

God is Good, All the Time!

By Pat Cowden

This past week was amazing. We have the privilege of going to the Alaska State Lectures for the first time and were blessed to meet a lot of Christians from all over the state. The lessons were wonderful as was the fellowship. The lessons centered around the theme: The Shadow of the Mountains: Types and Anti-types.

A man, now brother, Don Hamilton was baptized into Christ on Thursday and is need of our prayers. His health is not good and the prognosis is not positive for this life, but he has done what he can do to prepare for the next life. Let us be constant in prayer on his behalf, for healing if possible, but certainly for the removal of pain and for his faith to remain strong until the end. If nothing else was accomplished (which is not the case) the conviction and conversion of Bro. Hamilton would have been enough to make the week a success.

We stand in awe of God's beautiful creation. The mountains, the valleys, the rivers, the glaciers, the trees and the wildlife were all reminders (Romans 1:20) that God is, and is so good to us. The variety and splendor all point to a God who wants his creation to have a full and abundant life (John 10:10) in preparation for eternal life. We have been a lot of places on this planet and none surpass Alaska in all her glory. Thank you to our benevolent God who has provided us with so many reminders of Him. Maria mentioned something like this on the trip, "Just think about the fact that as beautiful as all this is, it is not comparable to heaven." (Hebrews 11:14-15; Romans 8:18) Amen! You will probably see some of the photos that Maria took along the way in future lessons and classes, maybe even today!

Yes, God truly is good all the time! We are blessed to live in such a beautiful place, all the while knowing that so many are not so blessed. Jesus pronounced a truth in the latter part of Luke 12:48 that applies to us: "...For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more." We recognize that we live in a blessed land, but like the faithful of Hebrews 11:16 "They (we) desire a better, that is a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them." Let us show our gratitude to a loving God by seeking that city. I love you and want to go to heaven with you.