Dear Center for Creative Ministry,

This eLetter provides you with the latest version of Contemporary Comments.

In the right side bar you can also secure the Sharing Scripture facilitator guides:

**Sharing Scripture - Fourth Quarter: October 5 - December 28, 2013.** Title: "The Sanctuary" These excellent discussion sheets are designed to enhance your Sabbath School class or small group. Suitable for photocopying, *Sharing Scripture* contain thought questions and exercises that transform ordinary study times into dynamic learning adventures.

Grace to you!
Center for Creative Ministry

**Contemporary Comments**

"Lessons From the Sanctuary"
October 26, 2013
If you were given the money to buy your dream home where you'd live out the rest of your life, what would that house be like? Would it be one of these top most expensive homes in America that are currently for sale?

Right now the most expensive house that money can buy is the Copper Beach Farm in Greenwich, Connecticut. It's an 1890's French renaissance-style mansion with plenty of room and lots of land. Within this 13,000 square foot dwelling are 12 bedrooms, seven bathrooms, a wood-paneled library, an elaborate dining room, and a solarium. Outside property includes two islands in the Long Island Sound, a clock tower carriage house, a guardhouse, formal gardens, numerous greenhouses, and an apple orchard. You can get your daily exercise playing tennis on the grass court, or swimming in the 14-sided swimming pool. The price tag? It's listed at $190 million!

If that doesn't suit your fancy, there is a home in Versailles, Florida for only $100 million. It's a single family home designed after the palace of Versailles in France. If your dream house would be a home with 13 bedrooms, over 20 bathrooms, a 20-car garage, a two-lane bowling alley, your own 10,000 square foot fitness center, and 11 kitchens, then this house is for you.

But then, if you're more the outdoors type, the Walton Ranch in Jackson Hole, Wyoming might just be your dream house. It's also for sale for $100 million. Although the house itself is only 2,234 square feet, this Rocky Mountain cattle ranch is surrounded by the majestic Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

King David had a dream house, too. But he didn't need to buy or build it. In fact, it wasn't even his to own. He talked about it in Psalm 27:4: "One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple." (NIV).

What was so special about the house of the Lord? It was the place to meet God. After sin put an end to our face-to-face communication, God missed us. A new plan had to take place, and so the sanctuary was built. The earthly sanctuary was a place to reconnect with God. It was a place where everyone could be cleansed of his or her sins. It was a place where the gap between God and humans could be bridged with a sacrifice that pointed to Jesus' ultimate sacrifice. It's a place where God's holiness covered their sinfulness. It was a place of grace.

~ nc

Additional resource: YouTube

1. Forbes
About Us

Since 1988, the Center for Creative Ministry has been serving local church leaders and individuals around the world. Formerly known as the publishers of ABBA Newsletter and the Baby Boomer Ministries Resource Center, we have now broadened our generational/ministry focus to include our children. The Center for Creative Ministry took on its new name on June 1, 1996.

The Center for Creative Ministry, formerly Baby Boomer Ministries, is a privately funded and managed para-church ministry fully recognized by the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America. We are dedicated to supporting the local church in outreach and nurture ministries by providing resources, information, training, and consulting.