

# Good News

## From Getwell

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](mailto:mail@getwellchurchofchrist.org)

Web Site: [www.getwellchurchofchrist.org](http://www.getwellchurchofchrist.org)

#### ELDERS

W. T. Hardwick  
Dewey Murray  
Ransom Reaves

#### MINISTERS

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.

##### **WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

**Volume LVIII**

**September 11, 2017**

**Number 35**

## ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

The bad weather of late has effected so many in South Texas and Florida along with many other states! It has been the number one topic of the national news for many days. The recovery will be slow and difficult. Many have not lost their lives, though some have, but many have lost their property, memories, and face a hard future of rebuilding their lives. Prayers have been offered by God's people in the Lord's church. Assistance has been given from the Getwell church of Christ and from some individuals. One of the sad descriptions of the flood situation is, "Under Water." But remember, going "under water" to obey God in baptism for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38) is a good thing for the sinner! A person cannot be saved eternally unless they go "under water" in baptism according to the New Testament (Mk. 16:15-16).

Now, many in the religious world will not tell you the truth concerning the necessity of "going under water" for salvation from past sins. But, the Lord will tell you exactly the truth about the matter. Luke records Jesus' words: "And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem (Lk. 24:46-47; Acts 2:38). We must be careful whom we follow! Seen on a tombstone in one cemetery: "Remember friend as you pass by, as you are now so once was I; As I am now you soon will be; So prepare to die and follow me." Someone else had written with a black crayon under the above words, "To follow you I am not content until I learn which way you went." (Please read Matt. 7:13-14).

---

## “Where in the Bible Will I Find . . .” The Three Crosses at Calvary?

Gary Colley

---

We have made the statement many times and shall continue to make it, “If the cross of Christ does not break your heart, you will never be worth anything to the Lord and His church.” It is not unusual today to find those who have never read the four accounts of the crucifixion, and, therefore, have no thought about the same. The four accounts are given in Matthew 27, Mark 15, Luke 23, and John 19, in your Bible. Hopefully, you will take the time to read these four chapters in order that you may have the full picture of Christ’ execution. When John saw Jesus coming toward him one day, he said of Him, “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!” (Jn. 1:29). Jesus was the lamb of sacrifice who gave His life for our sin, when He became sin (the sin offering) for us (II Cor. 5:21). In His life on earth and suffering on the cross, “though he were rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich” (II Cor. 8:9). But do we realize that there were three crosses on Golgotha that day?

Beginning at 9:00 a.m. that day, three individuals were crucified. Three different kinds of people were on those crosses. It will be noticed that there was the cross of rebellion, the cross of repentance, and the cross of redemption! On the *cross of redemption*, the Savior of the world hung in mortal agony with

blood dripping from His head, His hands, His feet, and finally His side. The smell of death was in the air, and He was soon to say “It is finished” and die. His cross has the power to save man (I Cor. 1:18). On this cross Satan was defeated, as predicted in Genesis 3:15, and God’s great love in giving His only begotten Son is demonstrated. Then we notice the *cross of repentance*. Both thieves hanging beside Jesus, to make it appear that Jesus deserved to die, spoke blasphemous words toward our Lord, but one later repented (Mk. 15:32). He had a change of heart. We do not know how he knew what he did about the coming kingdom of Christ, nor how he knew that Christ’s death would not hinder the building of His church (Matt. 16:18-19), unless he had been taught and baptized by John (Mk. 1:5). He did rebuke the other thief, and requested of Jesus “remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom” (Lk. 23:42). This thief was saved (Lk. 23:43). But there is also the third cross, *the cross of rebellion*. Very little has been said about this thief, but he no doubt represents the majority of humanity! We need to examine his case to see if he may represent us! Too many, like this man, doubt the Son of God, refuse to obey the Gospel in faith, repentance, confession, and baptism, and ignore the power of God to save by means of the cross.

# RON'S REMINDERS



As was stated Sunday morning the elders wanted to express appreciation for the congregation's generosity recently. The congregation responded splendidly in supply school supplies for our adopted school, Getwell Elementary. The congregation again opened their wallets and hearts for the commodity drive for Potter Children's Home. Lastly the elders acting on behalf of the congregation sent funds to Texas for the Hurricane Harvey relief effort. Thank you, Getwell.

As I write this column it is the 16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the September 11, 2001 Islamic terrorist attack on our country. It has been stated that for two months following the cowardly attack churches and synagogues churches and synagogues were overflowing. Sixteen years later attendance is back to pre-9-11 levels. As a matter of fact, our country is pulling away from God. The church of our Lord is the best hope for our country. The fields are definitely white unto harvest. Pray for America!

Saturday, I had the good fortune to attend "Freed Speed," a cross country competition at the school. Both my sons were involved in this event, Noah as a competitor and Jacob as a coach. The college runners ran 8 kilometers and high school runners ran 5 kilometers. It is a race that favors endurance over speed, so the runners pace themselves. As the runners closed in on the finish line the various coaches urged them on by calling out "finish strong!" That is an exhortation that every Christian ought to take to heart as we race toward our heavenly finish line. It is no accident that the athletic analogy is used several times throughout the Bible to illustrate the Christian race.

Watching the race I couldn't help thinking of four passages that Paul penned. I feel that Paul had the Isthmian Games in mind. These games took place every two years, and the

competitors stayed in tents (remember, Paul was a tentmaker). These games gave him two opportunities: one was income, and the other to spread the gospel.

Paul used athletic terminology in four different passages:

## **I Corinthians 9:24-27**

"Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."

## **I Timothy 4:7-8**

"But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."

## **II Timothy 2:5**

"And if a man also strive for masteries, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully."

## **II Timothy 4:6-8**

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

Remember, fight the good fight!

**--Ron Wallace**