

The Builder

Psalm 127:1

We recently celebrated 244 years of independence. It was, as always, an exciting time because I love America. I am proud to be an American because I realize what I have. Freedom is at the top of the list. I thank God for every man and woman who has served our country in the military. You are special to me and I want to salute you all as great American heroes. We owe you a lot for what you have given. America was founded on Biblical principles and she has stood for them through many wars and internal struggles.

There were 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence, and they all committed treason against the Crown. They made a powerful statement that day and they said, “Our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred oath we give this day for the good of America.” I wonder, do you believe that we could get 56 of our leaders to make such a statement? Benjamin Franklin was the oldest by far, but the majority were fairly young men of substantial means. Twenty-four were judges and lawyers, eleven were merchants, nine were landowners and farmers. Twelve were doctors, ministers, and politicians.

John Hancock was one of the richest men in America, and he signed his name very large so the King could see it.



JUST A THOUGHT

Rev. Tom Mansbarger



God has been good to America and blessed her greatly because we have acknowledged Him as the builder. God Almighty has truly been the Source of Success!

In the Psalms we read about the significance of the Builder, “Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain” (Psalm 127:1). This is a psalm of Solomon and he knew all about building the house because he had the privilege of building the Temple. He knew it was the Lord and not him. Let’s look at some thoughts that I believe apply to America today:

1. No House Stands That God Does Not Bless. Human sufficiency is the

same as the man who built his house on the sand. It didn’t stand because it had the wrong foundation. America’s foundation has been built on Christian principles. It doesn’t matter if a few try to re-write our history, the truth will always stand.

2. No City Is Safe That God Does Not Keep. We must all pray and petition the Lord for our community. Don’t ever believe that God is not in charge. He is still on the throne, and still answers prayer.

3. No Labor Is Profitable That God Does Not Bless. Solomon, of all people, realized the futility of doing your own thing. He built fabulous buildings and gardens, but nothing satisfied him because his motives were wrong.

4. No Sleep Is Peaceful That He Does Not Give. Sin is a detriment to peace and contentment. It all revolves around the conscience.

5. No Family Is Blessed That Is Not A Heritage Of Him. A blessed family is a happy scene and the results of a healthy marriage.

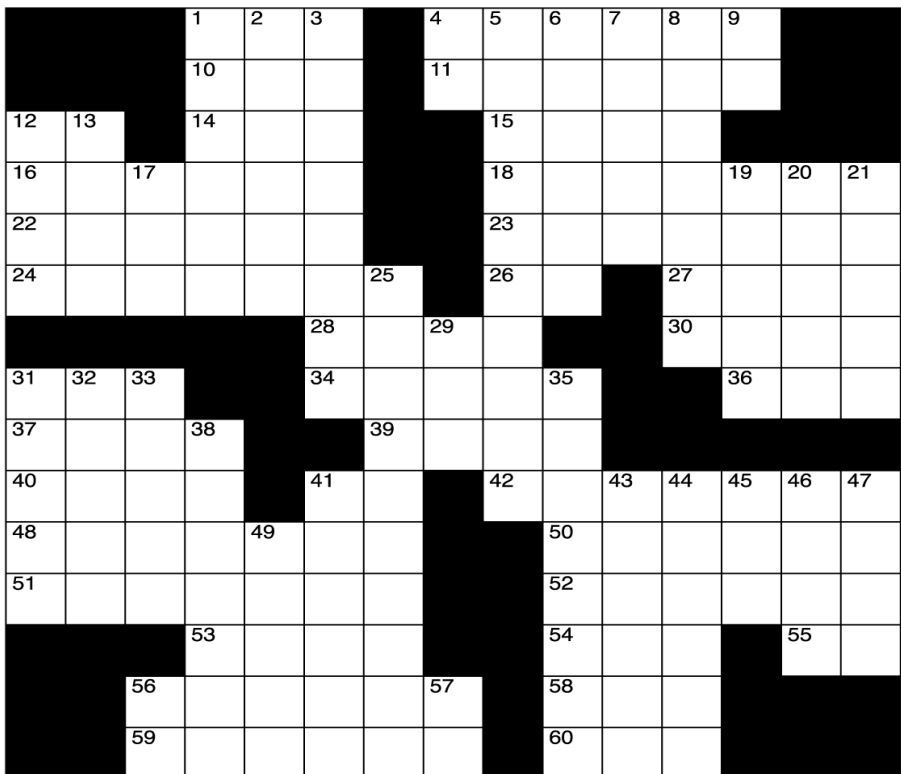
These five thoughts give us much to think about. My son, Tim, made a powerful statement recently, “There are only two people that are willing to die for you, the American Soldier and Jesus Christ.” You may not see it like me, but I still be-

lieve we need both.

The Rev. Tom Mansbarger is senior pastor at Grace Community Church. He offers free counseling. Reach him at 765-517-1187 or tom@graceccmarion.org.

Keep safe.
Keep healthy.
Keep reading
The News Herald!

Crossword and Sudoku answers, page 8



CLUES ACROSS

1. Central processing unit
4. Military action
10. How electricity gets to train carriages (abbr.)
11. Unsafe
12. Of (French)
14. Autonomic nervous system
15. Type of bean
16. Accuse formally of a crime
18. Promote
22. Type of lava
23. Meat from a deer
24. Herbaceous plants
26. Potato state
27. Helsinki neighborhood
28. Sports officials
30. Shout wildly
31. Reptile genus
34. Frocks
36. Born of
37. N. Scandinavian indigenous people
39. Poultry cage
40. Aquatic insect genus
41. Of I
42. Ad __: tirelessly repetitive
48. Item
50. Produce
51. Seedless raisin
52. Bond in a third party’s control
53. Legendary character __ Finn
54. Space station
55. Note at the end of a letter
56. In a way, contradicted
58. Midway between northeast and east
59. Bears important traffic
60. Brooklyn hoopster

CLUES DOWN

1. Presides
2. Artist’s tool
3. On a higher floor
4. Commercial
5. Something to watch
6. Chased
7. Commercial producers
8. Keyboard instrument
9. Blue grass state
12. Phonograph recording
13. Unusual
17. Popular average
19. A native or inhabitant of Asia
20. N. Sweden river
21. Related on the mother’s side
25. Mediator
29. Partner of to
31. Arm bones
32. Korean seafood dish
33. Tap of the foot
35. Astronauts
38. Carolina footballer
41. Indiana city
43. Of or relating to bears
44. Not widely known
45. Body part
46. At the peak
47. High-pitched cries of a cat
49. A way to intimidate
56. Prosecutor
57. Atomic #66

SUDOKU

		8				1	9	
	3				5	4		
			2					
	5	6	9		1			
		7			6			4
		3		5				
				1				
	8	9	4			2		7
			5		7	6		

Level: Intermediate

Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you’ll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!