

In Search of...

Truth & Right

THE FIRST BOOK OF 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:

Needful Things

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.

What's Our Problem?

Gary Henry

"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?" Matthew 16:26

Difficulties are not hard to find. The average person's life presents a thorny thicket of problems that have to be dealt with. Indeed, on some days it seems that we do little more than run from one problem to the next. We can hardly get one fire put out before another breaks out somewhere else.

But out of all the things that need fixing, which one needs fixing the most? Which issue in life is the main issue? One measure of our spiritual maturity (and even our earthly maturity) is the way in which we prioritize our problems. The immature give most of their attention to problems that are of no more than secondary importance, while the more mature see

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the things that matter most and give their primary attention to those things. So if the way we spend our time and the problems we choose to work on are any indication, how mature can we say that we are, really and truly?

Anyone who has read the New Testament will know that it takes a definite position on the question of what's important and what's not. Jesus put it in the form of a question: "*For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his soul?*" **Our main problem is our broken relationship with God.** As long as that problem goes unfixed, we are pathetic and profitless creatures, even if we're able to fix every other problem in the world.

Millions of people would say AMEN! to the importance of God — but these same people spend most of their time working on issues other than their relationship to Him. Our schedule books simply don't support our claim that spiritual concerns are No. 1 in our lives. We rush through our days, accomplishing little more than the rearrangement of deck chairs on a ship that is sinking.

The daily challenge that confronts us is not only to SEE what most needs to be worked on, but to KEEP that concern in the cross hairs of our attention. In the end, it will be evident that most of the "urgent" matters that tried to claim our attention were simply inconsequential. Before it's too late, we need to stop our frantic fixing of things "out there" and start working on things "in here."

"It is not a world out of joint that makes our problem but the shipwrecked soul in it"

—P. T. Forsyth

Competition For The Mind

Dee Bowman

In Ephesians 4:26-27, Paul commanded, "*Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: neither give place to the devil.*" This passage is variously translated. Phillips renders it, "*Don't give the devil that sort of foothold.*" Goodspeed's translation says, "*You must not give the devil a chance.*" The Twentieth Century New Testament gives it, "*And give no opportunity to the Devil.*" The thought in all of these is the same: mainly, don't give the Devil residency in your mind.

Someone has said, "You can't keep the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from nesting in your hair." In the same way, you can't keep the Devil from making periodic trips through your mind, but you don't have to give him a place to stay.

In this age, there is a constant bombardment of the mind by the Devil. He is seeking a place to stay. And one of the ways he does it is by advertising. Our society is addicted to it. Its influence in our lives is astounding.

This competition for the mind is relentless and indefatigable. Just as the means is subtle and effective. Secularism is disguised as success; materialism wears the mask of excellence; free love is passed off as freedom of human expression. The result is indifference toward God.

Those who give over to this cunningly devised plan will find it hard to leave. Once they enter this world of "let me do it my way," they quickly become so mired that only the strongest will can divorce them from their predicament. The appetite for

such loose activities cannot be satisfied and calls for an ever-deepening, always increasing evil just to top the last "satisfaction" they enjoyed.

Such careless subscription to the devil's ploys results in disaster. The giving of oneself to a life without restraint results in a cluttered, undisciplined mind, one difficult to penetrate and often without much feeling for others. Such thinking dampens the spirit of purpose, causes its adherent to be tentative in his plans, temporary in his judgment. It restrains the inclination to grow—intellectually, spiritually, or any other way.

It is short-sighted, foolish to listen to promises of the sort we see everywhere displayed by our adversary. Three things stand out to me as necessary to guard against the Devil's efforts to capture the mind:

1. Make sure your focus is right. Where are you looking? In what direction are you heading? Like Paul, we must "*press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus*" (Philippians 3:14).

The Hebrew writer said of Jesus, "... *who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross ...*" (Hebrews 12:2). We need to set before us the hope of heaven.

2. Develop a determination toward self-regulation in your life. Paul said it was necessary. "*But I keep under,*" (buffet — ASV) *my body and bring it into subjection: that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway*" (1 Corinthians 9:26-27). The life that is not managed properly vacillates, is tentative, not fixed on course.

3. Return to a regular association with truth. It is just so that we are influenced by our companions. When you tolerate associations with the Devil, you are just apt to be like him. But when you are in constant contact with the truth, it will be the pervading influence in your life.

There is a battle raging—a serious, eternal-life threatening battle. We can lose it if we are not careful. The mind is the battleground. Choose your associations carefully and well.

We would like to invite you to a
Gospel Meeting
April 18-23



with speaker:
Jarred Currence
of Norton, OH

Sunday *10:00 AM*
 10:45 AM
 6:30 PM
Mon.—Fri. *7:30 PM*

at the
Wellsburg
church of Christ
112 Sunset Ave.
Wellsburg, WV 26070

"Come now, and let us reason together," —Isaiah 1:18

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Chuck Isinghood
Announcements	Don Coen, Jr
Song Leader	Earl Miller
Scripture	Malachi 1
Reader	Terry Smith
Prayer	Ken Prager
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Dan Marton
Fruit of the Vine	Ed Roberts
Serve	Don Coen, Sr.
Serve	Blake Headen
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

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	Malachi 2
Reader	Earl Miller
1st Prayer	Tim Henderson
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Matt Ferrell
Closing Prayer	Chuck Isinghood

Wednesday

Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Class Prayer	Dave Harless
Song Leader	Dan Marton
Invitation	Ed Roberts
Closing Prayer	Tim Henderson

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Prayer Requests:

- Please begin praying for our Spring Gospel Meeting, April 18-23 with Jarred Currence
- Charena Campbell
- Zeda Goddard's sons, Dallas and Terry, and her daughter Tammy Garrison
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband
- Jerry & Dottie Henderson as they travel in the Northwest working with small congregations this Spring and Summer
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother as she continues her recovery from breaking her leg.
- Alfred & Mary Jane Myers
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Kris Shane

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Nursing Home:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers
- Josephine Clow

At Home:

- 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