

In
Search
of...

Truth & Right

GENESIS

Tim Henderson, Editor

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"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." Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)

A publication of the
Wellsburg
church of Christ
Which meets at:
112 Sunset Ave.
Wellsburg, WV 26070
304-737-1422

We appreciate so much your presence here with us today. We would like to extend an invitation to join us at any of our other times of worship.

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)

Today's Sermon:

Guest Speaker:
Bill Feist

Audio CD's are available
free of charge in the foyer.

Please visit our website:
www.truthandright.org

If you have any questions regarding
what we teach and practice, please
feel free to ask

We would like you to join us as we
spread the Good News during our ...

Gospel Meeting

May 3-8

with speaker:

Bill Feist

of Altamonte Springs, FL



Sunday	10:00 AM
	10:45 AM
	6:30 PM
Mon.—Fri.	7:30 PM

- ♦ Plain Bible Preaching
- ♦ No Nightly Collections
- ♦ Simple, Biblical Worship

Bring your Bibles and join us as we study from the
Word of God. For More information call
304-737-1422 or visit www.truthandright.org

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Nostalgia: Handle with Care

Gary Henry—May 2, 2009

"Do not say, 'Why were the former days better than these?' For you do not inquire wisely concerning this" - Ecclesiastes 7:10

IT'S HARD TO REACH FORWARD AND BACKWARD AT THE SAME TIME. Yet I fear that's the very thing we often try to do. We say we're reaching forward, but the pull of nostalgia can tug at our hearts so strongly that we catch ourselves trying to make the world like it USED to be rather than the way it OUGHT to be, as if "used to be" and "ought to be" were exactly synonymous. The net effect of our exertions in life is often more backward than forward.

Nostalgia is a wonderful thing, and not many folks love it any more than I do. But nostalgia must be handled with care. If we don't watch out, it can hinder us in our journey toward God. So here are a few tips on enjoying the past in a helpful, healthful way.

(1) WHATEVER GOOD MAY HAVE BEEN DONE PREVIOUSLY, TODAY IS THE ONLY DAY ANY NEW ACTIVITY CAN BE DONE. We can enjoy the past, and we can certainly learn from it. But yesterday's work is already done, and that work won't suffice for today. Thinking about the past (or anything else, for that matter) can't be a substitute for today's action.

(2) WE MUST LEARN TO BE GRATEFUL FOR THE PAST WITHOUT WORSHIPING IT. Having the right attitude toward past, present, and future is a matter of BALANCE. If there are good things about the days gone by, we must love those things neither too little nor too much. Maintaining that balance requires making frequent adjustments.

(3) EVEN IF THE PAST WAS BETTER THAN THE PRESENT IN SOME WAYS, IT IS FRUITLESS TO WONDER WHY. None of us — not even the philosophers — have enough information to answer the question, "Why is the world changing as it is?" The farmer must stick to seed-sowing and not worry too much why the weather's not what it used to be.

When we get to wondering "Why were the former days better than these?" we need to understand that THE PAST WASN'T REALLY AS WONDERFUL AS WE REMEMBER IT. After all, our memories are quite selective, remembering a few pleasant things and forgetting others that weren't so pleasant. So while the good old days may do our hearts good to ponder, they don't serve very well as a goal for the future.

"Through the centuries the people have dreamed of a Golden Age and longed for its return, unconscious that they dream of a day that has never been?"
Guy E. Sjöpler

But What If ... ?

Gary Henry—April 30, 2009

"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it" - Isaiah 55:10-11

"and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:10,11).

THE VERY ESSENCE OF FAITH IS TO "TRUST AND OBEY." If a certain course of action seems wise to us and looks like it might lead to satisfactory results, it doesn't take much faith to follow that course. But when we can't see how a particular thing is going to turn out, or if we have a hunch that it might turn out disastrously, it takes faith to trust the person who formulated the plan and simply carry out the instructions that have been given to us.

We can only imagine what faith it took for Abraham to "trust and obey" when God said to leave his home in Ur (not to mention the things that God later commanded him to do). But faith was indeed the key. "By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, NOT KNOWING WHERE HE WAS GOING" (Hebrews 11:8).

Today, many of us try to be people of faith, but our faith often fails us. What God says can seem so contrary to common sense that we balk at obeying Him. So when someone points out to us, "This is what God says," we tend to respond, "But what if . . . ?"

Even in worldly affairs, however, we shouldn't always decide our course of action pragmatically, based on what we think will "work." Our definition of what will "work" is often flawed, and in any case, we can't see far enough ahead to know what the outcome of any decision will be. So we need to base our decisions ON PROVEN PRINCIPLES RATHER THAN PREDICTIONS OF PARTICULAR OUTCOMES!

In spiritual matters, we can take it for granted that God's way will always work, that is, it will always accomplish the purpose that He had in mind, whether that purpose is clear to us or not: "[My word] shall not return to Me

void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." So the question is not what will happen, but what our principles should be. And that's just what God has given us in the Scriptures: a treasure chest of valid, time-tested, true-north PRINCIPLES.

"If one can be certain that his principles are right, he need not worry about the consequences"
Robert Elliott Speer

Helpful Tips to Have a Successful Gospel Meeting:

Invite others!

Don't leave it for others to do. This is their opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ ... don't be selfish, share it with others.

Be Present At Every Service!

Success begins with you. You will benefit from the Gospel Meeting only if you put forth the effort to be there. Also, what if someone you invited comes and you aren't there? Will that encourage them to come back?

Be Happy to be there!

Don't look at it as a drain of your time. Don't think about what ever else you could be doing. Think about the opportunity you have been presented to spend more time with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Think about the opportunity you have been given to offer up worship and praise to God. Sing, as if Jesus was sitting beside you (in reality He is—
Matthew 18:20)

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Announcements	Tim Henderson
Song Leader	Ken Prager
Scripture	Daniel 4:1-18
Reader	Blake
Prayer	Don Coen, Jr.
Speaker	Bill Feist
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Harold Marshall
Fruit of the Vine	Dave Harless
Serve	Ed Roberts
Serve	Dan Marton
Closing Prayer	Chuck Isinghood

Please inform the one in charge of announcements if you are unable to fulfill your responsibilities.

Sunday PM

Announcements	Tim Henderson
Song Leader	Ed Roberts
Scripture	Daniel 4:19-37
Reader	Harold Marshall
1st Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Speaker	Bill Feist
Communion	Don Coen, Jr.
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

Wednesday

Announcements	Tim Henderson
Class Prayer	Meeting
Song Leader	Meeting
Invitation	Bill Feist
Closing Prayer	Meeting

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Recovering:

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| - Joyce Coen | - Marie Roberts |
| - Vicki Renshaw | - Ann Rudolph |

Prayer Requests:

- Bud and Merl Frey
- Zeda Goddard
- Zeda Goddard's sons, Dallas and Terry, and her daughter Tammy Garrison
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband, as he continues to deal with cancer treatments.
- Cary and Grace Lancaster
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Alfred & Mary Jane Myers
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Nursing Home:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

At Home:

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap

Send them a card—give them a call—let them know we are thinking about them.

If someone needs to be added to this list, please call:
304-914-2262 or 304-914-2263