

*In  
Search  
of...*

# Truth & Right

*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:**

*Resolutions  
for 2010*

*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*

## *Knowing God*

*Gary Henry*

*"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" John 17:3*

It would be difficult to count the number of things that have been said about "eternal life" and the number of ways that people have defined that concept. Yet as He prayed on the night of His betrayal, Jesus penetrated to the very heart of the matter when He said, *"And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent."* When we have discovered what it means to "know" God, we will have learned what eternal life is.

Knowing God surely means more than simply knowing ABOUT Him. Granted, there is no knowing God without the cognitive information that He has revealed about Himself in the Scriptures, but to know Him means more than the memorization of these facts. God is a personal being, and to know

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Him is to have a relationship with Him that is personal as well as rational. To enjoy eternal life means that we have accepted the terms of God's forgiveness and come into a relationship with Him that is described in the Scriptures as "fellowship" (1 John 1:1-4). Within that relationship, we learn more about God's nature, His purposes, and His will. We begin to take great delight in thinking of Him, pleasing Him, and serving Him. We come, in short, to LOVE Him!

It should go without saying that knowing God needs to be more of a priority with us. We need to see knowing God as the reason for such things as prayer and the study of the Scriptures. Even the outward deeds by which we render service to God and to our fellow human beings should be seen as bodily activities through which we come to know God more deeply.

We cannot, of course, know God as fully in this life as will be possible later on, but we can enter into a relationship with Him that is a rich down payment on what is coming (Matthew 5:8; Ephesians 1:13,14; 1 John 3:1-3). It has been quite a long time since God said to the people of Judah, *"Let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord"* (Jeremiah 9:24). But although our own lives are more complicated, it is still the knowledge of God that turns mere living into real life.

*"Nothing matters more than knowing God"* —Larry Crabb

*To The King Be Honor*  
Gary Henry

*"Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen"* 1 Timothy 1:17

**Every proper response to God is a response to His greatness.** Every right relationship to Him is based on respect for His majesty. So if we seek God, what we are really seeking is to know enough of His greatness to respond to it with honor. By our sin, we have dishonored God terribly. What we should be seeking now is to regain the ability to honor Him properly.

God is the source of all LIGHT. Our response to Him should be to open our minds to His truth. It was falsehood and delusion that moved us to break our relationship with God, and if our problem is to be solved, we must have the courage to return to reality. We honor God when we make an honest commitment to truth and when, based on that commitment, we seek to know Him truly.

But God is also the source of all LIFE. Paul spoke of God as the God who *"gives life to the dead and calls those things which do not exist as though they did"* (Romans 4:17). The resurrection of His Son serves to *"release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage"* (Hebrews 2:15). We honor God when we love Him for the life that He has made possible.

And finally, God is the source of all STRENGTH. He enables us to do His will and restores to us the privilege of participating in His work. As Paul wrote to the church in Philippi, *"It is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure"* (Philippians 2:13). In the very highest sense, our labor can be a *"labor of love"* (1 Thessalonians 1:3). And we honor God when we serve Him faithfully in the strength that He provides.

A simple way to sum up our proper response to God is to say that we must adopt both REVERENCE and GRATITUDE. To fail in either of these ways is to dishonor Him. God's greatness as our King calls for us, as His subjects, to find our gladness in His glory. *"Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in"* (Psalm 24:7).

*"O Thou, who are the Light of the minds that know Thee, and the Life of the souls that love Thee, and the Strength of the thoughts that seek Thee; help us so to know Thee that we may truly love Thee; so to love Thee that we may truly serve Thee, whose service is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen"*

*Gelasian Sacramentary*

*Beloved*

*Gary Henry*

*"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus"*

**Ephesians 2:4-6**

God is "rich in mercy," as Paul wrote. To Christians in and around Ephesus, he spoke of the "great love" with which God has loved those who were "dead in trespasses" but now have been made "alive together with Christ." And to the Romans he wrote: "To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 1:7). In a very special sense, then, we may say that to be in Christ is to be among the "beloved" of God.

Two of the most basic challenges of the Christian life are to hear — really HEAR — the message of God's love and then to ACT consistently with that great truth. To know ourselves as God's "beloved" and to act like the people we are: these are the keys to consistency in our spiritual lives. If we verbalize the fact of God's love but don't really believe it, or if we fail to follow through and respond as we should to God's love, then our devotion to God will falter. The only thing that will keep us going is GRATITUDE FOR GRACE.

It should be the most obvious thing in the world that God is to be thanked for the gifts that His love has made possible. As James wrote, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning" (James 1:17). But we should constantly guard against the temptation to seek God simply for His gifts and His blessings. No gift that God could give us is any greater than His love, and it should be His love that is our primary interest. Indeed, all our Father's other gifts would mean little if His love were not in them. And the same thing is true in regard to our love for Him. If we love God, there will be things that we are required to do in order to worship Him and to serve Him. Obedience to God's will is not optional. But even more than the deeds that He requires, God is interested in the love that motivates those deeds (1 Corinthians 13:1-3). What He desires is for us to be His beloved — and to love Him for His love's sake.

*"A wise lover values  
not so much the  
gift of the lover  
as the love of the giver"*

*Thomas a Kempis*

## Those Serving This Week

### Sunday AM

<b>Class Prayer</b>	Earl Miller
<b>Announcements</b>	Chuck Isinghood
<b>Song Leader</b>	Nathan Marshall
<b>Scripture</b>	Zephaniah 1
<b>Reader</b>	Ken Prager
<b>Prayer</b>	Don Coen, Sr.
<b>Speaker</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Lord's Supper</b>	
Bread	Don Coen, Jr.
Fruit of the Vine	Ed Roberts
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>	Chuck Isinghood
<b>Song Leader</b>	Ed Roberts
<b>Scripture</b>	Zephaniah 2
<b>Reader</b>	Blake Headen
<b>1st Prayer</b>	Harold Marshall
<b>Speaker</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Prager
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Earl Miller

### Wednesday

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

## *News N Notes*

**Please continue to remember these in your prayers:**

#### **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
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Chris Shane
- Connie Shane

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

##### **Nursing Home:**

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

##### **At Home:**

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Zeda Goddard
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap
- Ann Rudolph

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