

*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

Today's Sermons:

*AM: Purposeful
Living
PM: Sojourners*

*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

- ♦ *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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Patience While We Make Progress

Gary Henry

"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, And to present you faultless Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, To God our Savior, who alone is wise, Be glory and majesty, Dominion and power, Both now and forever. Amen." - Jude 24,25

As long as we remain in this world, imperfections will be a fact of life. If we've obeyed the gospel and become Christians, we're somewhere along a path that leads to perfect holiness. Some have been Christians longer and are a bit further down the path than others, but none of us, not even the most mature, can say that we're without sin (1 John 1:8-10). We're all works in progress. So since it's God's plan for our sanctification to be accomplished gradually through a *process*, we need to be patient with God (and with ourselves) while the process is underway.

Although we make mistakes and lapse into old habits, God is able, as Jude wrote, to keep us from falling away from Him completely. He can strengthen us and present us "*faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.*" We should discipline our thinking and hold on to the confidence that God knows what He's doing and is perfectly capable of removing the remainder of sin from our lives. Meanwhile, we must not expect perfection before the time for that perfection arrives (1 John 3:2,3).

This is no argument for complacency or careless indulgence in sin. "*How shall we who*

died to sin live any longer in it?" (Romans 6:2). We're simply saying that as we reach forward to God's holiness, we must not demand a perfection of ourselves that is impossible at this point. We must accept the fact that we're on a *journey*.

The important thing right now, then, is not perfection but progress. No less than absolute perfection should be our *goal*, but as we work toward that goal, we'll make more progress if we concentrate on taking the steps that are immediately before us. Those are always steps that we're capable of taking, and we should be both *thankful* to take them and *content* to take them.

"The rising of devotion in an ordinary soul is like the dawning of a new day. Darkness is not driven away immediately. Light comes in small increments, moment by moment."
Francis de Sales

God Has Never Trifled With Us

Gary Henry

"... I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you." - Jeremiah 31:3

When we seek God, we can be sure that He has always been seeking us, and it is with diligence that He has done so. Knowing of God's earnestness toward us, we should turn toward Him with all the more gratitude and

carefulness. "If God is diligent, surely we ought to be diligent in doing our duty to him. Think how patient and how diligent God has been with us!" (Oswald Chambers).

Lest there be any misunderstanding, it needs to be emphasized that we can never reciprocate God's love in any way that would be complete or even adequate. Our best efforts to respond to God's diligence are broken and marred. Even if we were sinless, as creatures we would still not be able to attend to our Creator in the same way that He attends to us. And having sinned, we surely cannot *deserve* the earnestness of the love that He has shown to us. In one sense, all of our human deeds are trifles.

Yet the frailty of our condition should not keep us from doing what we *can* do, and that is to be *moved* by God's love. We can choose to be responsive rather than unresponsive. We can hear His voice. We can answer His call. And knowing that God has never trifled with us ought to make us determine, out of sheer gratitude, to take Him seriously. Knowing what our atonement cost Him, how can we simply "dabble" in religion? Trifling with God, in this sense, is the most horrible form of ingratitude.

Words are interesting things, and we can often be enlightened by their history. Originally the word "trifle" meant trickery or deceit. To trifle was to say or do something that one did not really mean, pretending to be serious. Today the verb "trifle" means (1) to deal with something as if it were of little significance or value, (2) to speak or act with little seriousness or purpose, or (3) to play or toy with something. When we trifle with God, is there not a bit of the old meaning of the word in our actions? When we pretend to love Him dearly but give Him no more than our leftovers, is it some trick that we are trying to play on God? Do we think He does not notice our lack of seriousness?

"God is earnest with you. Why are you not so with Him? Why trifle with God?"
Oswald Chambers

John 17—"Jesus spoke these things; and lifting up His eyes to heaven, He said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You, even as You gave Him authority over all flesh, that to all whom You have given Him, He may give eternal life. "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. "I glorified You on the earth, having accomplished the work which You have given Me to do. "Now, Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. "I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. "Now they have come to know that everything You have given Me is from You; for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me. "I ask on their behalf; I do not ask on behalf of the world, but of those whom You have given Me; for they are Yours; and all things that are Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine; and I have been glorified in them. "I am no longer in the world; and yet they themselves are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, the name which You have given Me, that they may be one even as We are. "While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled. "But now I come to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves. "I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. "I do not ask You to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one. "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. "Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. "As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. "For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. "The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me. "Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which You have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. "O righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me; and I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which You loved Me may be in them, and I in them."

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Matt Ferrell
Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Song Leader	Harold Marshall
Scripture	Daniel 3:1-12
Reader	Ken Prager
Prayer	Ed Roberts
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Dan Marton
Fruit of the Vine	Matt Ferrell
Serve	Terry Smith
Serve	Blake Headen
Closing Prayer	Chuck Isinghood

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

Sunday PM

Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Song Leader	Ed Roberts
Scripture	Daniel 3:13-30
Reader	Dan Marton
1st Prayer	Harold Marshall
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Don Coen, Sr.
Closing Prayer	Tim Henderson

Wednesday

Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Class Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Song Leader	Singing / Praying
Invitation	Dave Harless
Closing Prayer	Earl Miller

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