



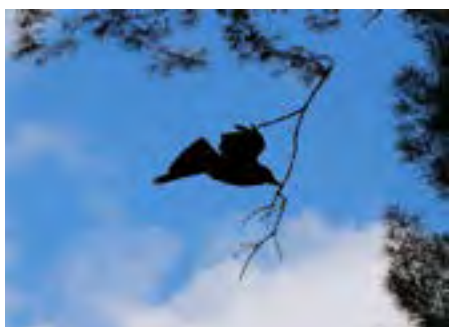
WEEKLY CHRISTIAN FOCUS

Greetings again!
This is an interesting edition!
Praise God.

I am praying in this article to bring out, completely with God's Wisdom and not my own limited wisdom, the thoughts and scriptures about 'nests', including houses and homes and how we should look at them as believers in Jesus. I didn't realise there was so much in the Bible about this topic.

But let's start with the birds, which is how this article was born.

I wait for my son each day as he gets out of school. I park on a nearby quiet roadside. Usually I get there about 20 minutes before he comes. Across the road the English Crows are building their nests, it's now mid spring here in England. One often sees a crow flying with one stick in his/her mouth going back to his tree top. I don't know how many twigs they have to get to build the nest with, but I imagine it is around a hundred (link below). They line it then with soft moss, animal fur. Crows build their nests like this, one stick at a time! As I watched them, I thought, 'wow, how do they know how to do that!?' Apparently it takes them up to two weeks to finish it



all! Obviously God has imbued them with this skill and knowledge, and

BIRDS AND THEIR NESTS, HUMANS AND THEIR HOMES!

HOW WE CAN USE OUR HOMES FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.



nearly all birds have this inherent God-given ability to build their nests of so many myriad designs!

The stork is another example to me of this amazing God-given ability. One type of stork touches down each pre-spring time in Israel at the exact same time of day and on the same day each year! Sometimes as many as 600,000 of them arrive to build their nests! Please see the very fascinating information in the link at the end!

"There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the junipers." Psalm 104:17 NIV
Also we can see a beautiful reference to the Sparrow and the Swallow in Psalm 84:3

Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God.



I have a beautiful picture in our living room of this SWALLOW AND HER

BABIES!

God knew that His creation needed a 'nest' of some type in order to both pro-create and raise their young! This stability of having a nest, even the stability of building it, focused his creation on the main job they had to do, perpetuating the next generations.

How truly incredible, yet so 'common' to see this phenomenon all around us. We should stand in awe at God really. It's too much for my tiny brain, praise the Lord.

There were no transgender crows, sparrows, swallows or storks, they were and are all of two genders, doing their jobs faithfully and with precision and love and care. Glory to God.

So, there you have it, the few examples of some birds building their homes or nests in all the countries of the world. They carry on, pretty much regardless of humans; they just 'get on with it'. Now we humans, also of only two genders, have been made by God to be over all His creation. Psalm 8. We are a little lower than the angels, but also above the rest of creation.

Before we move on to the human side of this article; let's take a few minutes and look at some great scriptures about the Birds and their nests/eggs.

Deuteronomy 22:5-7

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

5 The woman shall not wear that which pertains to a man, neither shall a man put on a woman's garment, for all that do so are an abomination to the Lord your God.

6 If a bird's nest should chance to be before you in the way, in any tree or on the ground, with young ones or eggs, and the mother bird is sitting on the young or on the eggs, you shall not take the mother bird with the young.

7 You shall surely let the mother bird go, and take only the young, that it may be well with you and that you may prolong your days.



Job 39:26-28

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

26 Is it by your wisdom [Job] that the hawk soars and stretches her wings toward the south [as winter approaches]? (God is asking Job).

27 Does the eagle mount up at your command and make his nest on [a] high [inaccessible place]?

28 On the cliff he dwells and remains securely, upon the point of the rock and the stronghold.

Psalms 104:11-13

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

11 They (the springs or small rivers) give drink to every [wild] beast of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst there.

12 Beside them the birds of the heavens have their nests; they sing among the branches.

13 He waters the mountains from His upper rooms; the earth is satisfied and abounds with the fruit of His works.

Daniel 4:20-22

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

20 The tree that you saw, which grew [great] and was strong, whose height

reached to the heavens and which was visible to all the earth,
21 Whose foliage was beautiful and its fruit abundant, on which was food for all, under which the living creatures of the field dwelt, and on whose branches the birds of the sky had their nests—

22 It is you, O king, who have grown and become strong; your greatness has increased and it reaches to the heavens, and your dominion to the ends of the earth.

