

Good News

From Getwell

Published by
Getwell Church of Christ

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The Spiritual Sword Lectureship
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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.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

There are many wonderful works being done in the Memphis area in order to take the Gospel to the whole world. Faithful congregations are involved in many ways to carry out the Great Commission given by our Lord (Mk. 16:15-16). We appreciate all that is being done. And, these works are often mentioned in our prayers in the worship services at Getwell. We pray for the success of **The Truth In Love** (Getwell's radio program), **Good News From Getwell** (our teaching bulletin), **THE SPIRITUAL SWORD Quarterly Journal**, and **The Annual Spiritual Sword Lectureship**, as well as many other good works in the area.

Among those good works that we remember in prayers is the work of the **Memphis School of Preaching**, a preacher training work of the Forest Hill Irene congregation. The school has given us a special invitation to its **1st Annual World Evangelism Seminar**, Friday evening and Saturday, October 14-15, 2016, just preceding our **41st Annual Spiritual Sword Lectureship**, Sunday through Wednesday, October 16-19, 2016, at Getwell. This new educational work will train men to go into the mission fields in other nations. There will be a congregational singing on Friday night (6:30-6:50) under the direction of Andy Ratliff. Also, brother B. J. Clarke, director of MSOP, will present the keynote lesson on Friday evening, 7:00-8:00 P.M. Then, there will be seven speakers bringing mission related lessons throughout the day on Saturday from 9:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. The theme is "Preaching the Gospel to Every Creature." All are encouraged to "come learn about evangelistic opportunities around the world." We encourage all to reserve these dates and attend the **1st Annual Evangelism Seminar** at Forest Hill (October 14-15) and the **41st Annual Spiritual Sword Lectureship** at Getwell (October 16-19).

Where in the Bible Will I Find . . .

Gary Colley

How To Rightly Divide the Word?

We are commanded to rightly divide the Word of God (II Tim. 2:15). Today, much confusion, and false religion, is based on the failure to divide the Word correctly. There are many Bible references that teach us how to rightly divide the Word, but one chapter especially needs to be read and studied—Galatians 3. This chapter gives the right divisions of the Word based on the three grand divisions of the Bible, commonly called Patriarchal, Jewish, and Christian dispensations. These divisions are Scripturally known as the promises, the law, and the Gospel. The promises were made to Abraham 430 years before the law of Moses came into being. The law was “added because of transgression” until Christ should come to fulfill the promise to Abraham. The law was not added to the promise which God made to Abraham. The Bible says “it came in besides,” that is between the promise and its fulfillment. The promise was that Christ, the seed of Abraham, should come, and through him all nations would be blessed (Gal. 3:8-14, 17, 19). Since the law was added only until the seed

should come, and the description of that seed is “which is Christ” (Gal. 3:16), it follows that the law automatically ended with the coming of Christ. “Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us [Jews, GC] to Christ, that we might be justified by faith” (Gal. 3:24-25). Galatians 3, when read and studied, will make clear the right divisions of the Word of God, unless one stubbornly refuses to see. With this plain and proper division of the Word, Paul in numerous other references affirms the abrogation of the law of Moses. Notice some of these references: 1. “We are not under the law” (Rom. 10:4). 2. We are dead to the law and delivered from it (Rom. 7:6). 3. Christ is the end of the law (Rom. 10:4). Christians are not to be judged by the law (Col. 2:14-16). How much clearer could language be to prove to all men that no one is under the law of Moses today? All who want to be saved today are subject to the Gospel conditions of salvation in Christ (Acts 4:12). The Great Commission, recorded in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, is the key to understand the preaching of the apostles in the book of Acts.

RON'S REMINDERS



The Christian's Self-Image

Addressing His disciples, Jesus declared, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me" (Matthew 16:24 NKJV). Although our Lord's words are not hard to understand, genuine application is rarely found in a culture where individuals seek to draw rather than divert attention. This failure is easily explained, for many live with a sense of entitlement. Instead of appreciating the need to be selfless and subsequently devoted to following Jesus, individuals openly emphasize (and perhaps embellish) their accomplishments, abilities and status in an effort to gain a following. Sadly, this is just the opposite of what Jesus desires. He did not embrace the self-important; but He did proclaim: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (5:3).

Developing the humility required to be counted among the "poor in spirit" or the resolve to deny one's selfish desires and interests in favor of following Jesus is a requirement for Christians. Even so, this is easier said than done in a culture increasingly given to self-promotion. In part, this is because priorities are misaligned. Being the recipient of service is valued over serving; obtaining what one wants is glamorized, especially if those things somehow make the person appear superior to others. Attention, or more appropriately, the acceptance and validation mass attention brings, is the goal, regardless of the price.

Self-promotion is a ubiquitous tool in the quest for acceptance on social media platforms.

Individuals tend to post only things that draw rave reviews and secure many "likes." If virtual approval does not come as quickly (or as broadly) as anticipated, the individual wonders why. This potentially leads to the creation of a new, hopefully more popular, persona. But rather than bringing satisfaction, such only cements the process of self-absorption.

Authenticity is replaced by fantasy, or at the very least, an edited and dressed-up version of reality. Lies are promoted in order to gain likes. This quest for approval never ends. Like the wise man, who looked for meaning in life in a variety of physical pursuits (cf. Ecclesiastes 2:11), the one who constantly requires affirmation from others will ultimately experience only emptiness and frustration. All the while, jealousy and loneliness lurk nearby.

Only when one adheres to the instructions of Jesus in Matthew 16:24 will true satisfaction result. We must join Augustine (A.D. 354-430), who, in his *Confessions*, famously acknowledged to God: "Our hearts are restless, until they can find rest in you." A biblical self-image is developed only by following the advice of the wise man: "Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all" (Ecclesiastes 12: 13).

Chad Ramsey
GOSPEL ADVOCATE
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