

<i>In search of</i> <h1 style="display: inline;">Truth and Right</h1> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Tim Henderson, Editor</i></p>		
Vol. 02 No. 06 09/09/ 2007	<p><i>"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things."</i> Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)</p>	<p>A publication of the Wellsburg church of Christ</p>

There are no Barbers!

By: Edwin L. Crozier

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A man visited his barber. As always, they struck up a conversation. As they talked, the discussion turned to religious matters.

The barber finally said, "I just don't believe in all that God nonsense. I'll prove it to you. Look outside. If God were really out there, would there be so many broken homes and abandoned children? If God were really out there, would there be so many people starving? If God were really out there, would there be so many people in pain and suffering? Nope. I say God doesn't exist. If He did, He would do something about all this.

The customer wasn't sure how to respond and sat there quietly. The barber finished and the man walked out. On the sidewalk, he saw a man with ragged long hair. He came back to the barber and said, "Barbers don't exist."

"But here I am to prove it."

"No, barbers don't exist. Look outside. If barbers were really there, would there be people with such long ragged hair?"

The barber replied, "Well, I exist, but not everyone comes to see me. That is why there are people with long, ragged hair."

"Exactly," the Christian responded. "The same is true with God. He exists, but not everyone will come to Him. That is why there is so much sin, suffering and pain."

There was a time when no one suffered any pain. No one got sick. No one hurt. But then a serpent entered the garden and sin entered the world (Genesis 3). Since that time, Satan has continued his influential work. People have turned their backs on God, have committed sin and we have a world of suffering because of it.

Does suffering mean our God doesn't exist? Or does it merely mean everyone hasn't turned to the loving God.

TIMES OF SERVICES	
SUNDAY	
Bible Classes*	10:00 AM
AM Worship	10:45 AM
PM Worship	6:30 PM
WEDNESDAY	
Bible Classes*	7:00 PM
(* Bible Classes for All Ages)	
<p>This Bulletin is published by the:</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Wellsburg</h2> <h2 style="margin: 0;">church of Christ</h2> <p>which meets at:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">112 Sunset Ave. Wellsburg, WV 26070</p>	

Sadly, because our world is so governed by sin, even when a few of us do turn to God, we still suffer. Sometimes we suffer because we turned to God (2 Timothy 3:12). However, a time is coming when those who turned to God and still suffered will suffer no longer.

In that time, we will learn that all the suffering was worth it because the glory that will be revealed to us and through us will be worth it all (Romans 8:18). We will see God and we will be with Him for eternity. There we will be able to rejoice with exultation and glorify our God for eternity without fear of suffering.

But to ever enjoy that comfort, that peace, that joy, we have to turn to God. Have you turned to Him? (Hebrews 11:6).

How Well Do We Know Each Other?

By: Gilbert Alexander

Many people in local churches know little or nothing about one another. They don't know each other's physical state, spiritual condition, or convictions about spiritual things. Too many have walled themselves in and their brethren out, a situation common to our times. Sixty years ago, people would go to neighbor's house and visit for several hours. They talked about the weather, politics, how each was getting along, and religious matters. They knew whether their neighbors went to church services, where they went if they were "church - goers", and what they believed about all sorts of Bible matters. They didn't always visit all of their brethren; however, they had much more than a passing acquaintance with a number of them. They were not afraid to talk to each other about spiritual things.

We need a return to openness of questioning and dialogue. These things are necessary to our becoming truly acquainted with one another. Surely this is Biblical behavior. Paul informed his readers about faithful saints and their work, and about unfaithful ones who had given up their sanctification (Romans 16; 2 Timothy 2:17,18; 4:14). He wanted the brethren to know how he was faring, and he wanted to know how the brethren in various places were faring (Ephesians 6:21,22; Philippians 1: 27). He sent Tychicus to Colosse to inform them of all the news about him, and that Tychicus might learn of their circumstances and comfort them (Colossians 4:6-8). Paul exhorted the saints to know their elders (1 Thessalonians 5:12). This meant more than just knowing their names; for they were told to esteem the elders highly in love for their work's sake (vs. 13). It was for the safety of the saints that Paul wanted to know how they were faring, and also that his own mind might be set at ease by the assurance of their faithfulness (1 Thessalonians 2:17 - 3:10).

Do we know who needs comfort, who needs companionship, who is drifting away from steadfastness, who is sick, even who is absent from worship at times of assembling? How can we fulfill our duty to our one another without knowing these things? How can elders do their work without knowing these things? How can we "warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, and be patient with all" if we are oblivious to each other's condition (1 Thessalonians 5:14,15)? How can we profit from the good examples of saints in other places if we are not told about their work?

Remember what Paul told the Corinthians about the Macedonians and why he had done so (2

Corinthians 8:1-7,24; 9:1-5). Do we know those who teach us as Timothy knew Paul and could, therefore, be assured in faith concerning the things he had been taught (2 Timothy 3:14,15)? Do we know each other as John knew the elect lady and Gaius and rejoiced in their devotion to God and in the fruits of their labors (2 John 1-8; 3 John 1-8)? How well do we know each other?



From the Editor's Desk:

"...Let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..." (Hebrews 12:1-2)

"No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." (Luke 9:62)

The snow covered the ground where three lads were playing. A man came along and said to them, "Would you like to try a race and the winner receive a prize?" The boys agreed, and the man told them that his race was to be different. He said, "I will go to the other side of the field, and when I give you the signal, you will start to run. The one whose footsteps are the straightest in the snow will be the winner."

The race commenced and the first boy kept looking at his feet to see if his steps were straight. The second lad kept looking at his companions to see what they were doing; but the third boy just ran with his eyes steadfastly fixed on the man on the other side of the field. The third lad was the winner, because his footsteps were straight in the snow. He had kept his eyes on the goal ahead of him.

Let us patiently run with our eyes centered on the Lord, the author and finisher of our faith.

News N Notes

- **Keep in mind our Gospel Meeting—October 14-19 with Jarrod Jacobs.**

Please remember these in your prayers:

- **Dorothy Sams**, Linda's mother, was able to go home from Morgantown Friday evening. Her condition is deteriorating rapidly. Due to her failing condition, the Marshals and family are in Parkersburg this weekend.
- **Blake Headen**, Alberta's husband had quadruple bypass surgery Thursday at Wheeling Medical Park. He is doing some better as he recuperates from surgery.
- **Blake Swanson**, Dorothy Lancaster's grandson, is in a private room, 668, in Morgantown, WV. He will hopefully get to go home sometime next week.
- **Terry Smith, Jr.**, as he deals with his cancer treatments.
- **Virginia Malick**, Peggy Miller's mother
- **Amanda Dowdy** in her recovery, **Mabel Fleming** and we must not forget **Joyce Coen** who is taking care of Amanda and Mabel.
- Terry Smith's brother **George** is scheduled for surgery Sept. 7th
- **Ed and Marie Roberts**, Ed with kidney stones and Marie's continued recovery from a broken back, also remember Ed's father, **Jim Roberts**.
- **Ila Marshall**, Harold Marshall's mother
- **Cary and Grace Lancaster**

Nursing Home:

- Hazel Carroll
- Pauline Sellers

Shut-ins:

- Rhea Henthorn
- Ethel Mahan
- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Pauline Midcap