Volume-03

Issue-51

07/19/2009

"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 Sermons:

AM: Keeping the Church Distinct PM: The Medes & Persians

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

Please visit our website: www.truthandright.org

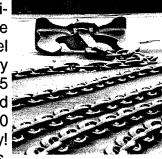
If you have any questions regarding what we teach and practice, please feel free to ask

Hope—Anchor of the Soul Wilson Adams

I am a passionate student of U. S. History and could hardly contain my excitement when I stepped aboard the USS Lexington – the gigantic aircraft carrier docked in Corpus Christi Bay. The Lexington (dubbed the "Gray Ghost" by Tokyo Rose due to premature broadcasts that the giant carrier had been sunk) served our nation well from WWII to Vietnam before being decommissioned.

The Lexington and other naval vessels of times past have given way to a more modern fleet of ships – larger and more

capable of meeting the needs of today's military. The USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, for example, is one of the largest ships in the world – from keel to mast, it is the size of a 22 story building. Her flight deck comprises 4.5 acres; she weighs 95,000 tons, and carries a crew of 6,000 (that's 18,000 meals per day). She is a floating city! The Eisenhower also has two anchors.



In this Issue:

Hope—Anchor of the Soul—pg. 1—Wilson Adams Reason, Faith and the Issues—pg. 2—William E. Wallace

Those Serving & Announcements—pg. 4

Each anchor weight 60,000 pounds, is attached to a chain weighing 665,000 pounds, and each individual link in the chain weigh 365 pounds. Now that's an anchor!

But every vessel, large or small, has an anchor. And why? It is the anchor that keeps the ship where it needs to be. Question: What keeps YOU where you need to be?

The Bible warns time and again about the danger of drifting. "For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it" (Hebrews 2:1). That is why it is essential that we set our anchor firm and deep. "This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast…" (Hebrews 6:19).

Hope – Is there anything that anchors our hearts in days filled with so much despair and despondency? Life is hard and some days it just gets harder. All of which means, without hope you're not going to make it. "I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living" (Psalm 27:13). That's hope! "In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). That's hope! "Whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope" (Romans 15:4). Hope again!

"How do people make it when they are not Christians?" The answer is: they don't. They deny it, fake it, use artificial means to escape it – alcoholism, workaholism, recreational pursuits – anything to keep them busy and fill the void in their lives. The one thing nonbelievers cannot do is face the tragedies of life with calm, quiet, confident hope. Only God's child can do that. ("But I do not want you to be ignorant brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope" 1 Thessalonians 4:13).

"This hope we have..." It is something possessed by Christians. We have been born again to a living hope (1 Peter 1:3) because we have a living Savior. As William Gaither states, "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone; Be-

cause I know He holds the future, And life is worth the living just because He lives.

Someone reading these may be feeling that hope is lost. It isn't. Circumstances may be bleak, but if you will embrace the living Lord, you will find hope. Anchor deep in the hope of Jesus.

- Needmore Bulletin; Haleyville, AL

Reason, Faith and the Issues
William E. Wallace

"Till it be resolved how far we are to be guided by reason, and how far by faith, we shall in vain dispute and endeavor to convince one another in matters of religion." — John Locke

The quotation above is taken from a discussion involving a different realm than that in which I am now interested. I adapt it and apply it however to the matter of walking by faith and the problem of following human reasoning regarding issues confronting the church today.

What is included in the meaning of the phrase "walking by faith"? That our faith is dependent on the hearing of God's word is a principle early grasped by converts, and freely discussed by maturing Christians. Paul said, "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." (Galatians 5:25) This clearly signifies proceeding in line, moving in step with the Spirit of God. "Walk" is quite frequently used metaphorically in the Bible to describe the course of man's conduct. In Jeremiah 6:16 the Lord called for reflection and consideration on the part of his people, demanding that they seek for the old paths and the good way and "walk therein".

