

SKYVIEW CHURCH

WHERE CHRISTIANS MEET

4050 80th Avenue North,

PO Box 3118

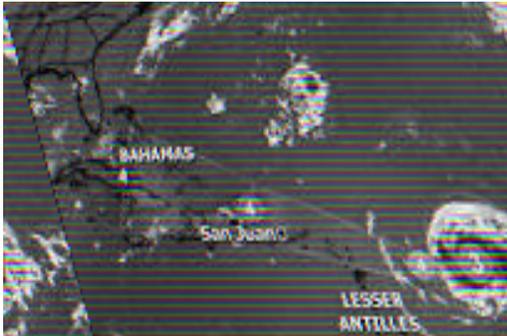
Pinellas Park, Fl 33781

Phone: 727 709-2799

Volume 20, Number 38

September 24, 2017

STORMS



We survived one of the strongest hurricanes in the history of weather forecasting. Irma hit the Southern end of Florida with a rage. Houses were destroyed by wind and flooding and some lives were lost.

Several of our members were in mandatory evacuation zones and had to leave their homes not knowing what they would find when they returned. Trees and branches were down all over Pinellas County and power was lost almost everywhere.

Power was out at my house from Sunday evening until Friday morning. It came back on for about four hours and went off again and was not restored for five more hours. The power at the church building was out for a week. Services were cancelled for Wednesday evening and last Sunday we met in a member's home for worship. It was a terrible storm, but God saw us through to the other side and we thank and praise Him for his providential care.

But hurricanes are not the only storms to be concerned about. The Bible uses the word "storm" or "storms" thirty six times in the NIV. Elihu, one of Job's friends in his attempt to console Job said of God, *"His thunder announces the coming storm; even the cattle make known its approach"* (Job 36:33). The prophet Jeremiah said concerning God's judgment, *"Look, disaster is spreading from nation to nation; a mighty storm is rising from the ends of the earth"* Jer. 25:32). We all remember reading the story of Jonah and the great storm that God sent causing Jonah to be thrown from the ship. In describing evil men, Peter wrote, *"These men are springs without water driven by the storm"* (2 Peter 2:17). Jeremiah once again describes God's judgment, *"See the storm of the Lord will burst out in wrath, a driving wind swirling down on the heads of the wicked"* (Jer. 30:23).

Hopefully, we have been spared the raging hurricane. Hopefully, no one suffered the loss of life or property as a result of Irma. Hopefully, when Irma did make landfall in Florida, preparation was made so damage was minimal.

But even though we were spared, there is another storm on the horizon. It is the storm of God's judgment. When the prophets prophesied of the coming judgment of God, many people failed to heed the warning and make proper preparation. Many people today no doubt will fail to make preparation for the coming of the storm of God's judgment. Maybe they believe it will not come. Maybe they believe they can "tough it out" and ride out the storm.

But the coming storm of God's judgment cannot be avoided. If we fail to prepare, we are doomed. The National Guard and all the volunteers in the world can not spare anyone from this storm. What about you? Are you prepared? Do you believe God's storm of judgment is coming? Why not be wise and heed the warning and be prepared. A failure to do so will have eternal results.