

October 2010

World Hunger Relief Offering  
Rice Bowls/Bread Loaves  
Due Back at Church  
Sunday, October 17

Operation Christmas Child  
Shoeboxes Due  
Sunday, November 14

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering  
Beginning in November

Sunday, October 10  
Noon  
Covered Dish Dinner  
And Quarterly Ministry Meeting

Blessing of the Animals  
2:00

Sav-A-Life  
2010 Fund-Raising Banquet  
Thursday, October 14  
6:30 P.M.  
First Methodist, Fort Payne  
\$15.00

Annual Associational Meeting  
Monday, October 18  
Ruhama Baptist Church

Saturday, October 30  
Halloween Observance, Collinsville  
Trunk-or-Treat Downtown  
Cricket Theater

Fall in the Park  
Sunday, October 17  
Howard's Chapel  
Desoto State Park  
Lunch, Worship and Enjoying the Park

Chili Cookoff

Free to Believe  
International Day of Prayer  
For the Persecuted Church  
Sunday, November 15

Daylight Savings Time Ends  
Sunday, November 7

Veteran's Day  
Thursday, November 11

Rainsville Bible Institute  
Thursdays  
Dekalb Mission Center  
I Corinthians

Turkey Trot  
Saturday, Novmeber 13

Community Thanksgiving Service  
Sunday, November 21  
Big Valley Church of God

Community Christmas Tree Lighting  
Thanksgiving Day  
Thursday, Novemeber 25  
5:00

Christmas in Another Little Town  
Community Christmas Service  
Collinsville Baptist  
Sunday, December 12  
Rehearsals Begin in December

Sunday Morning Worship  
Tell Me the Story of Elijah  
Tell Me the Story of the Church

Most tourist groups who go to Israel visit the ruins of Caesarea. It is a very impressive place. It was built as a port on the Mediterranean Sea by Herod the Great. It was also built as a city that was an outpost of Rome, a city that had Roman style buildings and temples to Roman gods. It was, for Roman rulers and soldiers, a “Little Rome”, a place where they could feel at home in a foreign country.

There was a hippodrome for horse racing and other athletic events. There was an amphitheater that still stands and is used today. You can sit in 2,000 year old seats and watch plays with the ocean as a backdrop. There were markets and homes. And there was Herod’s home, his palace on the sea. It had its own docks and an indoor pool. It was a place where he could entertain important guests and impress them with his wealth and power.

After Herod died, his palace became the living quarters for the Roman governor. Caesarea was the main entry point to Israel for Roman troops and administrators. It shouted the power and strength of Rome to all who came there. A place that was overwhelmingly impressive to everyone.

Well, almost everyone. Romans 23:33 tells us that Paul was brought there and kept there under guard in Herod’s palace. He was kept under guard for two years. He appeared before several Roman rulers. Talk about a contest between church and state! Then he left there and sailed to Rome to stand trial before Caesar.

I think often about that palace and the people living there. Paul appeared to be an unimportant prisoner who was little more than a Jewish preacher who was causing trouble for the Jewish authorities. No one there could have thought that anyone would ever remember him. And yet, he is regarded today as one of the most important people who ever lived. And the Roman rulers are remembered primarily (or only) because Paul appeared before them.

It is just something for you to think about in this election year. When you are tempted to be overly involved in politics. The Kingdom of God remains more important than every politician in Alabama. And the Church makes a real mistake when we trust those politicians and not Jesus.