

*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:

*First
Love*

*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*

Great Peace

Bill Feist

The longest chapter in the Bible (Psalm 119) is a song of praise to the word of God. Nearly every verse makes mention of the word of God. Every verse contains either praise of God's word from some excellent quality of it; or a protestation of David's unfeigned affection towards it; or the desire of David to conform himself to it.

This psalm is a prolonged meditation upon the excellence of the word of God. It is the fruit of deep experience, careful observation, and earnest meditation by its author. Consider the shepherd boy David as he cares for the sheep. At night, when they are bedded down, David must have surveyed the starry skies and contemplated the Scriptures. Here is a psalm that reveals his great love for God's word as he rolled it over and over again in his mind. What David does in this psalm is much the same as a young lady in love. She often sits and dreams of the future. As she thinks, she may write the various ways her name can be joined with that of her future husband. If you have ever done such a thing, you can identify with what David does in this psalm; only the object of David's affection is God's word.

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Among the many wonderful thoughts contained in the psalm is verse 165, *"Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them."* This verse touches on a subject near to the heart of each of us: *"peace."* But what kind of peace is the psalmist speaking of here? Is it "world peace"? This is a constant concern of each of us. How many prayers are offered to God in which we pray that we might be able to live *"a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty"* (1 Timothy 2:2)? Yet, world peace is not the author's concern. Is it "peace" in our homes? An honest look at our homes reminds us that many families are in trouble and know no peace. The divorce statistics speak loudly about homes without peace in them. The "generation gap" between parents and young people where arguments rage or isolation exists likewise speaks of little peace in a home. But this is not it. Could it be "internal peace"? Once again, many people know no peace in their own lives, as the rising suicide statistics manifest; but this is not it. What "peace" is it? It is "peace with God!" Once we have this peace, it enables us as much as possible to be at peace with all men (Romans 12:18), maintain peace in our families as we follow God's way (Ephesians 5:21-6:4), and to have peace with ourselves (Romans 8:1).

"Great peace have they which love thy law; and nothing shall offend them."

We need to note that this peace cannot be separated from loving God's law. We are not going to find the peace spoken of here in human wisdom, philosophy, psychology, sociology, etc. "Great peace" is revealed only in God's word—the last place some people even begin to think of looking for it. The God who made us knows what great peace is and how it can be attained and maintained. What connection does *"and nothing shall offend them"* (the possessors of this great peace) have to do with this thought? The "offend" here means to stumble or to fall away from

the faith; to apostatize. The thought is: those who possess this great peace of God will not allow anything to cause them to stumble or fall away from the faith. These properly evaluate the "great peace" of God and refuse to relinquish it for any reason. When we fully appreciate the value of God's great peace we will be faithful unto death (Revelation 2:10).

Satan will attempt to persuade us that God's "great peace" is not so valuable. In the parable of the Sower, Jesus proclaims that those who are "wayside soil" never come to understand the value of the great peace of God in the first place. They dismiss it and the devil catches away the word immediately lest they believe and be saved. The "rocky soil" see the value of the great peace and embraces it, but *"in time of temptation falls away"* (Luke 8:13). The "thorny soil" are they which go forth and *"are choked with cares and riches and pleasure of this life"* (Luke 8:14). Do you see that the "rocky and thorny soil" stumbled at the offerings of Satan? They decided it was not worth it to be a faithful Christian and fell away. Their root problem was that they did not properly evaluate the great peace of God. The faithful Christian faces the same problems along the road of life as did the others, but he understands the value of God's great peace and brings forth fruit with patience (Luke 8:15).

How is it in your life? Are you someone who once embraced the great peace of God, but have turned again to the world? You need to consider the great peace of God; nothing in this world can compare to it (Matthew 16:26). If you are faithfully serving the Lord, one of the reasons why you are doing so is because, *"Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."*

God Is Not Neutral Toward Our Needs

Gary Henry

*“Now may the God of peace . . .
make you complete in every good
work to do His will, working in you
what is well pleasing in His sight,
through Jesus Christ, to whom be
glory forever and ever. Amen” —
Hebrews 13:20,21*

There is nothing “objective about God’s attitude toward us. We are creatures brought into being by His love, and when a way for us to be redeemed could only be purchased by the life of His Son, He did not stop short of making that sacrifice. The question of our well-being is one in which He has a vested interest, to say the very least. He is for us. He is on our side. He is passionately biased in our favor. There is nothing good for us in this whole wide world that He is not eager and able to provide.

There is a sense in which God is eager to do good for every person He has created, even those who show no respect for Him. Jesus said that *“He makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust”* (Matthew 5:45).

There is also a sense in which He cares for those who have obeyed the gospel of His Son and who have remained faithful to Him. It is to obedient Christians that Peter wrote, *“Let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator”* (1 Peter 4:19). *“Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God,”* he continued, *“... casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you”* (1 Peter 5:6,7).

But there is a third point that must be made. **Even when it is God’s faithful saints who are under consideration, the needs that He is most eager to supply are those relating to His rule.** When Paul made his familiar statement in Philippians 4:13, *“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me,”* he was not speaking of goals like making a million dollars or winning an Olympic gold medal. He was simply stating his confidence that Christ wouldn’t let him go without anything he needed to do His, that is, Christ’s, work.

Whatever God expects us to do **to accomplish His purposes,** He will help us to do! And help in doing **those** things is what we ought to desire, far more than we desire His help with lesser concerns. In anything related to the gospel of Christ, we needn’t worry about coming up short. He will *“make [us] complete in every good work to do His will, working in [us] what is well pleasing in His sight.”*

*“God eagerly awaits the chance to
bless the person whose heart is
turned toward Him” —Anonymous*

*“I am only one, but I am one. I
cannot do everything, but I
can do something. What I can
do, I ought to do. And what I
ought to do, by God’s grace, I
will do.” ~Edward Hale*

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Ken Prager
Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Song Leader	Earl Miller
Scripture	Zechariah 7
Reader	Dan Marton
Prayer	Harold Marshall
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Ed Roberts
Fruit of the Vine	Don Coen, Sr.
Serve	Blake Headen
Serve	Ken Prager
Closing Prayer	Don Coen, Jr.

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

Sunday PM

Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Song Leader	Ken Prager
Scripture	Zechariah 8:1-12
Reader	Blake Headen
1st Prayer	Earl Miller
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Don Coen, Jr.
Closing Prayer	Harold Marshall

Wednesday

Announcements	Chuck Isinghood
Class Prayer	Harold Marshall
Song Leader	Earl Miller
Invitation	Dan Marton
Closing Prayer	Ken Prager

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 — Alfred continues to deal with back problems, he was to have a shot for it Thursday but it was moved to Monday. Mary Jane is back home.
- Ed Roberts as he continues to recover from a blood infection
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- 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