

Good News

From Getwell

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The Spiritual Sword Lectureship

Radio Program

The Truth in Love

WHBQ-AM 560 / FM 98.5

Sundays, 8:00 a.m.

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 want to keep all the folks in the Ukraine in our prayers. As reported last week Mark Posey, a missionary from the United States, has safely returned home to Birmingham, Alabama. We have additional brothers and sisters in Christ in harm's way in the Ukraine. We send the Spiritual Sword to two individuals in the Ukraine. Since 1997 brother Alexander Zota has received The Spiritual Sword journal. Brother Doug Berry has received The Spiritual Sword journal since 2005. Please keep these brethren and the church there in your daily prayers.

As you know we are in the midst of a preacher search. We, the elders, solicit your prayers as we continue the search. We are looking for a man who loves God and has a heart for lost souls.

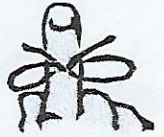
In connection with this search we appreciate the help and encouragement Alan Highers and Mike Hixson have extended. As I have attempted to fill the pulpit, brother Highers and brother Hixson have supplied to me sermon outlines and sermon material. I also want to thank the congregation, who have encouraged me in my preaching.

This past Lord's day in the Bible class we studied the book of Judges which in preparation I found very encouraging. The morning sermon covered blessings we enjoy in "In Christ" and they are without number. The evening sermon was drawn from Matt. 27:22 where Pilate asks the mob what they wanted him to do with Jesus Christ. The point of my lesson was to explore this same question that people have been asking throughout the ages and various responses to that question.

Thank you for taking time to read the "Home Front", Until next week.

Ron Wallace

RON'S REMINDERS



Heaven Is Not Much Like Our Town

We live in a nice section of the country. It is a great place to bring up children. It is a nice place to retire. People are friendly and the streets are safe. The economy is good.

Still, upon reflection, I think we would all agree that it is not much like heaven.

Our Town Has a Cemetery, but Heaven Does Not. There are no hillsides dotted with the markers of loved ones "across Jordan." You will not find silent cities of the dead in heaven, for no one ever dies there. John wrote, "There shall be no more death" (Revelation 21:4).

Our Town Has a Hospital, but Heaven Does Not. This time of year, hospitals are filled with the sick, but there will be not a single patient in heaven, for there are no sicknesses, diseases, or injuries there. Sickness and death came into the world because of sin, and all those ill effects are reversed in heaven. John said, "The former things have passed away" (Revelation 21:4).

Our Town Has a Jail, but Heaven Does Not. We live in a wicked society. Every night the news tells us about those who were robbed, raped, assaulted, extorted, beaten, or killed the day before. We rush to fasten our windows, bolt our doors, and secure our homes.

Did you know that there will be no bad news in heaven? The doors on those mansions have no dead bolts, the windows have no locks, and there are no burglar alarms. "There shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life" (Revelation 21:27).

Our Town Has a Nursing Home, but Heaven Does Not. We daily see the aging process in our loved ones and ourselves. Skin wrinkles, vision dims, strength fails, hearing goes, and energy wanes (Ecclesiastes 12:3-7). But in that land, there are no retirement homes and no nursing facilities. In heaven we will receive new, incorruptible bodies (2 Corinthians 5:1-6).

Our Town Has a Funeral Home, but Heaven Does Not. Hardly a week goes by without some sadness mixed with our blessings.

We face heartaches and sometimes heartbreaks far more frequently than would be our choice. We find ourselves visiting funeral homes to bid farewell to our loved ones.

But the Bible says, "God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying" (Revelation 21:4).

Our Town Has a Drug Store, but Heaven Does Not. Here we must deal with headaches, arthritis, and a million other pains. There are no drug stores in heaven. John wrote, "There shall be no more pain" (Revelation 21:4).

Our Town Has Security Lights, but Heaven Does Not. Most businesses and homeowners pay additional fees for streetlamps, but in heaven the glory of God illuminates it. "The Lamb is its light" (Revelation 21:23). "There shall be no night there" (Revelation 21:25), so there will be no streetlamps, no night-lights, no candles, no flashlights.

Our Town Has Bars, Adult Stores, Nightclubs, and Casinos, but Heaven Does Not. There are many places of temptation in our community. The devil and his workers have been busy (1 Peter 5:8), and their influence is seen all around. Oh, how we sometimes wish we could lay our armor aside and just rest from the constant battle of faith! (Ephesians 6:13-18).

That day is coming. In the land where we have staked a claim, the devil has no passport. In fact, he will have been cast down into the lake of fire by then (Revelation 20:10). His helpers, too, whom John personifies as the beast and the false prophet, will be cast into that lake (19:20). There are no porn shops, beer stores, or casinos in heaven (cf. Proverbs 20:1; Matthew 5:28).

Don't you want to go to such a place? Have you made your reservations by being washed in Jesus' blood? His requirements for salvation are found in His gospel, including the following: learning about Him (John 6:44-45); believing in Him as God's Son (John 8:24); repenting of all sins for Him (Luke 13:3); confessing faith in His deity (Romans 10:9-10); and being baptized into Him (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16). He then requires that we live faithfully unto death (Revelation 2:10).

One day His followers will be ushered into a place that is not really much like our town!