



Sun Land Times



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Baby Will the day after he was born.

NEXT PRESIDENT BORN IN CALIFORNIA

On June 15th Corinne went in for her OB appointment—she was two days past her due date and more than ready to have the baby. I was enjoying a four-hour New Testament summer class, and through a complex series of contacts we had devised a system for her to get word to me and a friend to bring me to the hospital if it was “time” (we have only one car and Corinne drove herself to the doctor’s). Minutes after my class finished, I received word that it was time to boogy over to the hospital.

When I arrived, Corinne told me that the doctor she had seen earlier wanted to change the due date to two weeks later and had ordered some tests run. Corinne had been monitored for over two hours and then sent over to Labor and Delivery for yet some more tests (that’s when I showed up). An hour later, another doctor came in and said everything looked normal, but she recommended inducing.

After a brief hesitation, we agreed. Corinne was relieved because she had been concerned that she wouldn’t make it to the hospital (it was a 1/2 hour away and with our first, Corinne went into active labor just after we arrived). We passed the time chit-chatting and waited for the “moment” to come. A couple of friends dropped by and finally around 11:45 p.m. things really started to cook. Just after midnight (12:11 a.m. June 16th) William Grant Brewer joined the world safely and happily. He weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21.5” long. These days he’s all smiles, does the army crawl chasing his big sister’s toys, and when he tries to sit up he wavers kind of like a fuzzy ground hog.



Corinne and Will on Christmas Eve.

2001: A LOOK THROUGH THE TELESCOPE BACKWARDS

The past year was loaded with lots of excitement. It began with a difficult spring semester where I loaded up on courses in anticipation of the stork arriving in the summer. Corinne was feverishly working to complete sculpey.com and little Alethia was learning to cruise the town on two feet.

In the summer, Corinne brought forth our second child and we began to feel the truth

of the old axiom “one feels like none, two feels like ten”—only two really felt like 4 1/2.

In the summer I opted to take an intensive summer class covering the New Testament. We had to read the entire NT three times in three weeks as well as write a one page theological discussion on each book—pretty challenging. All this and William was born right in the middle of the class time. Thankfully both our moms came out and provided huge amounts of help.

The Lord knew what he was doing because while taking the NT class, I met a graduating student who at the time was working for a local engineering company running their computer network. I off-

handedly mentioned that I had experience doing the same thing. The next thing I knew he quit and they asked me to take over. It has been a joy and welcome break to the mental challenges of wrestling with theology.

Then, in late September a friend put us in contact with a owner of an apartment complex. We met with him and he said to us, “I’ve got a stack of résumés from people with loads of experience, but I want you guys.” So two weeks later we moved into a small stand alone house with a backyard, office, washer, dryer, and attic.

In the back yard, Alethia loves riding her bigwheel and playing in the her sand box. I love cooking-out on my Weber Grill being a *manly man*.

Acts of God:

- Safe arrival of baby Will.
- Free rent of home w/ backyard, office, and washer/dryer.
- Russ lands great job running computer network.
- Corinne acquires sculpey.com web project.

Two Seconds of Inspiration

Hebrews 1:1 “In times past, God spoke in fragmentary and varied ways to our fathers through the prophets. In this, the final age, he has spoken to us through his Son.”

From New American Bible



The whole family just after Will's birth.



All of us crouching inside a fallen Giant Redwood tree this past summer while spending a week in Northern California's mountains.

Russ Recommends:



Spiritual Leadership by Oswald Sanders is truly an outstanding work on the spiritual responsibilities of those in leadership.

Ever get confused by all the different church denominations? Ian Murray's *Evangelicalism Divided* and *Reforming Fundamentalism* by George Marsden both provide excellent analysis of 20th Century Christianity.

Looking for a good commentary on a specific New Testament book? Try any work by MacArthur, Hendriksen, Lenski, or Fee. Or have me send you my ever-growing list of hundreds of good theological and biblical works.

Theology Alley



The Old Testament has much to say about covenants. A covenant is a solemn bind between two or more persons. The primary key covenant in the Old Testament is the Abrahamic Covenant in *Genesis 12*. God promised Abraham 1) land, 2) descendants and 3) blessings to all nations.

However, despite such hopeful beginnings, the Old Testament ends up being a record of the Israelites continual disobedience which eventually broke their covenant with God. Although angered, God did not forsake His original promise to Abraham. In *Jeremiah 31*, God presents His solution: a new covenant written on the people's hearts.

Hundreds of years later, Christ instituted the New Covenant at the Last Supper. In *Luke 22:20*, Jesus says, "This is my blood, the New Covenant." Thus those who believe in Jesus are participants of God's New Covenant. When we take Communion and are baptized as believers, we are participating in New Covenant practices.

Since the New Covenant was originally promised to the Jews, all God's promises to them still remain in effect—yet still God mercifully allows the rest of us to also participate in it's blessings.

THREE DOWN—THREE TO GO

School is a joy, though an intensely arduous task. I have completed about 70 credits of the 98 credit hour program, and plan to spread the remaining 28 or so over the next three semesters. Work and family are high priorities that override sleep, relaxation, social life and even a speedy graduation date.

This past semester I took Biblical Hebrew and found it as difficult as I expected. In High School I showed my linguistic aptitude by doing poorly in Spanish, German, and Latin—in fact I had Latin 1 three times! Thus, while I expect to pass Hebrew it'll be a struggle the whole way.

Next semester, in addition to more Hebrew and more theology, I am also taking the class that usually "makes or breaks" the theology student—*New Testament Introduction*. It's innocuous name only hints that the curriculum circumnavigates the world of New Testament studies. Hopefully I'll be able to read a couple of the texts before classes begin in January.



We just thought another cute picture of Will was necessary.

Fillmore Bible Church Inherits Brewers

This past summer Corinne and I began attending a small country church in the historical town of Fillmore. The 25 minute drive meanders through beautiful Sunkist orange groves. In fact, many of the church congregants are involved with the agricultural industry.

This next semester, I'll help give oversight to a new educational program in the church that is geared towards teaching the profound truths of scripture through several challenging classes on the Bible and theology.



Little Alethia being cute a couple of weeks ago just before bed time. Isn't that little pink sleeper adorable—it even has those white plastic feeties that make that smacking, scuffing sound against the kitchen linoleum.

Corinne's Web Sites

- www.sculpey.com
- www.bleachbrosmusic.com
- www.hymmersion.com
- www.victorymarketonline.com
- www.newhopecc-il.org
- www.booksforlibraries.com
- www.nightflare.com
- www.yahoo.com (just kidding)