

Good News

From Getwell

Published by
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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.

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Number 3

ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

The new year should begin with many renewed intentions and devotions on the part of the members at Getwell. In this past year we have seen some people pass from this life ready and prepared to meet their God, while there were some not prepared, some due to becoming unfaithful, and that for several years. How tragic it is for those who have once known the Truth and the Way of life to turn from faithfulness in later years. We need desperately to read and reread II Peter 2:20-22!

Our young people are precious to us, but at times we may cause them to be quite confused!

On Sunday we will tell our son or daughter to honor God; but on Monday he/she may hear us curse God.

Our son or daughter may be told to honor their neighbor; then they may hear their mother berate and refuse service and help when needed by that same neighbor.

We will exhort him or her to neither lie nor steal, but they may hear us explain how that by shading a bit of information we were able to turn a deal.

We teach them to put God first; then they see us miss worship services for something we want to do in a pleasure or business situation.

Thus, our son or daughter grows into a confused person, never quite sure what words like honor, love, and honesty really mean! Let us think seriously about our example. Our influence may last into eternity!

Why I Obeyed the Gospel (III)

Gary Colley

(Continued from last week.)

Because I Learned of the Interest of the Holy Spirit

If any man is ever saved, it will be by the power of the Holy Spirit. There is no direct working of the Holy Spirit in man's conversion today, but through His thoroughly furnishing Word all men can know His witness to their salvation. The Holy Spirit has declared and announced in the Word the mind of God, the plan of salvation, and all things that pertain to life and godliness (II Pet. 1:3; I Cor. 2:9-11). It is only through the study of the New Testament that any man knows the conditions of salvation. It is through the Word that the Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. In writing to the Roman church of Christ, Paul clearly states, "The Spirit himself beareth witness with [NOT TO, but with, GC] our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ, if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together" (Rom. 8:16-17). Hence there are two who are to bear testimony or witness that we are the children of God. The Bible principle is that "at the mouth of two witnesses or three every word may be established" (Matt. 18:16). The Holy Spirit states that all must believe (Jn. 8:21, 24), must repent (Lk. 13:3, 5), must confess (Matt. 10:32-33), and must be baptized for the remission of sins in order to be saved (Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:38). When my spirit has complied with these conditions of salvation, the Holy Spirit and my spirit are in complete agreement, and thereby witnesses to the fact that we are children of God.

Because I Learned of the Grace of God

If any man is ever saved it will also be by the grace of God. The only way any can know of God's grace is by reading the New Testament, where the Holy Spirit has revealed all truth (Jn. 16:8, 13). To the preacher Titus, Paul wrote, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world" (Tit. 2:11-12). Though this grace in the Gospel has been revealed to all men, no man can be saved unless he obeys the Gospel message. Meeting the conditions of grace does not mean that man earns his salvation, or that any have any demands on the grace of God. To the Ephesian church Paul wrote, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:8-10). Yes, God's grace is the gift of God; but it takes two to

make a complete gift, a giver and a receiver. God has offered salvation to all men, but all men have not met the conditions whereby God's grace can come to them. When one refuses to obey God's offer of grace, he has received the grace of God, but it is in vain to him who is disobedient (II Cor. 6:1). We must not be among those who are "ever learning, but never able to come to a knowledge of the truth" (II Tim. 3:7).

Because of My Desire for all Spiritual Blessings

When we have learned about the spiritual blessings that we can enjoy, we must also learn where these blessings are offered. Paul makes it clear to the church at Ephesus, who were saved by grace, that all spiritual blessings were to be found only IN CHRIST (Eph. 1:3). These abundant blessings consist of the name we are to wear, the worship we are to render to our Heavenly Father, the fellowship and peace we enjoy in the body or church, and the confident hope we have of Heaven. All of the promises of God are found only IN CHRIST (II Cor. 1:20); inheritance as the fruit of sonship is found IN CHRIST (Eph. 1:11); we are made new creatures IN CHRIST (II Cor. 5:17); we are among the blessed dead "who die IN THE LORD" (Rev. 14:13). We cannot possibly die IN THE LORD while continuing to live OUT OF CHRIST. To be IN CHRIST means to be in His body or the church He built (Matt. 16:18). He has promised to save this body or church, and no other (Eph. 5:23). IN CHRIST is the place where condemnation has been removed from the obedient (Rom. 8:1-2). Since all the saved are added by the Lord to this church (Acts 2:41, 47), the importance of entering into the church of Christ cannot be over emphasized! It is a shame in the religious world today that some want to minimize the importance of the Lord's church, while others want to completely eliminate it! But we should not let any man rob us of the salvation promised IN CHRIST!

