

God's Anti-Aging Pill

Dr. Nir Barzilai, director of the Institute for Aging Research at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, is a very popular man these days. In fact, his phone has been ringing off the hook since word leaked out that Barzilai will soon begin a clinical trial of a pill called Metformin which is thought to have anti-aging properties.

Metformin, a widely used generic pill for type 2 diabetes, attracted the attention of aging researchers when they noticed that older diabetics on the medication tended to live longer than their healthier peers. Why? Barzilai believes the drug targets pathways in the body, at the molecular level, that when defective can trigger chronic diseases or death.

To test the pill, gerontologists will follow 3,000 seniors for six years, with half of the participants receiving Metformin and the other half receiving a placebo. This explains why Dr. Barzilai has been swamped with phone calls: seniors from all over the world are beseeching him to include them in the study, even though recruitment for the clinical trial isn't scheduled to begin until sometime next year.

Just between us, the fact that so many people are clamoring to be included in this project doesn't surprise me at all. Humans have always sought an elixir that would extend their lifespan. That desire reflects a deep spiritual truth: we instinctively sense we were created for something better than the brevity and brokenness of this fallen world. As Ecclesiastes 3:11 tells us, God has "set eternity in the hearts of men." We crave longevity because we feel, deep in our inmost being, a "longing for a better country – a heavenly one" (Hebrews 11:16).

Things went south for humanity when our ancient ancestors listened to a deceitful serpent instead of their Creator and got themselves evicted from Eden. Before they sinned, Adam and Eve had access to the Tree of Life, and its fruit was God's original anti-aging pill. Once sin entered the world, however, the Tree of Life disappeared. Ever since, people have been born with a molecular mortality: every cell of our body is stamped with a biological expiration date.

I hope the clinical trial goes well, and the medicine proves effective beyond their wildest dreams. Even so, Metformin will only delay physical decline, not eliminate it. Here's the good news! "Jesus has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel" (2 Timothy 1:10). The Tree of Life disappears after Genesis 3, but it reappears in the last chapter of the Bible, in Revelation 22. In that magnificent preview of our heavenly home, we are told the ancient curse of sin and death is gone, the Tree of Life is restored, and the servants of the Lamb "will reign for ever and ever" (Revelation 22:5). In the words of an old hymn by J. M. Henson:

"I'd like to stay here longer than man's allotted days
And watch the fleeting changes of life's uneven ways,
But if my Savior calls me to that sweet home on high,
I'll live with him forever in glory by and by."

-Dan Williams, Vice-President for Church Relations, Harding University



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

November 12, 2017

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Home Bible study-7:00pm

All the churches of Christ greet you.

ROMANS 16:16

Today's Sermon: **Why Wait to Give Thanks?**

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

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Scripture: 2 Thessalonians 5:1-18

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Tuesday, November 14th, 10am. We will be studying Day 2 of the first chapter.**
- **Midweek Bible study Thursday nights at 7pm.**
- **Next Potluck: November 19th NEXT SUNDAY.**
- **Moving Day! November 29th.**



- ✓ **NEW CHURCH BUILDING!** The papers have been signed by both parties and notice of intent to vacate has been given to our landlord of the past 3 years. The closing is scheduled to take place on November 29th. The new church building address will be **701 S. Wilbur St., Sayre, PA 18840**
- ✓ Darlene will be traveling to Philadelphia in December for several days of GI testing, then returning for a couple days for treatment. After this she will be heading to FL for some R&R. Doug will be donating a kidney to someone, and, in return, his brother Mark will receive a kidney from someone who is a match for him.
- ✓ Jennifer's nephew, Christopher Pack, 24, from FL, died unexpectedly last Saturday night. He was her brother's youngest son.
- ✓ Thanksgiving Dinner! What a blessing! Robin and Pat Guthrie drove more than 5 hours up here from Kittanning and cooked and served us roast turkey and roast ham with all the trimmings, three kinds of pie and cake. We are happy to have them here with us this morning. We love you guys!

PRAYERS...

- Pray all goes well with **Doug Elsbree** and his brother **Mark**.
- **Emily Barry** is planning thyroid surgery on December 12th here in Sayre.
- Please remember **Kiley and Thomas** in prayer.
- Pray for **Darlene** as she has tests in Philadelphia December 18-22 and returns there the 27th and 28th.
- Pray for **Kevan Barry's** safety during his deployment in Kuwait, and for his family as they carry on at home.
- **Pat Guthrie** is recovering from skin cancer surgery on his forearm and is preparing for open heart surgery next month to repair or replace two valves. Pray that surgeons are successful in repairing them.
- Kelly asked for prayer for **her friend Sarah** with her marriage.
- Sarah Dunn, here in this area, has a **son, Joshua**, who is suffering from stage 4 lung cancer. He seems to be responding well to experimental treatment. Pray this continues to help him.
- Pray for **Vicki Joice** as she continues Herceptin treatments for breast cancer. Pray for relief from lymphedema.
- Pray for comfort for **Jennifer's family** after the death of her nephew.
- **Ruthie** has been trying to reconnect with two former neighbors, brothers, Tommy and Frankie Hamilton, and her former workmate, Art, for possible **Bible study**.
- Ruthie and Patty's **Uncle Walt**, age 98, had a stroke recently.
- Sandy and Arthur's neighbor, **Erin Beiber** (wife of Darlene's cousin Chris), mother of two young boys, has metastatic breast cancer, which spread to her bones and now she has had extensive abdominal surgery. Pray for pain relief for her.
- **Rhonda** has been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. Pray that she can keep it under control.
- Remember to pray for **sunshine!**

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry :

barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.