(Daniel and the Lord compare the mighty King Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon to a stabilising mighty tree which allowed the peoples (and birds) to nest under its power.)

Mark 4:31-33

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

31 It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all seeds upon the earth;

32 Yet after it is sown, it grows up and becomes the greatest of all garden herbs and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air are able to make nests and dwell in its shade.

33 With many such parables [Jesus] spoke the Word to them, as they were able to hear and [a]to comprehend and understand. There are in fact quite a few more about this topic of nests in scripture, I have only chosen some of the main ones. I pray they are a blessing to you! Please look at the great links below to discover really awesome information and some extra images! Praise the Lord.

Humans and their homes!

Now, having this quite necessary background about birds, we can move on to some similarities and differences about how God saw the need for us to have nests also! In early Bible history, Adam and Eve, possibly just slept out under the stars, or under a shady tree. We don't know. All was natural and pure. The weather was perfect. Later after the fall of man, humans learned how to build with bricks.

Genesis 11:3

And they said one to another, Come, let us make **bricks** and burn them thoroughly. So they had **brick** for stone, and slime (bitumen) for mortar. (The building of the tower of Babel.)

In similar time periods, the great forefathers lived in tents, or 'tabernacles'. These tents were made from woven black goat hair apparently! (links below), and this is probably the kind of tent that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob lived in. The three of them were famous also for 'moving', and tents were perfect for that. Originally Abraham lived in a house in Ur of the Chaldeans and then in Haran, and when he later lived in the land of Canaan, he lived primarily in tents. For this cause God was proud of them, in that they did not seek a city (or house) on the earth, but they very clearly knew about the Heavenly City to which they were going! And this knowledge dates back to the earliest part of Genesis!

But in the meantime humans had to live somewhere, so the examples in the Bible were tents, towers, and 'ordinary' houses made of brick, or mud etc. Whatever it was, the humans then and today had to have a 'roof over their heads'. Somewhere they could feel secure, in shelter and to raise their young, just like the birds.

It is also true that some tribes or peoples lived in caves, and have done throughout Biblical history, and even today! (Cave dwellers in Khyber, Pakistan).



Those in husbandry, if they had tents also had the advantage to move with their flocks, yet the tent was still their home, where they slept,

ate and regarded as home. I found this interesting verse, just last week about Jacob being a home person.

Genesis 25:27

When the boys grew up, Esau was a cunning and skilled hunter, a man of the outdoors; but Jacob was a plain and quiet man, dwelling in tents.

Here we see another important factor of Jacob's life, that he was a



quiet (peaceful) person, didn't have a lot of gadgets or things around him, and loved being at home. He was attached we can say to his home, just a tent, but something he loved!

Jacob was a quiet man, who stayed home among the tents. (EHV translation)

While Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents. (NIV Translation)

Jacob liked being home and yet his brother Esau, of whom nothing really good is spoken of, was an outdoors person.

And that also shows that a home for humans can be a tent, **it can be anywhere where your spirit and body senses stability, peace and some form of at least minimum comfort.**

We see in the Bible that most believers did spend a great deal of time in one place, and only moved during times of great upheaval. The exception to this one-place-stability, were some of the great prophets in the Bible, who moved around the country sharing God's Word, although even most of them had a home base! Elijah is a good example of that, and eventually had a room with free rent including a nice bed and table and lamp, in the widow's house.

So some of the Biblical heroes did

move and many didn't. Daniel made it to Babylon when he was a teen, and had some form of room(s) in the city, along with Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego; they began life there doing a three year study course of Babylonian culture and Language (Chaldean). I don't think they had fees to pay either.

Daniel stayed in either Babylon or Susa, all his life into his eighties! This stability also allowed him to receive mighty prophecies and visions and interpret dreams. He did spend one night in a lion's den, but that was probably the extent of his change of rooms, over many decades.

It is clear then that God allows us to have space, rooms, houses and all similar dwellings.

Our children benefit from this stability, although the children of the forefathers, and many missionaries today moved often. In my own life, although I cannot look back and count them, I think it's fair to say that I lived in well over 50 houses or dwellings. I even spent three months living in tents in the Caribbean, and also 2 plus years living in 'caravans' in Switzerland in a mobile home park, through all kinds of weather.

Jesus even encouraged anyone who loved him and wished to be a disciple, that they should give up their homes; have a look at this verse, of course as usual, Jesus attaches a wonderful promise:

Matthew 19:29

And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

So don't feel bad if your children grew up in several or even many homes, I don't buy the psycho-babble that this will harm them, I have seen heaps of well-adjusted Christian young men and women who grew up that way. But for the most part, we are 'stable' in a dwelling.

