We heard three fine lessons at Getwell September 2, from brothers Allen, Phillips, and Wallace! We appreciate these men for their talents and their willingness to step in on short notice to teach and preach the Gospel. The lessons they brought were timely and scriptural.

"Modesty" in our time seems to be a forgotten obligation for men and women! We need often to remember and emphasize what Paul by inspiration writes to the beloved young preacher Timothy: "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works" (I Tim. 2:9-10). It is true that "a worthy woman" is a blessing and help to the world! She is one who not only professes godliness but who also proves it by her dress and demeanor. But a worldly man or woman is a curse to many! Who ever thought that a woman would attend worship services or a funeral in shorts or pants that look like they are painted on the body! These are certainly not men or women professing and practicing godliness! We wonder at times where the husband and father of these are to be found! These men know how other men may be caused to sin because of the skin tight, too low, too short clothing on the woman's body! Ann Landers wrote, "A woman's clothing should be tight enough to let it be known that she is a woman, but loose enough to let it be known that she is a lady." Paul's words are stronger, but these words should be considered also! We commend all of the good ladies who not only profess godliness but practice godliness daily! May the older women take their responsibility seriously to help the younger women to be modest! (Tit. 2:3-5).
Before the Bible can do anyone any good it must be believed and accepted that the Bible is inspired of God (II Pet. 1:20-21). In spite of the tremendous influence for good that the Bible has had upon mankind, many who profess to be its friends deny some of its basic and fundamental doctrines and are actually its enemies! (cf. Phil. 3:18-19; Col. 1:21-23). All of the most wonderful predictive elements of the Old Testament are fulfilled in the New Testament but are denied by false teachers.

These events, such as the virgin birth of Christ (Isa. 7:14), the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the apostles (Acts 2) and Cornelius (Acts 10), constituting "all flesh" in both Jews and Gentiles (Joel 2:28; Acts 2:15-18) prove the inspiration of the Scriptures. By some attempts these are "explained away" as nonessential! At one time the opposers of these contingents were restricted to unbelievers. But today it is not unusual to hear of some prominent religious leaders who also reject these fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith! The Bible indisputably claims for itself the inspiration of God and that it is not simply "cunningly devised fables" (II Pet. 1:16-17).

About forty men were engaged in writing the Bible. They wrote over a period of sixteen hundred years. The wonderful and powerful fact remains that one statement is never contradicted by another! Prophecies were made and fulfilled to the letter! Only one explanation can be correctly given for this fact. they were all guided by one Spirit.

In almost every event in the life of Christ, there was a fulfilled prophecy. Also, many scientific facts were anticipated by the ancient prophets of God. Job knew of an empty place over the north that was not known to modern man until modern times (Job 26:7). Isaiah knew the earth was round, a fact denied until a few years ago (Isa. 40:22). David knew of the "paths in the sea," a fact which was not discovered by uninspired men until recent times (Psa.8:8). All of these facts are given in the Bible. They cannot be accounted for except for the fact that God inspired this wonderful Book! Will you let the Bible be your guide?
I am currently reading a book titled *A Man After God’s Own Heart*. Obviously, a great deal of this book centers around David, but Boaz and Daniel and their attributes are also mentioned. We will be looking at the five principles to be utilized in our walk with Christ and to be used as a profitable employee. On a personal observation, I feel sometimes Daniel is underrated as a loyal, faithful employee who served his king and his God.

We begin our study of these principles by looking at two passages concerning our first principle, “diligence.” Starting at Ruth 2 and throughout the book we see Boaz exhibiting traits of a diligent man who worked hard. As you know, he married Ruth and was the great-grandfather of David.

Another example of diligence is Timothy. Paul exhorts Timothy in II Timothy 2:15: “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

**Principle # 1—Be Diligent**

As previously stated in II Timothy 2:15, Paul wanted Timothy to be diligent in his study of God’s Word. Following are some reasons for being diligent.

1. You give God glory when you do your best.
2. You represent the Lord Jesus, therefore you do your best.
3. You serve the Lord and not men, so you do your best.
4. You provide a living model of your risen Savior while you do your best.
5. You provide for your family as you do your best.

**Principle # 2—Be A Servant**

This next principle begins with a rather funny scenario in my opinion. In Matthew 20:20, the sons of thunder, the sons of Zebedee, bring their mother to talk to Jesus. In my mind’s eye I picture these two big burly men standing behind their small, petite, lavish mother to ask Jesus if they can sit on the right hand and left hand of Jesus in his kingdom. Jesus answers them and says, “ye know not what ye ask,” and then in Matthew 20:25-28, Jesus elaborates on what it means to be a servant:

25. “But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.”
26. “But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;”
27. “And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:”
28. “Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Let us look at Mark 10:42-45:

42. “But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them.”
43. “But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister:”
44. “And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.”
45. “For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Next week we will continue with the study of these principles.

—Ron Wallace
FAMILY NEWS AND NOTES

I WAS SICK AND YE VISITED ME (MATT. 25:36)

Larry Pike is in ICU Room 384 following surgery to relieve pressure on the brain.

Tom Pinner is recuperating from a broken wrist.

Please continue to keep Marie George, Laura Jenkins, and Michael Miller in your prayers.

HOMEBOUND

Remember also those who are homebound: Linda Beard resides at Magnolia Creek Nursing & Rehab., Rm. 306, 1992 Highway 51 S., Covington, TN 38019-3623.

Norma Jean McCoy is at her home but no visitors please.

Tina Sparks resides at Hermitage Gardens, 108 Clarington Dr., Apt. 107, Southaven, MS 38671-5640.

SPIRITUAL SWORD GIFTS

Donations for THE SPIRITUAL SWORD have been received from Robert Mayo (NC); M/M B. C. Underwood; M/M Ken Wyatt (TN); Harry Roberts (FL); Orrin Nearhoof (KY); Cynthia McIntyre (AR); and Joyce Perry (MS).

Verse To Memorize

Ruth 1:16

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 9, 2018

Lead Singing: Pat Phillips
Opening Prayer: Dewey Murray (a.m.)
Thaxter Hodum (p.m.)
Bible Reading: Jacob E. Wallace
Sermon: Gary Colley
Closing Prayer: Tracy Smitherman (a.m.)
Charles Shappley (p.m.)

OUR ATTITUDE

September 2, 2018

Bible Study 62
Morning Worship 88
Evening Worship 64
Wednesday (8/29) 56
Contribution $5,273.00
Budget $4,007.00

Save the Date!

43rd Annual Spiritual Sword Lectureship

King Of Our Lives

October 21-24, 2018