

Published by Getwell Church of Christ 1511 Getwell Road Memphis, Tennessee 38111-7299

Phone: (901) 743-0464 Fax: (901) 743-2197 E-Mail: mail@getwellchurchofchrist.org Web Site: www.getwellchurchofchrist.org

ELDERS W. T. Hardwick Dewey Murray **MINISTERS**

Dewey Murray Ransom Reaves Gary Colley Daniel P. Phillips Ron Wallace, Youth

Publishers of **THE SPIRITUAL SWORD** Alan E. Highers, Editor

Home of The Spiritual Sword Lectureship Gary Colley, Director

Radio Program *The Truth in Love* WHBQ-AM 560, Sundays, 8:00 a.m.

The Getwell congregation sends monthly support to the following:

Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY	
Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:20 a.m.
Worship	5:00 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Ladies Bible Class (Sept May)	10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY	
Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Volume LVI

March 23, 2015

Number 11

ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

What a joy it is to see those who have departed from the narrow way return to their first love! This we have seen at Getwell of late, and it is a cause of great rejoicing. We do not rejoice when men/women sin, but we do exemplify love, both when they are corrected and when they return to the fold of safety. Heaven rejoices, also! Of the prodigal son, the Father's response was expressed: "But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him" (Lk. 15:20). The best robe replaced his rags of sin, the ring placed on his hand showed his return to being recognized as a son, and the shoes on his feet were an expression of freedom.

The organization, planned by the Lord, that the church have elders, deacons, teachers, and preachers, can never be improved on nor bettered by man's ways. We are not taught to "vote" on anything in the Lord's church. Christ is the King, and his rule is of a monarchy (all power in the hands of one), not a democracy. There have been times, when there was a meeting of the men of the congregation, and, when votes were taken, a small boy or the deacons could vote the same as the elders! This would be against the oversight and rule of the elders (Heb. 13:17). God wanted men chosen to be elders because of their advanced age, many years of experience, and wisdom. We happily acknowledge the good elders at Getwell and support them in their decisions.

"The Wolf Shall Dwell With the Lamb"

Gary Colley

The prophetic words of Isaiah 11:6-7 have caused many questions, especially whether or not it is to be taken literally: "And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed; their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox."

The rationalist and premillennialist refer to this literally as what will happen in the "coming millennial period," or that perhaps it has already literally happened in the time of Isaiah. Evidently, they think, in some unknown way to us, this would be beneficial to mankind for the wolf to dwell with the lamb literally, etc., but when asked of what possible benefit this could be to man, they have no answer.

Clearly, this beautiful and figurative language is prophetically to be understood. The several metaphors and allergories are spoken while looking forward to the rule of Christ. The lessons pictured of peace in *r*the kingdom of Christ are to be learned from these rich truths.

The wolf is known for being an uneasy, ravenous animal, which attacks the sheepfold! The lamb is usually devoured by the wolf. The leopard follows or stalks a kid in order to overcome and finally kill. It is a known fact that the lion, the king of the beast, is able to kill and carry away an ox. For these to "dwell" or "lie down" together would represent one of the greatest of changes in the known practices of these animals.

From the context we understand that the Messiah is described as the "shoot out of the stock of Jesse" (Isa. 11:1), which shows that He is from the Royal Family of David, son of Jesse. Centuries later, Christ came, as also predicted in Micah 5:2. These figures represented men who conducted their lives like these animals.

Then is given the description of the Kingdom, where men who formerly acted like wild beasts, as Saul of Tarsus, would grow tame, with peace and harmony resulting in Christ, in the church! "For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of God, as the waters cover the sea" (Isa. 11:9). This corresponds with Jesus' giving of the Great Commission and saying in the Sermon on the Mount, "The meek shall inherit the earth" (Matt. 5:5), that is, by their teaching. Even the angels said at his birth, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Lk. 2:14). Among those who formerly were as dangerous as deadly reptiles, after conversion and entering the Kingdom, the most helpless are safe, because of the wonderful effects of the Gospel in the hearts of men under our Saviour's rule (Rom. 6:16-18).

We exhort all who have not entered the Kingdom by obedience (Jn. 3:5) to obtain these blessings for themselves!

V April 2015 V

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Tracy S Woodre Melvin Thaxte	IL COMMUNION SERV Smitherman Ron Wa ow Porter J. R. Ma Hammond Jacob V r Hodum Doug M Alternate: Larry Pike	Illace Ayberry Vallace	1 II Sam. 8-10	2 II Sam. 11-13	3 II Sam. 14-16 *June Barringer	4 Il Sam. 17-19 Comm. Prep. Raymond McCoy
5 II Sam. 20-22	6 II Sam. 23-I Kgs. 1	7 I Kings 2-4 *Jason Smith	8 I Kings 5-7 *Shawn Wooley	9 I Kings 8-10	10 I Kings 11-13	11 I Kings 14-16 Comm. Prep. Allison Wooley
12 I Kings 17-19	13 I Kings 20-22 *Billy Collins	14 Il Kings 1-3	15 Il Kings 4-6	16 Il Kings 7-9	17 Il Kings 10-12	18 Il Kings 13-15 Comm. Prep. Allison Wooley
19 Il Kings 16-18	20 Il Kings 19-21 *Dewey Murray *Melvin Hammond	21 Il Kings 22-25	22 I Chron. 1-3	23 I Chron. 4-6	24 I Chron. 7-9 *Vera Mathews	25 I Chron. 10-12 Comm. Prep. Betty Taylor
26 I Chron. 13-15	27 I Chron. 16-18 *Chase Allen	28 I Chron. 19-21 *Wanda Barringer *Volene Godwin	29 I Chron. 22-25	30 I Chron. 26-29		*BIRTHDAY **ANNIVERSARY Please advise us of your birthday or anniversary if they are not on our calendar.