

# 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  
 Daniel P. Phillips  
 Ron Wallace

**MINISTERS**

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

Publishers of  
**THE SPIRITUAL SWORD**  
 Alan E. Highers, Editor

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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

I received a reminder recently concerning the Ultimate Youth Rally at the Germantown Church of Christ May 27-29. This event is an annual event with a guest speaker, great singing and games on Saturday. This rally is a well-planned event and worthwhile for any young person you may know to attend. Be sure and mark it on your calendar.

Let me encourage you to start reading and studying the currently issue of the Spiritual Sword, "Bible Baptism-A study Guide" The editorial started the issue off to a great start "The Importance of Bible Baptism" This issue is well worth the read.

Again, this past Lord's day we were blessed to have Michael Wyatt speak to us during our Bible study and our morning and evening worship services. The morning service looked at Jephthah, the judge who is also mentioned in the hall of faith in Hebrews 11. Brother Wyatt cleared up the misconception that Jephthah sacrificed his daughter to God. The pagans of that era sacrificed their children to their false gods. Brother Wyatt rightly pointed out that the Lord hateth human sacrifice, Deut.12:31. So Jephthah being a man of God would not have sacrificed his daughter and God would not have condoned the sacrifice but Jephthah did dedicate his daughter to the Lord thus honoring his vow to God and his daughter who is nameless, honored the vow. In my opinion the daughter is the true heroine of the story.

Last but not least in the evening services, Michael Wyatt had Four Encouraging Facts.

1. There Is A God In Heaven - Daniel 2:28
2. The Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men - Daniel 4:17
3. The Lord thy God is a merciful God. - Duet. 4:31
4. God will never leave nor forsake His children - Hebrews 3:5

Ron Wallace

# RON'S REMINDERS



## Is It Time To Update?

Times change. The new quickly becomes old, today's technological breakthrough becomes yesterday's news, the popular is lost in the latest fad, and the up-to-date is soon out-of-date.

Truth never changes. It reads the same today as it did yesterday, and as it will tomorrow. It is "once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 1:3). Those who would change it are accursed (Galatians 1:6-9), and find that it will meet them in judgement unchanged (Revelation 20:12).

Secular man thinks he has outgrown the ancient gospel. The idea that there is an absolute standard is to him obsolete. The concepts of sin and spiritual death are replaced by "if it feels good, do it," and "live for today." He doubts that blood is needed for forgiveness and scoffs at the virgin birth, sinless life, sacrificial death, and miraculous resurrection of Christ. He thinks these are but myths of a bygone era.

**When will man outgrow the gospel? When He overcomes sin.** The only way man could have outgrown the gospel is to have conquered sin. He has not. Listen to today's news reports. Look around at what people are saying and doing. Sin is still in business. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23) was true in Paul's day and is true today. Sin is still the transgression of God's law (1 John 3:4), which can include violating one's conscience (Romans 14:23), omitting a duty (James 4:17), and, generally, "all unrighteousness" (1 John 5:17). Peter, for instance, names five germs that disease the soul (1 Peter 2:1):

- **Malice** – bitterness toward someone; concealed anger in the heart; to desire harm to come to a person.
- **Deceit** – to catch as a fish with bait. Craftiness; deceit; trickery.
- **Hypocrisy** – to put on a mask and act out a part. One's face and heart do not send the same message.
- **Envy** – to be jealous of what others have and to wish they did not have it; unhappy for good to come to someone else.
- **Evil Speaking** – Slander; unkind words about someone.<sup>1</sup>

Do you recognize any of these from your workplace, marketplace, community, Hollywood, or corporate America?

Since God is the one who determines what is sin, what is sinful will not change. Men may change what they consider sin or what they call it, but it will not alter what it really is. Forgiveness is still the most basic spiritual need that man has (Romans 3:23; 6:23). The only way one can be forgiven is through the gospel (Romans 1:16).

**When Man Conquers Temptation.** The gospel provides power to overcome temptation (Ephesians 6:17), and man still needs its power. Humans have not conquered the desires of the flesh – far from it! We are prone to give in to the lusts of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (1 John 2:15-17). We will never overcome temptation without the word (Hebrews 4:12)

**When Man's Soul No Longer Needs Food.** The American Medical Association says in an average lifetime a person will eat the following amounts of food:

- 50 head of cattle
- 2,400 chickens
- 310 pigs
- 26 acres of grain, and
- 50 acres of fruit and vegetables.

None of these will appease one craving of the soul. The soul feeds only on the Word of God. The gospel fills those who "hunger and thirst for righteousness" (Matthew 5:6). Peter said, "As newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious" (1 Peter 2:2-3). ("Sincere" or "pure" means "unadulterated, nothing added.") The Bible is often compared to food:

- Water (Revelation 21:6)
- Honey (Psalm 119:103)
- Milk (Hebrews 5:12-14)

As food, it has the power to nurture, sustain, and create growth. It is rich in nutrients!

How often do we feed our stomachs compared to how often we feed our souls? If we feasted on food only as often as we feasted on the Word of God, would we survive physically? (cf. Matthew 4:4; Psalm 119:165; Jeremiah 15:16).

Someone pointed out that birds can go nine days without food, dogs 20, turtles 500, snakes 800, and fish 1,000. A person can survive 60 or more without food, but most would be somewhat incapacitated going even a whole day without nourishment. Yet some do not read God's Word, except maybe Sundays. No wonder we are weak spiritually. We need to take nourishment from the Word every day (Acts 17:11).

If one could invent a substitute food for the soul, he would not need the gospel, but he has not and will not.

**When Man No Longer Needs a Map to Heaven.** Men have sought to invent their own ways to heaven, but these maps will only get one lost. The wise king observed, "Truly, this only have I found; that God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes" (Ecclesiastes 7:29). Jesus spoke against this practice in His day: "For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men—as the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do.' He said unto them, 'All too well you reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition'" (Mark 7:8-9).

If we follow the road of "faith only," the avenue of "merit and self-righteousness," the lane of "direct operation of the Spirit," or the path of "once saved always saved," we miss the narrow road that leads to life (Matthew 7:13-14).

**When Satan Is Defeated.** The devil is still like "a roaring lion," walking about "seeking whom he may devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Man is still in danger; therefore, he needs God's protection. If men were able to defeat Satan without spiritual weapons, then they would no longer need the truth, but they cannot (Ephesians 6:13-17). No one is strong enough to conquer one's temptations without an "it is written" — not even Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11).

"The word of the Lord endures forever" (1 Peter 1:25). Only the true gospel of Christ leads to heaven (John 14:6). We can choose to heed it or harass it, to read it or reject it, to respect it or ridicule it. This same ancient gospel is our only hope of a ticket through the pearly gates.

*"Ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls."*

JEREMIAH 6:16