

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 Web Site: 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. |
|-------------|------------|
| | 10:20 a.m. |
| | 5:00 p.m. |

WEDNESDAY

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

Volume LVIII

November 27, 2017

Number 45

ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

There are always questions and ideas that people like to discuss about Bible doctrine. We welcome sincere people who want to know right from wrong about Bible subjects. The doctrines of men are always plural, but the doctrine of Christ is always singular. Please read and be warned by II John 1:9-11 and Revelation 22:18-19. We have had some recent questions about the Catholic Church doctrines practiced today but not found in the Bible. Please note these and when these things began to be practiced:

| 1 | 2E1 A D | . = "Clinic | bantiam" |
|----|---------|-------------|----------|
| Ι. | 231 A.D | . = Ciinic | paptism |

13. 1090 A.D. = Indulgences

2. 394 A.D. = Latin Mass

14. 1215 A.D. = Confessing to the

3. 588 A.D. = "Extreme Unction"

priest

4. 593 A.D. = "Purgatory"

15. 1268 A.D. = Priest can forgive

5. 606 A.D. = First "Pope" or

sins

Papa

16. 1311 A.D. = Sprinkling for

6. 709 A.D. = Kissing Pope's toe

baptism made law

7. 788 A.D. = Adoration of

17. 1438 A.D. = "Purgatory"

Saints

18. 1457 A.D. = Immaculate

8. 998 A.D. = Fish on Friday

Conception

9. 1000 A.D. = Transub-

19. 1870 A.D. = Infallibility of the

stantiation

Pope

10. 1009 A.D. = "Holy Water"

20. 1950 A.D. = Assumption of

11. 1015 A.D. = Celibacy of priest

Mary into Heaven

12. 1022 A.D. = Penance

21. 1994 A.D. = English Mass

Where in the Bible Will I Find The Tongue Causes Trouble?

Gary Colley

The inspired writer James says, "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!" (Jas. 3:5). One match can set an entire forest on fire. The wild fires of California were started by a small match! So the tongue, though a small member, can cause wars between nations, division in families, and heartaches in the church. We sometimes joke about a man who asked if a lady was tonguetied, and the reply was, "Yes, tied in the middle and loose at both ends!" One has said that the tongue is in a slippery place but is guarded by "bars" called the teeth. We can be guilty of sin by a misuse of the tongue. We are to keep our heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" (Prov. 4:23); "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he" (Prov. 23:7); For out of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12:34). The tongue can be used for good or evil, to confess the name of Christ or to curse Him, to help another or to hurt. The tongue can be used in worship, or be used to blaspheme (Col. 3:8). Though the Bible condemns the action, the tongue can speak with pride, and be used to flatter to get what one wants (Psa. 12:3). We can speak so as to deceive another (Rom. 3:13). We can begin a gossip campaign against another that will ruin their character, and the words cannot be

recalled (Rom. 1:29). Criticizing and backbiting will cause good friends and brethren in Christ to devour one another (Matt. 5:22; Rom. 1:30). Paul wrote, "But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another" (Ga1. 5:15). Though Christians should never lie, the tongue is capable of lying, and many even who are Christians are warned against lying (Col. 3:9; Rev. 21:8). The tongue can speak idle words that will cause one to be judged in the Day of Judgment (Matt. 12:36). Some tongues are used to speak filthy language, though we are commanded not to do so in the "perfect law of liberty" (Col. 3:8; Jas. 1:25). Paul said we are not to misuse the tongue, "Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: rather giving of thanks" (Eph. 5:4). What a blessing the tongue can be for lifting up our fellowmen, praising our Heavenly Father in worship, and training our children in the nurture and admonition of the Truth (Eph. 6:4). We can use it in carrying the Gospel to the world as our Lord commanded (Mk. 16:15-16). We can tell lost men of a loving Saviour, about His church in which all may be saved, and the simple plan of salvation taught in the Scriptures, of faith, repentance, confession, and baptism. Let us take heed to the proper use of our tongues.

RON'S REMINDERS

Have We Forgotten?

Abraham Lincoln said, "We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth and power, as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own."

We would do well to take notice of his words, but more importantly, we should pay close attention to God's Word. "Righteousness exalts a nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage!" (Psalm 33:12).

A cursory glance at Jewish history reveals that God had mercy on nations, even pagan nations like Nineveh, when they repented and honored Him (Jonah 3:10), and it reveals His mighty wrath which came down on kingdoms that forsook Him, even the chosen seed of Israel (2 Chronicles 36:15-17).

Developing a righteous country begins with individuals like you and me who are blessed with God's gracious gift of salvation. With these blessings, however, come responsibilities. We should always keep in mind that it is God who blesses us and our nation with prosperity. We must continue to obey God, keeping our thoughts and actions in line with His will. We should guide our families to honor and obey Him. We must aggressively teach the Gospel so the Lord's church will flourish in our land. Jesus Christ changes people and will change nations.

Another responsibility we have is to seek men and women to rule over us who uphold the moral standards created by God. We are blessed immeasurably to have freedom to choose our rulers. We can vote them in and vote them out. God gives us knowledge and wisdom to discern, to the best of our ability, the character of the people we choose to govern us locally or nationally. We should be alert when a candidate for public office, or one presently in office, openly endorses unrighteousness or is unwilling to stand for God's principles of morality in the face of political pressure to conform.

In light of those who are prone to rail against higher authorities, we should remember Paul's warning: Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves (Romans 13:1-2). Instead, let us pray for kings, presidents and all who are in authority so we may live in peace with all godliness and reverence, for this pleases God (1 Timothy 2:1-3).

Mr. Lincoln was right. We are the recipients of the bounties of heaven and earth. Shame on us if we do not step up and represent God while enjoying the peace and prosperity He alone has given us. We must not forget the gracious hand that preserves and strengthens us!