

THOUGHTS

By the father/son team
Pastor Paul R Schroeder
Douglas W. Schroeder

SPEAKERS ON THE WORD TODAY

SEPTEMBER

2015

The years fly by—I have been in Greendale at Our Shepherd for 49 years! I am now 82.

My cancer has now gone into a slight remission—I only take “chemo” every other month. It is slow getting my strength back.

On September 13th I will be preaching my farewell sermon. Then Sylvia and I plan to move to Florida. Lots to do! Sell the home, give things away, etc.

Douglas will be taking over The Word Today. He has been doing most of it already.

Our partners are staying true and faithful. I truly hope we will be reaching people until Christ returns, soon I hope!

What a joy it will be to meet those in heaven who are there because of our witness for Christ.

We have had a number of great gifts this past week. Praise God!

Please pray for me. Ask God to bless me with more remission of the cancer.

We will have a great time when we all get to heaven. I'll be waiting there for you!

I thank and praise God for all you have done for The Word today. May God give you great joy and happiness.

Please support Douglas. He will work hard with you to bring many more to the Lord.

May God bless and keep you!!! Thank you! And may God give you great joy and pleasure as you serve Him—your Lord, Savior and Master!!!

Sincerely,
Paul R. Schroeder

Thoughts
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*The Bible is God's Word . . . Jesus is God's "Word" made flesh . . .
His death and resurrection, the message needed Today.*

September

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THE LAST SERMON

My father, Pastor Paul Schroeder, who has been an ordained pastor since 1958 and served at Our Shepherd, Greendale, Wisconsin, since 1966 will deliver his last sermon here on September 13th. I have had the privilege and pleasure of serving alongside him for 23 years. It is difficult to see the physical frame of Pastor Paul weakened by the ravages of time and the trials of chemotherapy associated with a battle against a form of Leukemia. However, his life has been extended; just today the news from the oncologist is that he is in remission! He will need bi-monthly drip I.V. treatments, but seems "out of the woods" at this time. Praise God!

We are very happy that several of the friends and ardent supporters of The Word Today will be joining us here in Greendale that morning. I know that many of you love Pastor Paul and wish you could be here. Please consider sending him your "Thoughts" on his ministry and its impact on your life. I know he will cherish them!

STRANGE PEOPLE

Has anyone considered your biblical perspective to be weird? The other day I had a conversation with an Agnostic, a lapsed Lutheran and a Roman Catholic who is heavily into the ritual of religion. All three felt my conservative, Bible-based faith is extreme. I felt like a true outsider for holding such firm but unaccepted convictions.

This should not be surprising, but rather expected. Already in the first century A.D. Christians were pariahs of society. Peter addressed believers as, "aliens and strangers in the world (see I Peter 2:9-12)." *The more worldly people are, the more they will think we are strange!* We actually go to war with sinful desires and temptations that they don't see as being bad. We confess our sins, when they think they are, "good people". We don't take vengeance upon our enemies, but we really do pray for them. This strikes them as our being really weird!

However, there is no denying a godly life, which is usually seen most clearly when believers are under pressure or difficult circumstances. Peter said, "Live such good lives among the Pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us (I Peter 2:12)."

Ultimately, it is this quality of being different, strange, and even alien to our culture which is appealing to some. They see we really believe it and live it, and that gives the Holy Spirit an opportunity to work on them!

Blessings!
Douglas W. Schroeder