

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

Website: www.getwellchurchofchrist.org

ELDERS

Dewey Murray
Ransom Reaves

MINISTERS

Bradley Smith, Minister
Ron Wallace, Assoc. Minister
Daniel P. Phillips

Publishers of
THE SPIRITUAL SWORD

Alan E. Highers, Editor

Home of
The Spiritual Sword Lectureship

Radio Program

The Truth in Love

WHBQ-AM 560 / FM 87.7

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 LX

August 11, 2019

Number 27

ON THE HOME FRONT

This past Wednesday we concluded our summer series. The theme was Bible heroes of the Old Testament and what made them heroes. The heroes we looked at were Noah, Elijah, Abraham, Moses, David, Joseph, Joshua, Daniel, and Gideon. We had a very capable line up who led the study; Ryan Manning, David Looney, David South, Mike Hixson, Roy Peters, Robert Jeffries, Jarod Rhodes, Noah Icenhour and Bruce Hatcher. After hearing these exceptional lessons one could not help come away more determined to live a life anchored in faith.

We congratulate Billy and Connie Sasser, former members here at Getwell, who celebrated 50 years of marital bliss. To know Billy and Connie is to love and respect them. I spoke to Billy about his family and the size thereof. He responded he took seriously the command to be fruitful and multiply. Connie and he have 2 daughters, 10 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren, with another one on the way. Apparently, they are like Abraham's descendants like the stars in the skies. In today's culture it is refreshing to see a marriage that has lasted 50 years. On a side note their ceremony was performed by the preacher then, Alan E. Highers. Billy and Connie have set the bar high in their devotion to one another and their service and devotion to the Lord. They currently worship at Olive Branch Church of Christ. They are very involved in the work there. Billy serves as an elder and song leader.

Allow me one anecdote concerning the Sasser family. When I was growing up there were Perkins and Sasses aplenty. One Sunday afternoon when we were having a singing, various men took turns leading singing. At one point, three Sasser men, one at a time, stood up to lead a song. Gorman, the father, Billy and Bobby. That is my memory worth remembering.

Congrats! Billy and Connie.

Ron Wallace

The Sin of Complaining

Bradley Smith

“Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world” (Phi. 2:14-15). In these verses, we see a command. This is not a suggestion. Paul, by inspiration, is not saying, “If it is convenient for you, do all things without murmurings and disputings...” The command to do all things without complaining is not one that can be dismissed with time. Just like all the commands given in the New Testament, we are bound to this (Heb. 9:15-17)!

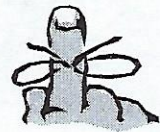
We live in a culture of criticism. People complain and criticize others based on how fast one is driving, how quickly the waiter brings the food, the price of products, the picture of the television, if the referee made the right call, etc. We could list literally millions of things about which people are criticized in today’s society. What is the problem with complaining? After all, it is such a big part of the culture.

Complaining about others shows a lack of forbearance and love. Ephesians 4:2 tells us that we are to forbear one another in love. When someone does something with which I do not agree, is my first reaction to get angry with that person and complain to them or others, or is my reaction to be understanding with that person? Remember that love suffers long and is kind (1 Cor. 13:4).

Complaining about my circumstances displays a lack of love and gratitude toward God. How often have we heard a conversation like this: “I hear you got a raise?” “Yes, but it is still not enough to pay my bills.” Or: “I hear you are doing better!” “Yes, but my back still hurts, I cannot sleep, I am always going to doctor’s appointments.” Should we not be grateful to God for the blessings which He richly gives each day (James 1:17)?

When we complain about these small things, we find ourselves in the same position as the children of Israel (Deu. 1:26-27). Instead of complaining about these things, why not pray about them (Phi. 4:6)? If the issue seems to insignificant to take to God in prayer, why then do we spend so much time complaining about it? Let us always remember to be thankful for all the blessings that God gives.

RON'S REMINDERS



The Despair of Atheism Part 1

Atheism contends that our Universe is a cosmetic accident and humanity is a biological blip on the screen that will eventually be eradicated in a void of nothingness. This incorrect view of life implies that human life has no objective purpose and that what humans do throughout the course of their brief lives is ultimately meaningless. Such view of humanity is not only incorrect, but it offers nothing but despair and a tragic apathy to life. Christianity, on the other hand, accounts for humanity's innate desire and hunger for purpose and meaning, while at the same time offering hope and the realization that our lives really do matter.

An implication is an idea that follows logically from a set of facts which are plainly stated. The concept of an implication is clearly seen in math. Take the Pythagorean Theorem, which says that for a right triangle the sum of the two shorter sides squared equals the longest side (the hypotenuse) squared— $A^2 + B^2 = C^2$. So, if one short side is 3 and the other is 4, then we can know exactly what the longest side is, even though it is not stated or written down—it is 5. An implication is not less of a fact than what is stated or “seen.” It is just as factual, only not stated. Another clear example of an implication is seen in the famous syllogism: All men are mortal. Socrates is a man. Knowing those two explicit facts, what else can be known? If a person is thinking logically and correctly, then he or she can know a third piece of information that is included in the premises but not written down: therefore, Socrates is mortal.

All beliefs have implications. They may be difficult to uncover and piece together, but they are there and follow inescapably. If a person is rational and honest, there is no denying an implication. In light of that fact, what implications follow from the belief that there is no God? Many of these implications have been fleshed out in other places.¹ This article will deal with only one: The concept of atheism implies that human life does not have any objective

meaning. If atheism is true, then human life is meaningless.

At first glance, it may seem that the burden is to prove that atheism implies meaningless. That is not the case, since that task has already been done eloquently by many of those in the atheistic community. Leading atheists do not deny that their belief implies meaninglessness. On the contrary, they openly admit the implication, and spend the bulk of their discussions trying to incorporate the implication of meaninglessness into a “fulfilled” human life. Thus, instead of proving the implication, we will simply cite several unbelievers who have done so, and then proceed to show that it is impossible to live a fulfilled human life without the concept of objective meaning. Humans have been **designed** to understand that life has real meaning and purpose. When these concepts are denied, those who take time to consider the loss recognize that something is amiss. Humans intuitively know their lives have purpose. To deny that truth forces them into a state of cognitive dissonance of the worst kind. The only conceivable outcome of knowing that humans should (and do) have an objective purpose in their lives, while denying the fact, is a state of despair.

Kyle Butt, M.Div.
Apologetics Press