

GOOD NEWS

From Getwell

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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.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

We rejoice as Alice Milby was baptized into Christ this past Wednesday night. We have known Alice for a while and are proud of her decision. Let's be sure to encourage her as she begins her new life in Christ.

We made mention on Sunday about our pantry. Please check the back page of this bulletin for our needed pantry items for the week. We have already had a few people bring some food for the pantry, and we thank them for that. While it was not mentioned on Sunday, we also need some basic toiletry items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, etc. This is a great tool for us to use and it is an avenue by which we can gain Bible studies with individuals.

This past Saturday marked three months from the start of the Spiritual Sword lectureship. I hope that all of you are as excited as I am. We have a program of many great speakers from all over the brotherhood coming to speak to us about different aspects of evangelism. Let's not just talk about bringing them in, let's actually go out and have Bible studies with individuals. We cannot expect anyone to obey the Gospel if we do not tell them what they must do.

Bradley Smith

From The Desk Of Bradley Smith

Here are a few Spiritual Sword letters I would like to share with you that show the lives it touches:

Greetings,

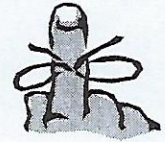
My name is Shane Sweeten. I'm sure you've had a request like this before but I desire to send it to you again.

I live in South Africa, am a missionary, and have some influence in a few local brotherhood institutions in the country. I've enjoyed and been blessed by growing up with the Spiritual Sword Journal all my life. However, I have yet seen any digital copies (pdf or otherwise). It's too expensive and simply impractical to supply hard copies of Spiritual Sword to as many brethren as could and would use them in South Africa. There is a wealth of knowledge the journal has. I know that there was a CD with many volumes on it.

Preaching schools in South Africa would directly benefit! Thus, thousands of members of the church would be influenced by such great materials.

God Bless,
Shane

RON'S REMINDERS



The following will be a 4 part article written by Eric Lyons from Reason & Revelation June 2020
The Four Most Important Questions You Will Ever Ask

QUESTION #1 – WHY AM I HERE?

Do you know why you are here? This question is not about what you are doing at this very moment, or what you hope to do next month or next year. Rather, behind it all, underneath everything, at your very core, what is your "Why?" Why do you exist? What is your purpose in life?

Some contend that humanity has no real purpose. One of the world's most celebrated atheistic, evolutionary writers of the late 20th and early 21st centuries, Richard Dawkins, has argued: "The Universe that we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom...no purpose...nothing but pitiless indifference."² Graham Lawton, Executive Editor of *New Scientist* magazine, penned a one-page article in 2016 titled, "What is the Meaning of Life?" What answer did this leading atheistic evolutionist give? Here was his heavy-hitting first line: "The harsh answer is 'it has none.'"⁶ "Your life may feel like a big deal to you," he wrote, "but it's actually a random blip of matter and energy in an uncaring and impersonal universe."⁷ Since we supposedly "will never get objective data on the matter," we are unable "to capture a 'true' or 'higher' meaning" to life.⁸

Logically speaking, if there is no God and this natural realm is all there is, then Lawton and Dawkins are exactly right: there is no true, higher, objective purpose in life. We might "feel like" there is, but if we are just "dust in the wind" (as the band Kansas sang in the 1970s), then our lives really are as meaningless as "a random blip of matter."

Yet, despite the innate vacuousness of naturalism, most people still seek to find purpose and meaning on an experiential level (though still purely subjective). If our lives do not naturally have meaning, then we'll just keep searching for it anyway, or we'll make it up as we go along. And so, we tend to look for purpose in pleasures, in power, in education, in employment, in riches, in rest, in conservation, or in trying to escape death. Yet still, a real, life-anchoring meaning, which brings hope, joy, and endurance even in the darkest of times, escapes us – just as it did one of the wisest and wealthiest men ever to live.

In the book of Ecclesiastes (one of the more unusual books of the Bible), King Solomon² exclaimed:

- "I have attained greatness, and have gained more wisdom than all who were before me in Jerusalem. My heart has understood great wisdom and knowledge" (1:16; cf. 1 Kings 3:9-13).
- "I made my works great.... [M]y heart rejoiced in all my labor" (2:4,10).
- "I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings.... I had greater possessions of herds and flocks than all who were before me in Jerusalem" (2:8,7).

- "I became great and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem" (2:9).
- "I said in my heart, 'Come now, I will test you with mirth; therefore enjoy pleasure.... I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine...and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven all the days of their lives.... Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them, I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure" (2:1,3,10).

If anyone could say, "I've tried it all," it was Solomon.

- Abundant knowledge and wisdom?
- Extensive labor?
- Great riches?
- Unparalleled power and prestige?
- Extravagant fleshly pleasures, including 700 wives and 300 concubines (1 Kings 11:3)?

Yet, even though he "had everything" and "experienced it all," Solomon repeatedly stressed the meaninglessness of life "under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9). From a purely naturalistic, earthly perspective, "all is vanity and grasping for the wind" (1:14).

- "[I]n much wisdom is much grief, and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow" (1:18).
- "[T]here is no end to all his labors.... [H]is work [is] burdensome; even in the night his heart takes no rest" (4:8; 2:23). Solomon wrote: "I hated life because the work that was done under the sun was distressing to me, for all is vanity and grasping for the wind. Then I hated all my labor in which I had toiled under the sun, because I must leave it to the man who will come after me. And who knows whether he will be wise or a fool?" (2:17-19).
- "He who loves silver will not be satisfied with silver; nor he who loves abundance with increase. This also is vanity" (5:10).
- A man may be so powerful that it could be said, "there was no end of all the people over whom he was made king." But even then, "those who come afterward will not rejoice in him. Surely this also is vanity and grasping for the wind" (4:16).

The cold, hard truth is: all naturalistic pursuits for ultimate meaning and satisfaction are futile. On both a logical and experiential level, the material realm is incapable of providing "objective data on the matter."¹⁰ So, where do we find the answer to the meaning of life? Why am I here?