AND WISE ARE CONTRASTED. IN PSALM 14:1 AND AGAIN IN 53:1 GOD'S WORD RECORDS THAT "THE FOOL HAS SAID IN HIS HEART, THERE IS NO GOD . .". IN OTHER WORDS, GOD SAYS AN ATHEIST IS A FOOL.

ROMANS 1:18-23 INDICATES THAT THERE REALLY ARE NO TRUE ATHEISTS, FOR FROM CREATION EVERY MAN CAN CLEARLY SEE AND UNDERSTAND GOD'S ATTRIBUTES, POWER AND DIVINE NATURE (V. 20). HOWEVER, BECAUSE THEIR FOOLISH HEART IS DARKENED, THEY PROFESS THEMSELVES TO BE WISE AND GO ON TO MAKE IDOL IMAGES AND WORSHIP THEM. (VS. 21-23). A TRUE FOOL DENIES GOD.

ANOTHER INTERESTING ELEMENT FROM PSALM 14:1 IS THAT THE HEBREW ACTUALLY INDICATES THAT THE FOOL SAYS IN HIS HEART, "NO GOD." HE DOESN'T JUST DENY GOD, HE DEFIES HIM. HE SAYS NO TO GOD.

THE EGYPTIAN PHARAOH WAS ONE WHO SAID NO TO GOD. WHEN MOSES AND AARON CONSISTENTLY DEMONSTRATED THE MULTIPLIED SIGNS AND WONDERS THAT GOD COULD DO AS HE AFFLICTED THEM WITH PLAGUES, PHARAOH HARDENED HIS HEART. (SEE EXODUS 7-14). ULTIMATELY HIS DENIAL COST THE KING MUCH OF HIS NATION'S RESOURCES INCLUDING THE FIRST-BORN SONS AND AN ELITE CHARIOT ARMY.

ANOTHER RULER SAID NO TO GOD. NEBUCHADNEZZAR WAS FURIOUS WHEN SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABEDNEGO REFUSED TO BOW TO HIS SEVENTY-FOOT IDOL. WHILE GIVING THEM A FINAL CHANCE TO BOW HE THREATENED THEM BY ASKING, "AND WHAT GOD IS THERE WHO CAN DELIVER YOU OUT OF MY HANDS?" (DANIEL 3:15) HE SOON FOUND OUT THAT THIS GOD HE REFUSED WAS THE GOD WHO COULD AND DID INDEED RESCUE HIS SERVANTS.

THE HEART OF THE FOOL IS DARKENED (ROMANS 1:21). THIS APRIL FOOLS' DAY LETS SHED THE LIGHT OF THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST AND SHOW THEM THE TRUTH.

LOOKING UP!

PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE