Our work at Getwell continues to go forward in a good way. We had very good crowds last Lord’s Day for all services, and the ladies (and some men) fixed a great noon meal for our 5th Sunday fellowship luncheon. We had a number of visitors, and we invite all who would like to be a part of our work to place their membership or be identified in some way. It is important to the eternal welfare of each soul to make known to the elders their desire to be responsible in the local work (Heb. 13:17).

Wrong ethics, immorality, and sin in general, have become socially, and sometimes religiously, acceptable! That is, it seems they have become acceptable to our “Department of Justice,” some individuals, and to some religions! “Political correctness” has attempted to remove “Jihadist, Islam, and Radical Islam” from their watch list. This, it seems to this writer, places us in more danger of being under attack by our enemies. We are not attempting here to enter into politics, but men, women, children, and Christians need to be protected. We cannot observe and keep the “Golden Rule” of Matthew 7:12, “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets,” and not think about the importance of the dangers we face.

Likewise, adultery, fornication, and homosexuality were strictly condemned by society in general only a few years ago! They are still abhorred in the Bible. Gambling was a vice, drunkenness a shame, and “same-sex marriage,” all were condemned by those who lived by the correct principles of life. We would suggest reading again Paul’s words to the Roman church, “Let God be true, but every man a liar” (Rom. 3:4; also please read Heb. 13:8-9).
**The Characteristics of the Holy Spirit? (II)**

We do not use the term “ghost” in reference to the Holy Spirit today because of the thoughts conjured up in the minds of men about a ghost. Perhaps this term, though meaning the same, has contributed to some of the misunderstanding about the Holy Spirit, the third member of the God-head. Since He is a Divine Being, as is also God and Christ, we should think and speak of Him as such. The New Testament speaks of the Holy Spirit as a personal being, endowed with all the attributes of a person. Please consider the following references to Him and His characteristics in the New Testament:

1. **HE HAS A MIND.** “And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit” (Rom. 8:27).

2. **HE HAS THE POWER OF SPEAKING.** “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils” (I Tim. 4:1).

3. **HE HAS THE POWER OF KNOWING.** “For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God” (I Cor. 2:11).

4. **HE HAS THE POWER OF SEARCHING.** “But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God” (I Cor. 2:10).

5. **HE HAS THE POWER OF FORBIDDING.** “Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia” (Acts 16:6).

Jesus always spoke to His apostles of the Holy Spirit with personal pronouns, showing them His power to comfort, bless, influence, guide, and reveal the Truth to them (Jn. 14:26). The Holy Spirit guided the apostles into all Truth (Jn. 16:13), and these things the Holy Spirit did for the apostles directly in the first century. However, today we are not directly spoken to or guided, but we are indirectly blessed through the writings of these commissioned men (II Cor. 5:20). All today have the written Word of God to benefit us (Eph. 3:3-5). Let us think of this glorious Being, the Holy Spirit, as a living Person like God and Christ!
This past Lord’s day morning service, I was impressed by Carl Allen’s prayer concerning the violence in our country that has been occurring lately. Growing up, my folks taught my brother and me that policemen were our friends. Karen and I taught our kids the same fact. Personally, I have never met a bad cop—some less than perfect, but not bad. As I look back on my life and the cops I have known, I was impressed with the high caliber these men in blue were and are. In preparing this article, I made a list of policemen I have known through the years. I came up with thirteen men. Topping the list was Robert Cochran, former chief of homicide in Memphis and chief of police in Germantown. He was a cop’s cop—a man’s man. He had a tremendous influence on my life. His son Terry is one of my oldest and closest friends and is also a policeman in Florida. Rounding out the list, six were and are members of the church, and two are gospel preachers. Sadly, one was shot and killed in the line of duty: Rufus Gates. Policemen are our friends, and they are my heroes. Following is a commentary by Paul Harvey from 1970 titled “What Is a Policeman?”

—Ron Wallace

“A Policeman is a composite of what all men are, mingling of a saint and sinner, dust and deity.

Gulled statistics wave the fan over the stinkers, underscore instances of dishonesty and brutality because they are ‘new.’ What they really mean is that they are exceptional, unusual, not commonplace.

Buried under the frost is the fact: Less than one-half of one percent of policemen misfit the uniform. That’s a better average than you’d find among clergy!

What is a policeman made of? He, of all men, is once the most needed and the most unwanted.

He’s a strangely nameless creature who is ‘sir’ to his face and ‘fuzz’ to his back.

He must be such a diplomat that he can settle differences between individuals so that each will think he won.

But...If the policeman is neat, he’s conceited; if he’s careless, he’s a bum. If he’s pleasant, he’s flirting; if not, he’s a grouch.

He must make an instant decision which would require months for a lawyer to make.

But...If he hurries, he’s careless; if he’s deliberate, he’s lazy.

He must be first to an accident and infallible with his diagnosis. He must be able to start breathing, stop bleeding, tie splints and, above all, be sure the victim goes home without a limp. Or expect to be sued.

The police officer must know every gun, draw on the run, and hit where it doesn’t hurt.

He must be able to whip two men twice his size and half his age without damaging his uniform and without being ‘brutal.’ If you hit him, he’s a coward. If he hits you, he’s a bully.

A policeman must know everything—and not tell. He must know where all the sin is and not partake.

A policeman must, from a single strand of hair, be able to describe the crime, the weapon and the criminal—and tell you where the criminal is hiding.

But...If he catches the criminal, he’s lucky; if he doesn’t, he’s a dunce.

If he gets promoted, he has political pull; if he doesn’t, he’s a dullard.

The policeman must chase a bum lead to a dead-end, stake out ten nights to tag one witness who saw it happen—but refused to remember.

The policeman must be a minister, a social worker, a diplomat, a tough guy and a gentleman.

And, of course, he’d have to be a genius...For he will have to feed his family on a policeman’s salary.”