Conclusion

These are a few of the reasons why this writer has obeyed the Gospel. It is also his reason for continuing to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ to a lost and dying world, with the desire that all men and women should obey and be saved. It is the reason for wanting the best for our children, grandchildren, and generations yet to be born, who need to obey the Gospel. It is because it is the best life anyone can live here which offers the blessings of eternity (I Jn. 2:25). It is our prayer, dear reader, that you will be moved to step out upon your faith in the Christ and to submit to His blessed will for your salvation. "Why I Obeyed The Gospel?" Because I want to go to Heaven! (Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:12).

RON'S REMINDERS



Getwell has long been blessed with sound preachers, strong elders, and hard working deacons. John Watkins was such a deacon. He had a sincere love for his Lord, his family, and his brothers and sisters in Christ. In my opinion John's strong talents were visiting the sick and making people feel welcome at Getwell. One of our brethren, J. R. Mayberry, stated that, when he first came to Getwell, one thing he could always count on was John Watkins coming up to him and shaking his hand. When I get to Heaven someday, I will look forward to shaking John's hand again.

We express our sympathy to Pat Phillips in the loss of his mother, Loraine Morrow. Probably, loss is not the best word. As Pat stated it, she went home to be with her Savior. Miss Loraine was a truly faithful servant of our Lord. Through the years when she visited Getwell I was always impressed with her gentle Christian demeanor and spirit. As a mother she did an outstanding job in raising her sons, especially Daniel P. Phillips. Pat Phillips is a multi-talented minister of the gospel who is also a superb song leader. When I was younger, I used to run with Pat's three children, Danny, Melody, and Melissa, and still count them as friends. I mention Pat and his children because they owe their being to this wonderful lady who was matriarch of the Phillips family. I am sure they will rise up and call her blessed.

Brother Highers always does an outstanding job on each issue of **THE SPIRITUAL SWORD**. The issue coming out in January entitled "Can We Save Our Children?" is truly an issue that you will want to read from cover to cover. Let me encourage you to get an extra copy and pass it on to a parent that you might know in a sister congregation. These articles will prove useful in influencing children and grandchildren. The articles in this issue of the journal are:

"The Danger of Forgetting God"

— Alan E. Highers

"Remembering God in the Home"

— Allen Webster

"Growing in Knowledge" — Glenn Colley

"Beware of the Cares, Riches, and Pleasures of the World" — Gary Hampton

"Making the Right Choice" — Stan Mitchell

"No Uncertain Sound in the Pulpit"

— David Pharr

"The Church v. Denominationalism"

— Hugh Fulford

"The Church Identified — Marks of Identity"

— Jay Lockhart

"The Church v. The World" — Phil Sanders

"What Can We Do to Remain Faithful?"

— Gary Colley

"The Church Which Is Not a Denomination"

— Tom Holland

"Developing Loyalty to Christ and the Church"

— David Powell

The 79th Annual Bible Lectureship at Freed-Hardeman University begins February 1st. The theme of this lectureship is "Give Us a King." The lectureship is overseen by Joe Wiley, president of Freed-Hardeman University, and David L. Lipe, director of the Freed-Hardeman Lectureship. There is an assortment of lessons and lectures to be taken in to help with your Christian growth. One particular series of lessons at 1:30 daily caught my eye:

Living by Faith

Monday — "Hannah's Prayer"

Tuesday — "Jonathan's Humility"

Wednesday — "Abigail's Wisdom"

Thursday — "Nathan's Courage"

Make plans now to attend some of these lectures February 1-5.

— Ron Wallace