

Good News

From Getwell

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ON THE HOME FRONT

One of the works Getwell engages in is our Bible correspondence courses that we offer through mail. Raymond McCoy coordinates our Bible correspondence courses. He has 300 active and inactive students. Among his duties he grades the courses and oversees the mailing of the courses. When the pupil finishes the course he may steer the student to a nearby congregation possible to be baptized or he may alert the nearby congregation of their interest in the Church or further Bible study. Getwell offers three different courses which Raymond oversees. Raymond has students in several different states and various countries. Only eternity will tell how much good has been accomplished by Raymond. Raymond has been involved in this work since 1988, twenty years at Getwell and eleven years at Gragg Avenue.

Again this year we are participating in the gift drive for the Potter Children's Home. A group of twelve children sent us their Christmas wants and the congregation tries to fill those wants. If you missed the sign up try to sign up later. In advance thank you for your generosity.

Colin Kaepernick has it all wrong concerning his disrespectful action and attitude toward our nation's flag. Wil Carter is the six year old grandson of Annaree and Scott Carter. Annaree grew up at Getwell and they are faithful members at Germantown. Wil loves baseball and anytime he visits his grandparents he plays pitch with them. But this is where Wil had it over Mr. Kaepernick; Wil speaks to his "Alexa" device saying play the national anthem. As the music begins Wil stands erect and places his hand over his heart. When it is over he plays pitch. It is amazing what we can learn from children.

Ron Wallace

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

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Alan E. Highers, Editor

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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.

Keeping the “Main Thing” the “Main Thing”

Bradley Smith

Over the past few years, I have often heard this quote, “The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.” While this is a witty saying, the point is that the top priority is to keep the major issues of most importance. We may talk about those who “miss the point” of a statement. Is it wrong to discuss trivial matters? Consider the following Biblical passages:

“But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes”
(2 Tim. 2:23).

“He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings”
(1 Tim. 6:4).

“Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting of the hearers”
(2 Tim. 2:14).

“But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable vain”
(Titus 3:9).

“Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do”
(1 Tim. 1:4).

If these Bible passages should tell you anything, it is that some things just do not matter. One of my instructors at the Memphis School of Preaching once told us about a time that he had to get between two students who were having a fist fight. The reason for that fight? They were arguing over the date of the book of Revelation. Do you see the foolishness that some of these questions cause? We should absolutely earnestly contend for the faith (Jude 3), but we need to make the distinction between what is “the faith” (the Gospel system) and what is opinion. We need to come to terms with the fact that some questions just do not matter. Questions like “Did Jephthah actually sacrifice his daughter?” or “Was Satan ever in Heaven?” or “Did Adam and Eve have belly buttons?” simply do not matter. We must always be mindful to not be hung up on foolish and unlearned questions (2 Tim. 2:23) that are “to no profit” (2 Tim. 2:14) and make sure that we are living our lives in accordance with the word of God.

This is a continuation of last week's article of the first Spiritual Sword by Thomas B. Warren. This issue would be Volume 1 Number 1 dated October, 1969.

OUR AIM (Conti.)

The preaching brother quoted above would have us to reject the word of God, the Bible, as the means by which loyalty to Christ is to be determined. He reasoned that since all "segments" claim to follow the Bible and yet all have arrived at different answers on some matters, then the Bible should not be regarded as the criterion of loyalty! This is a basic argumentative tool of skepticism: since many claim to be right, either no one *can* be right, or else there is no way of finding out who is right. If this view is true, then men should become agnostics. But, of course, the view is false.

In spite of such skeptical contentions, the Bible *is* the criterion of loyalty to Christ. It is *not* the criterion of loyalty to a mere *party*! The fact that men differ as to what the Bible teaches does not detract one particle from the fact that weighing one's views and practices in the light of Bible teaching is the *only* way one can know he is loyal to Christ.

No doubt the denial of this fact by some brethren is leading them to argue that truth is relative, that instead of recognizing the problem of truth and error to be one of "white" (truth) and "black" (error), it is one of "gray" (neither truth nor error). This kind of thinking has led some to look with approval (at least with no disapproval) upon the teachings and practices of denominationalists and also factionists and false teachers within the church.

Those who love the Lord and His truth will not stand idly by while such error is being taught. Rather, they will stand up for truth and will fight the error as they are taught in the Scriptures (Jude 3, I Peter 3:15, Philippians 1:16). Faithful soldiers of Christ will "contend earnestly" for *the* faith. *Truth*, and *only* truth, can make us free (John 8:32). Believing and obeying false doctrine, a lie, will damn our souls (II Thessalonians 2:10-12). The curse of God will rest upon those who preach or who follow a perverted gospel (Galatians 1:6-9).

The fact that men differ as to what the Bible teaches does not alter the fact that the Bible does definitely teach some things, that the Bible does not contradict itself, and that one must obey Bible teaching in order to be saved.

This journal is launched both in determined opposition to skepticism, liberalism and relativism and in strong affirmation that the Bible is the infallibly inspired word of God and that men *can* learn and obey the truth. [In order to arrive at truth, there are a number of qualifications which must be possessed by the seeker: (1) he must love the truth (II Thessalonians 2:10-12); (2) he must be willing to search for the truth in a diligent fashion (II Timothy 2:15); (3) he must be willing to search out all that the Bible teaches on a given subject (Cf.: Matthew 4); and (4) he must use honesty and wisdom in the use of sound principles of reasoning in order to draw the right conclusions.] According to our present plans, each issue of this journal for some time will be devoted to upholding God's truth as over against "liberalism" and skepticism. If you regard these plans as worthy, we solicit your help in getting this magazine into the hands of more and more people with each published issue.