The greatest example of instability

is Jesus Himself, who famously said (everything He said is famous!): Matthew 8: 20 Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." (see verses 18-22 for the full picture.

His Cousin John the Baptist lived in the deserts for some time also just before his great ministry began.



Luke 1: 80 And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the wilderness until he appeared publicly to Israel.

So Jesus and John the Baptist and also Jesus' disciples, and disciples across Millennia, could be considered, vagabonds and vagrants and almost nomadic, staying in other people's houses and not having a place to call 'home'. This was no problem at all for them, for they were simply following God's will for their lives.

God's Plans and advice for your home.

But if we do have a house or home and are enjoying it for any length of time, it is important to observe some significant points, which in my opinion are:

- Whether God has given you a house or cave that you own or rent, we should remember really that, like everything else in this life, we are

just stewards of it.

- We should have prayer and dedicate that place to the Lord. Make a specific prayer, that the Lord will use your house (etc) for the Glory of God.

- Ask Him to fill your home with the Holy Spirit and that LOVE will dwell in your home, and the peace of God will be there at all times.

- Ask Him for a plan and goals that the Lord has for your dwelling place. God has not given you this place ONLY for your own enjoyment, but also to use it as a testimony for Him in some way.

- Keep your house clean as much as lies in you. 'Cleanliness is Godliness.'

- Teach your children the same.

- If you have not yet done so, it is valuable for you to make a 'Jericho march' around your property and all its rooms and gardens etc. This principle involves those believers among you to ask the Lord to cleanse your property of any demonic influences from previous owners, deaths that may have occurred there who were not Christians, and ask the Lord to put His angels around you at all times and be your security and refuge. Cast out, through forceful prayer, any demons that may still be hanging around your home, or among close by neighbours. There are many scriptures concerning invoking the Lord's protection, the first that comes to my mind is:

Psalm 34:7

The angel of the Lord encampeth round about **them that fear him, and delivereth **them**.**

Be aware that you should think, like the ungodly, that your house is going to endure forever. All things have a beginning and an end. The ungodly think like this:

Psalm 49:11

Their inward thought is, that **their** houses shall continue for ever, and **their** dwelling places to all generations;

- Don't move home unless the Lord shows you clearly, or through outside uncontrollable circumstances. Don't think that the grass is greener somewhere unless by clear

leading of God He shows you to move.

- Try to avoid the accumulation of clutter and junk that so easily besets us, like our sins!

- Practice minimalism and frugality if you can, without neglecting important necessities; ask the Lord for the right balance.

Finally, before we close with a few more amazing verses, we can note that in the Bible, that it is not good to be a 'wanderer'. Cain was the first wanderer, and he was in effect exiled by the Lord for the sin of murdering Abel his brother.

Also some people wander to satisfy their fleshly appetites as this verse shows

Proverbs 27:7-9

7 He who is satiated [with sensual pleasures] loathes and treads underfoot a honeycomb, but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.

8 Like a bird that wanders from her nest, so is a man who strays from his home.

Jude 13 Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

about houses and nests, that Jesus, the Master Builder, promised His disciples that he was going away to also build houses, apartments or condominiums for us inside the Heavenly City. One day we will trade our earthly tabernacle (body) for a new one and our tired old home for God's new one. Prime real estate, as they say!

John chapter 14

Do not let your hearts be troubled (distressed, agitated). You believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely on God; believe in and adhere to and trust in and rely also on Me.

2 In My Father's house there are many dwelling places (homes). If it were not so, I would have told you; for I am going away to prepare a place for you.

3 And when (if) I go and make ready a place for you, I will come back again and will take you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.

4 And [to the place] where I am going, you know the way.

5 Thomas said to Him, Lord, we do not know where You are going, so how can we know the way?

6 Jesus said to him, I am the Way and the Truth and the Life; no one



Jesus has houses for us in the next world.

It is incredible as we are talking

comes to the Father except by (through) Me.

God bless you with a wonderful home you can use and enjoy and

glorify the Lord in.
Amen.
Until next week,
Jerry for the WCF Team

[how many sticks in a crow's nest - Google Search](#)
[Everything you want to know about crow nests - Google Search](#)

[Stork Migration in Israel: A Spring Spectacle – Real Christian Women](#)

[Birds, the Nests They Call Home, & Why They Make Them | Green Bay Botanical Garden](#)

[A guide to bird nests: how, where and why birds make nests - Discover Wildlife](#)

[Humans: who made the first bricks - Google Search](#)

[what were biblical tents made from - Google Search](#)

[people living in caves today - Google Search](#)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PvBtfBD5HvI&t=54s>

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