

Good News

From Getwell

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Home of
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

God is truly being good to Getwell. Since baseball season is around the corner, I will use a baseball analogy regarding brother Wyatt's lessons the last two Sundays. He has hit the ball out of the park from God's Word. On February 26, brother Wyatt spoke of the pivotal command to love God, to give God our best and to love God with all our mind. On March 5, brother Wyatt looked at the church at Ephesus described in Revelation. We are to be on guard that we do not become lukewarm. In Bible class we have been studying the book of Amos. This book is a fascinating short book which is so full of God's wisdom.

Recently our numbers have been up with several visitors present. In addition to the excellent lessons we have an excellent song service very ably led by Dewey Murray and Pat Phillips. Stanley Wallace does a great job in making announcements and making all feel welcome. Charlie Shappley works behind the scenes coordinating the video and sound support for our worship service.

We had two visitors from Cabot, Arkansas. They were in Memphis for a soccer tournament and looking for a congregation to worship with and came across our church website. Getwell has two websites; one associated with the church directly and another website associated with the Spiritual Sword. These sites are expertly maintained by Teresa Searcy who uses her many "IT" talents for the Lord's work. Thank-you, Teresa.

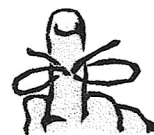
The Spiritual Sword continues to prosper with Alan E. Highers, editor; Reed Thomas Spiritual Sword liaison; Karen Wallace, Spiritual Sword secretary; Anita Shepherd, Spiritual Sword secretary; Annette Prater, church secretary. As I pen this today another congregation in Arkansas has chosen to receive a bundle of 25 copies every quarter at their congregation.

The most recent issue of the Spiritual Sword has just come out "Understanding The Restoration Plea?" On a personal note, my mother, Frances Wallace, a former church secretary, when the lectureship started is now in assisted living. My brother Stanley goes by and reads the Spiritual Sword to her.

Until next week!

Ron Wallace

RON'S REMINDERS



Your House is on Fire!

We shudder to think that one day a frantic call may come for us: "Your house is on fire!" What would go through our minds? What immediate action would we take? Perhaps a better question is, "What preventive steps have we already taken?"

One day every house on earth is going to burn. No one can mark that day on a calendar, but it will be the world's last day (cf. Matthew 24:36). It is as sure as the reputation of the eternal God:

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up (2 Peter 3:10).

Considering this, we should ask ourselves four important questions.

AM I INSURED?

One of the first questions asked when a house burns is, "Were they insured?" We want to know that the people will have some "starting over" money to restock and rebuild. It lessens today's pain to know that there is hope for tomorrow.

As important as a homeowners policy is, we should be more concerned with spiritual "fire insurance." The "uninsured" will face Christ's wrath when He comes "in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thessalonians 1:8). Christians will not be hurt by the fire, for they have "fire insurance."

The rich man did not have it and lifted his eyes in tormenting, flaming fire (Luke 16:19-31). The Bible refers to hell as a lake of fire >> (Revelation 20:14), a furnace of fire (Matthew 13:42), and a baptism of fire (Matthew 3:11). Jesus referred to it as an unquenchable fire five times in three sentences (Mark 9:43-48). He said, in a fearful thought, "For every one shall be salted with fire" (Mark 9:49).

Jesus said no cost is too great to obtain this insurance: "If thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched" (Mark 9:43). He is not speaking of literally mutilating the body, which would be sinful (1 Corinthians 6:19-20); He is speaking in exaggerated terms to impress the skeptical of the seriousness of avoiding hell.

DO I HAVE SOMEWHERE ELSE TO LIVE?

An immediate concern for families left homeless is, "Where will we live?" Family members or friends usually take them in. Lacking that, a church or the government will provide temporary shelter.

When the earth burns, where will we live? Jesus has promised His people a place to live – and it won't be a temporary apartment! He said,

In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also (John 14:2-3).

Paul was confident of his future abode (2 Corinthians 5:1).

Have you made reservations for a place to live after this life? (1 Peter 1:4; cf. Matthew 7:13-14, 21-23). If not, the devil is reserving you a place in his "guest house" (2 Peter 2:4, 9, 17; 3:7; Jude 6, 13). It's not an ideal place—the thermostat is stuck on high, there's no water to drink, the neighbors are rotten, and you can never leave. Why not have your name written on heaven's roll now by obeying the gospel? (cf. Philippians 4:3; Revelation 20:12; Acts 2:38).

WILL I LOSE EVERYTHING?

We generally ask those who are burned out, "Did you lose everything?" When this earth burns, many will lose everything for which they have worked and lived. The rich farmer did. He had built bigger barns in which to store his bigger harvest, but he had sent nothing ahead to where he was moving. He was not "rich toward God" (Luke 12:16-21). God asked him a sobering question: "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?" (Luke 12:20). What good did big barns do him when he no longer had access to them?

We need lose nothing of consequence in our eventual "house fire," for we can put everything valuable in a safe place. We can store our treasures where no thief can get to them, no fire can consume them, no length of time nor harsh elements can deface them, and where we will never have to leave them behind. That storage vault is called heaven (Matthew 6:19-20).

WILL MY FAMILY ESCAPE?

Losing possessions is serious, but that loss is insignificant compared to losing loved ones. Our hearts are torn up and poured out to those who have lost beloved children, parents, or spouses in fires. But what about when the fire that destroys the world is finished? Will our families survive?

Someone said, "You cannot go to heaven alone, and you will not go to hell alone." We are influencing others, and usually it is those whom we love the most that we influence the most (Matthew 5:14-16). Whether our spouses and children go to heaven depends largely upon our influence.

Many would spare no cost or effort to save a family member from a burning building, but these same people make only weak and halfhearted efforts to save their souls from eternal destruction. Each of us must ask, "Am I doing all I can to take my family to heaven?" There may come a time when there is nothing else we can do, but have we reached that point yet? Is there another invitation we can extend, another heart-to-heart talk we can have, another Bible study we can conduct, another tract we can give, another visit we can make, another phone call we can take time for, or another prayer we can offer?

Your house is not on fire—yet. Will you be ready when the earth is destroyed by fire?

When the earth burns where will we live!