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# Truth & Right

THE FIRST BOOK OF MOSES CALLED  
GENESIS  
from the  
heaven to  
Tim Henderson, Editor

Volume-04

Issue-13

10/25/2009

*"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 Sermon:

*Why Does the  
Faithful Christian  
Attend Every Service  
They Can?*

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

*Please visit our website:  
[www.truthandright.org](http://www.truthandright.org)*

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

## The Importance of Discernment

Gary Henry

*"Therefore do not be unwise,  
but understand what the  
will of the Lord is"*

**Ephesians 5:17**

In our spiritual lives, we shall have little opportunity to make progress if we don't develop the virtue of "discernment." We must learn, as Paul puts it, to "understand what the will of the Lord is." This is no mysterious, better-felt-than-told process. It is a matter of training ourselves to think as the Lord thinks, basing our perspective on what the Scriptures reveal His perspective to be. We must learn to want whatever He wants, not just in general but in specific relation to our own personal lives.

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We are naive if we think that knowing the right thing to do is always easy, for discerning the path Christ would want us to follow often requires prayerful concentration over a long period of time. But we can IMPROVE our ability to discern the Lord's will, and if we're at all serious about seeking God, then we'll surely set that as a high priority. Indeed, the only higher priority would be improving our DOING of the Lord's will after we discern it!

One of the foundational principles of Christianity is given to us in Paul's letter to Colossae: "And whatever you do," he wrote, "do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men" Colossians 3:23. To do all that we do "as to the Lord" means that we do everything out of deference to Him. Whatever other considerations may come into play, our greatest concern is always to do the thing that would please Him most (Philippians 1:19-26). His will is always the factor that decides our deeds. If we are to do this, however, we must acquire the ability to see what His will is in specific situations. It takes training and discipline, but we can acquire this ability. We can come to be like those "who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Hebrews 5:14).

In developing our discernment, we are not simply on our own, of course. God will give us the help that is necessary. But we must first acknowledge our NEED for help. We must see the importance of gaining greater skill in our understanding and then make a commitment to our own growth. Like so much else that concerns our spiritual lives, the great prerequisite on our part is an honest, no-strings-attached commitment to obedience.

*"All heaven is waiting  
to help those who will  
discover the will of God  
and do it" J. Robert Ashcroft*

## *Jesus Christ is Not Our Lord If ...*

*Gary Henry*

***"But why do you call Me  
'Lord, Lord,' and do not do  
the things which I say?"***

***Luke 6:46***

**The words "Christ is Lord" are easier to say with our lips than to demonstrate with our deeds.** But Christ calls us to do more than talk about His lordship. It is not His purpose to attract a host of talkers or even admirers; He desires a people who will love Him with an active, responsive, and obedient love. "Why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,'" He asked, "and do not do the things which I say?" Contrary to widespread opinion, there is more to Christianity than simply listing that as our religious preference. Whatever we may say, Jesus Christ is not really our Lord if we don't do the things that He says.

Even if we're among those who take the will of Christ most seriously, it's a common occurrence for us to overrate the level of our own obedience. We very likely make the same mistake with Christ that we make with our friends: we expect to be judged solely on the basis of our ABILITY and our INTENTIONS. We have high principles, we know what we should do, and we really do intend to get around to it; we just haven't done it yet. So despite the relatively low level of our actual performance, we still wish to be seen as superior persons; we just happen to be running a little behind on our "To Do" list. Christ, however, does not see us in terms of what we "plan" to do (and the truth is, our friends probably don't either). He sees us in terms of our REAL OBEDIENCE. "Why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say?"

Complete candor might compel us to admit that we really think some parts of the Lord's will are "insignificant." We may take Him seriously in the areas that seem to be important, but we feel free to dissent from His opinion on other matters. Truly to have Jesus Christ as our Lord, however, means that we honor the significance of all of His will. We may know less than we'd like to know about our Lord's rationale in some cases, but we certainly know enough to trust that He never issues commands carelessly. The real test of whether we've actually accepted His lordship is whether we yield to His will when it comes into conflict with our own. The person whose will we obey, that person is our real lord.

