



2nd Adam

Ministry Update

Rob & Sharon Styler



2nd Adam · PO Box 1894 · Gilbert, AZ 85299 · Phone: (888) 799-2326 · Email: RobS@cjfm.org · Website: cjfm.org/2ndAdam

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Shalom Friends!

Thinking about this pandemic, the way it continues to drag on, and how it has forced us to drop out of our daily routines. Ok, so we can handle it. It's a two-week shutdown. Ok, so it's two months. We don't like it, but we can handle that too. However, the talk now is we may be going on two years. Can we handle that?

Paul, even though he is writing about handling difficulties concerning the faith, has something to say about our current situation. In Romans 5:3, he writes, "And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance . . ." Perseverance, we might say patience, is holding up under difficult circumstances.

If we can say anything about the past year, it has been a difficult time. We can go all the way from small inconveniences—"Do you know where I can find toilet paper?"—to incredibly difficult times. Loved ones in the hospital where no visitors are allowed. Or worse, the death of family and friends when we cannot even attend a memorial to express our grief. But the tribulation we are experiencing will result in perseverance.

And yet, in the midst of these times, God continues to work. It seems different somehow: smaller, quieter, almost unnoticeable unless we are looking for His hand. Let me share an example with you. Recently I decided to get the vaccine for Covid. I know there are as many opinions about the vaccine as there are people. What made the decision for me was the desire to visit our overseas workers. I believe in the

near future it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to enter other countries without a vaccine.

Making the decision was the easy part, getting the vaccine was the challenge. In Arizona, the vaccine is in short supply. I tried several times to make an appointment, but there were none to be had. Then, like an answer to prayer, someone very close to me sent me a text. "I know a pharmacy that will give us the shot. All we need to do is to go down and sign up. We can do it this Saturday." Wow! I told Sharon about it and made plans to go to the pharmacy when I received another text. "In order to get the vaccine, we need to say we are essential workers. Are you comfortable with that?" I had to respond by saying no but added God will take care of us. A short time later, that person texted me again saying they couldn't make the appointment either because they were uncomfortable having to lie. God's hand at work.

My personal opinion is a Bible teacher is an essential worker, but I know that is not the way the government is looking at it. I had to say no. So I was back where I started from. I went to my local pharmacy and asked the pharmacist if they were getting any vaccines. She told me they would be getting a small supply next week. Keep checking the web page. A few days later, I got an email from the pharmacy advertising a sale that reminded me of what the pharmacist said. I went to the website and was able to make an appointment. The appointment was for the same day at almost the same exact time I would have had if I had said I was an essential worker.

Another smaller, quieter way I've seen God's hand was getting my new prescription for my

glasses. I walked into the store and Chelsea said, "Hi, can I help you?" As we sat down and went over my prescription, she asked me where I bought my frames. I told her New York, and she asked me if I traveled a lot. My answer was yes, pre-pandemic, of course. Then she asked what I did. I said I am a Bible teacher. We spoke for a few more minutes, and then I left. When I returned the following week, God's hand was evident once again. Who came up to help me but Chelsea. I was hoping to see her again because this time I had a small New Testament I brought to give to her. After checking the new glasses, I gave her the book and told her this is what I teach. She accepted it, and I saw God working once again.

Israel Tour

A quick note to those of you who are interested in traveling with us, yes me, to Israel. The latest word is the tours to Israel have been pushed back to at least September or October. We will work to keep you informed.

Thank you all for your continued prayers in for us. If there is something you would like us to pray about, please send an email to me: robs@cjfm.org.

Please pass along my email for people to sign up for this letter: robs@cjfm.org

PLEASE BE SURE TO PREFERENCE YOUR GIFT for Rob and Sharon Styler! Why is this important? It's the only way to be sure your gift will get to us!

FINALLY, if you would like to get our letter by email, please respond with your email address. I won't give your email address to anyone else, it will only be used for our correspondence.

Thanks in Messiah,

Rob and Sharon Styler