In Galatians 2:14 Paul describes his rebuke of Peter and Barnabas, picturing their error as walking "not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel." Some walk disorderly. (2 Thessalonians 3:11) Some walk in darkness. John 1:16) Some walk in wisdom, "circumspectly" (Ephesians 5:15), and some in light. (1 John 1:17.) Perhaps the classic passage on walking by faith is 2 Corinthians 5:17: "For we walk by faith, not by sight." The Christian walks in a truthful, trustful and obedient faith in the Creator. Paul is teaching in the context that "Residence in the body is exile from the true home, for while the believer is in the body, the region, element or atmosphere through which he walks is one in which the heavenly things gazed upon are not seen in their actual substance, but only realized, as far as that is possible, by the spiritual discernment of faith." (Hebrews 11:1)

So a Christian walks, proceeds. He must proceed on course. He must walk by faith. Faith comes by hearing. He who truly believes, has heard the message. A Christian hears the voice of God, he is taught, he walks accordingly. Can we not walk by faith in this 20th century? When we walk by faith, current promotions which gender strife will fail by the side of the road.

Reason is a God given ability. Reason is a quality designed to develop discretion, understanding, and skillfulness. Man reasons and becomes discreet in conduct and in speech. Man reasons and arrives at truth. Man reasons and becomes skilful in the performance of tasks. In the secular affairs of life, in the course of human events man learns through visible forms and reasons from the sense perceptions. He "walks by sight."

In religion man must walk as God reveals the way, for principles of religion belong to the realm or region of deity. Fallible man can penetrate into the realm only through the channel of revelation. Thus he must walk by faith in the divine revealer — he must hear the divine message and he must believe it. He cannot change that which he hears. He must not distort it, he best not pervert it.

In the secular life minds are left free to roam the meadows of broadening interests. In the religious realm, even the finest minds must walk by the revealed Word. They are not permitted to concoct or manufacture their This restraint beown scheme of things. comes a problem to many who wish to walk according to human reason in the religious realm as well as in the secular. The demands of God's revelation are narrow. Jesus said so. (Matthew 7:14) His demands are narrow from the standpoint of human reason, but to the man of faith God's revelation is broad as eternity, for it leads him there. He walks according to God's revelation, and walks right into infinite blessings.

The problem of every generation, on one hand, is that of contrasting the faith and reason factors, and, manifesting in various ways the necessity of walking according to God's pattern. On the other hand, there is the necessity of exposing the non-conformists those whose love for the ideals and philosophies of men lead them into religious wisdom that "descendeth not from above." (James 3:15) I believe that some of the finest minds in every generation, come to disbelieve in the principles they represent, yet they continue to expound those principles because the circumstances in which they find themselves seem to compel them to do so. Their subsistence, their families, prestige, honor, reputation and glory are factors which may tie a man to a cause he has come to disbelieve in.

In the church of the Lord a man like that will make havoc as he subtly seeks outlets and opportunities to attach his "reasonable" conclusions to God's truths. Better that this man openly renounce his affiliation with the Lord's body!

How frequent has the church of Christ been in danger of perversion by men who would "lead it out of the woods" into the drift of "modern" interests and activity! 'Tis honest to leave that which you disbelieve in — 'tis corrupt to serve under the flag of a cause you have no love for, or confidence in.

Gospel Guardian April 25, 1957

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer
Announcements
Song Leader
Scripture

Ken Prager
Don Coen, Jr.
Earl Miller
Hosea 4:12-19

Scripture Hosea 4:12-19
Reader Terry Smith
Prayer Ed Roberts
Speaker Tim Henderson

Lord's Supper

Bread Dave Harless
Fruit of the Vine Don Coen, Sr.
Serve Dan Marton
Serve Harold Marshall
Closing Prayer Chuck Isinghood

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

Sunday PM

Don Coen, Jr. **Announcements** Ken Prager Song Leader Hosea 5 Scripture Matt Ferrell Reader Tim Henderson 1st Prayer Tim Henderson Speaker **Ed Roberts** Communion **Dave Harless** Closing Prayer

Wednesday

Announcements
Class Prayer
Song Leader
Invitation
Closing Prayer

Don Coen, Jr. Ed Roberts Earl Miller Tim Henderson Matt Ferrell

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Traveling:

- Charissa & Tina Wallace are in Colorado
- Alfred & Mary Jane Myers
- The Ken, Paula & Lydia Prager are in South Carolina
- Nathan Marshall will be in England for the next few weeks.

Recovering:

- Marie Roberts

- Ann Rudolph

Prayer Requests:

- Merl Frey
- Zeda Goddard, also her 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
- Chris Shane
- Monty Wallace, Charissa Wallace's father
- Corey Williams, a friend of Tim & Anna Henderson diagnosed with cancer .

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