*"Never think that Jesus commanded a trifle, nor dare to trifle with anything he has commanded"*  
*Dwight Lyman Moody*

## *Endure Hardship*

*Gary Henry*

*"You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ"*  
**2 Timothy 2:3**

**As we reach forward to heaven, there is a certain amount of hardship that we have to endure.** Given the business that he is in, a soldier wouldn't expect anything other than hardship, and if he is a good soldier, he will simply endure it. And so it is on the spiritual battlefield. Hardship goes with the territory.

In the midst of hardship, our first instinct is to try to get rid of it. But that is not always a possibility. There may be honorable measures that can be taken to minimize the diffi-

culty, but for the Christian, some hardships are unavoidable. Rather than running away from adversity, we'd do better to learn to deal with it.

From God's perspective, our learning to deal with difficulty is often much better than our having it removed. When Paul, for example, prayed that his *"thorn in the flesh"* be removed, God refused Paul's request and said, *"My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness"* (2 Corinthians 12:9). In other words, "Paul, you will gain a greater good from continuing to cope with this pain than you would from having it removed. So I won't remove it. What I'll do is help you deal with it." That is not the answer to our prayers that we usually want, but it is the answer that is most conducive to our long-term spiritual growth.

Many years ago, I was trying to back away from a problem that I had gotten myself into, and a wise friend told me, "The best way OUT of a problem is usually to go THROUGH it." When we pray to God for "deliverance," we may be wanting to get out of a difficulty, and we're disappointed to hear the Lord say, "No, let's go THROUGH it. I will help you." But that is the thrust of Paul's great statement in Philippians 4:13: *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."* God will never leave us in the midst of any hardship and not supply the resources necessary to deal with it.

Paul urged Timothy to preach the word *"in season and out of season"* (2 Timothy 4:2). The same goes for discipleship in general. We need to be faithful when it's easy and when it's not. After all, if the Lord can count on us only when His work is easy, what kind of service is that? The worst slacker in the world can do as much.

*"Enjoy when you can and endure when you must"*  
*Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

# Those Serving This Week

## Sunday AM

<b>Class Prayer</b>	Harold Marshall
<b>Announcements</b>	Ed Roberts
<b>Song Leader</b>	Harold Marshall
<b>Scripture</b>	Jonah 1
<b>Reader</b>	Matt Ferrell
<b>Prayer</b>	Don Coen, Jr.
<b>Speaker</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Lord's Supper</b>	
Bread	Ken Prager
Fruit of the Vine	Don Coen, Sr.
Serve	Terry Smith
Serve	Blake Headen
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Tim Henderson

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

## Sunday PM

<b>Announcements</b>	Ed Roberts
<b>Song Leader</b>	Ken Prager
<b>Scripture</b>	Jonah 2
<b>Reader</b>	Terry Smith
<b>1st Prayer</b>	Don Coen, Jr.
<b>Speaker</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Communion</b>	Harold Marshall
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Dan Marton

## Wednesday

<b>Announcements</b>	Ed Roberts
<b>Class Prayer</b>	Don Coen, Sr.
<b>Song Leader</b>	Singing/Praying
<b>Invitation</b>	Dave Harless
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Chuck Isinghood

# *News N Notes*

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

**Charlotte Rutter, wife of Roger Rutter, passed away Friday.** Arrangements have not been announced at this time. Please keep brother Rutter in your prayers during this difficult time.

### **Recovering:**

- Cary Lancaster
- Marie Roberts
- Ann Rudolph

### **Prayer Requests:**

- Merl Frey
- Zeda Goddard's sons, Dallas and Terry, and her daughter Tammy Garrison
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Alfred & Mary Jane Myers
- Belinda Porter's mother, Melissa Alley
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Chris Shane
- Monty Wallace, Charissa Wallace's father

### **Don't forget our Shut-ins**

#### **Nursing Home:**

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

#### **At Home:**

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Zeda Goddard
- 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