

*In  
search  
of ...*

# Truth & Right

*Tim Henderson, Editor*

**Volume-04**

**Issue-43**

**05/23/2010**

*"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.*

## *Making Hard Choices* *Timothy R. Henderson*

### **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:**

## *Digging A Foundation*

*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*

It's never easy to go against the flow, especially when the current is strong. Conventional wisdom makes light of so many things that perhaps we as Christians should be more concerned with. One thing that has been weighing on me pretty heavily is the state of television, music, movies and books ... entertainment in general. While I do not believe it should be a matter of determining fellowship, I do believe it is something we should devote more attention. It amazes me the amount of information we fill our brains with that is completely unnecessary. We know all there is to know about the characters of our favorite book series, movie or television show. We know all the lyrics of our favorite songs by the latest artists. What we fail to realize is that our brains are limited in capacity as to that which can be quickly recalled. I testify from personal experience as someone who had filled his brain with "useless" information ranging from hair bands from the late 80's to numerous Ray Stevens songs. As I've grown older, I see that those points of information that I deemed important back then are completely without value now, however, there is no delete button in the brain. It is hard to remove that information to put valuable information in now.

### **In this Issue:**

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3—Gary Henry

Those Serving & Announcements—pg. 4

This is why my goal as a parent is to instill a love for God and His word in my children while they are young. It is an ongoing battle to help them see the need for Biblical knowledge over worldly knowledge. As time progresses, I can see that there will be those naysayers who will ridicule me for “sheltering” my children, but honestly, I don’t really care what they think, if I had sheltered myself more when I was younger, I wouldn’t have needed to deal with many of the issues I faced in my 20’s and continue to struggle with today.

I recently read a blog that dealt with some of the issues I am dealing with today. In the comments, two verses were mentioned that I have used myself, but not as much possibly as I should. I encourage you to look at these verses and judge the things you are viewing, reading and listening to by them.

Psalm 101:2-3 *“I will give heed to the blameless way. When will You come to me? I will walk within my house in the integrity of my heart. <sup>3</sup>I will set no worthless thing before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not fasten its grip on me.”* (emphasis – TRH)

Philippians 4:8 *“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.”*

The time to make the hard choices is now. Before it is too late, let us make the choice to turn away from the entertainment of this world and focus our lives upon Jesus Christ, our Savior. It can be very difficult for our children as well, they don’t understand fully our reasoning, but trust me, it will not hurt them to not watch as much TV. It will not hurt them to sit down with you and read the Bible as a family. You might just find out that your children are more prepared for their walk with God than

you were at their age.

**Make the hard choices, go against the flow of the world, let them ridicule us, the reward is more than worth it!**

## *Restoring Our Focus*

*Matthew Allen*

I am sure you have heard the phrase, “Don’t miss the forest for the trees.” We usually use the phrase when trying to tell someone not to miss the bigger picture on a particular matter. That can certainly be good advice. What about with our focus on the spiritual? Sometimes we can get bogged down in the details and forget God’s purpose for our lives. We need to broaden our focus. What are three important principles we must remember as we deepen our relationship with God?

**Christianity is about becoming disciples, not just mere decision making.** Christianity is much more than just a decision to believe in Jesus. It involves more than just a collection of decisions we continue to make as we go through life. Christianity becomes *who* we are. Paul spoke of the need for transformation, Romans 12:1-2. Where Jesus leads, we follow. We make a commitment to be like Him! *“A pupil is not above his teacher; but everyone, after he has been fully trained, will be like his teacher,”* Luke 6:40.

**Christianity is about obedience, not just doctrine.** Some may be tempted to reduce Christianity to little more than cold, calculated law-keeping. This mentality can lead to traditionalism, ritualistic prayer and worship services, and heartless expressions of praise. Sometimes these traditions and rituals can become more important than Scripture itself! Jesus condemned such in Matthew 15:7-9. This does not mean the doctrine of Christ is unimportant, as we must keep it if we wish to

go to heaven, 2 John 9. Embedded in obedience, is the concept of unyielding faith and trust. There are countless examples in both testaments where obedience to God's will required great trust on the part of God's servants. Naaman, Moses, Abraham, Joshua, and Caleb are just a few great examples. As we respond in faith, God will richly bless us!

**Christianity is about relationships, not just attendance.** Worship services allow us to develop and strengthen our relationships with God and brothers and sisters in Christ. The church is an absolute necessity for the Christian who wants to strengthen himself spiritually. Congregational praise and worship should be viewed as a strengthening experience, not just as an hour or two to fulfill God's requirements for that week.

We must never lose sight of the underlying principles God has established for us as we serve Him. As you move forward, let God's purposes motivate you to higher and nobler service. *"By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, "I have come to know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected,"* 1 John 2:3-5a.

## *Are We Being Hindered by Careless Thinking About God?*

*Gary Henry*

*"But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness"*

—Romans 6:17,18

Concepts have consequences in our lives, and concepts of God are the most consequential of all. False information

about God will "mislead" us, whereas truthful information about Him is a "lamp" to our feet and a "light" to our path (Psalm 119:105). Christianity is a powerfully transforming force because it involves a deep renewal in our thinking (Romans 12:1,2), especially our thinking about God Himself (John 17:3). Yet long after the time when many of us should have experienced quantum improvements in the quality of our lives, we still struggle to maintain a minimum level of purity and holiness. We stumble as if we were walking in the dark. Could it be that our outward actions are being produced by inner thinking that is unworthy of God? Are we still being hindered by careless thinking about our Creator?

In Romans 6:17,18, Paul expressed gratitude that his readers had been *"set free from sin."* This, he said, had followed from their having *"obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered."* Most people think of "doctrine" as nothing more than religious theory, and they spend little time with it because they feel it is not very practical. Doctrine, or "instruction," is eminently practical, however. There simply can be no right practice without right thinking, at least none that will stand the test of time. The entire work of the devil is based on FALSEHOOD (John 8:44; Revelation 12:9), so it should come as no surprise that TRUTH is the means by which God undoes that work (John 18:37; Acts 26:18). To know God as He truly is, and to base our "practical" decisions on that truth, is to be "set free from sin." There is no other way to make progress. Jesus said it with utter simplicity: *"You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free"* (John 8:32).

To be careful, we should set ourselves the goal of improving our thinking about God a little bit each day. There is no question that our lives will be governed by SOME sort of thinking about God. The only question is what the QUALITY of that thinking will be.

*"A thoughtless or uninformed theology grips and guides our life with just as great force as does a thoughtful and informed one" —Dallas Willard*

## Those Serving This Week

### Sunday AM

<b>Class Prayer</b>	Harold Marshall
<b>Announcements</b>	Don Coen, Jr.
<b>Song Leader</b>	Ken Prager
<b>Scripture</b>	Matthew 7:13-27
<b>Reader</b>	Chuck Isinghood
<b>Prayer</b>	Earl Miller
<b>Speaker</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Lord's Supper</b>	
Bread	Ed Roberts
Fruit of the Vine	Matt Ferrell
Serve	Terry Smith
Serve	Dan Marton
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Don Coen, Sr.

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

### Sunday PM

<b>Announcements</b>	Don Coen, Jr.
<b>Song Leader</b>	Earl Miller
<b>Scripture</b>	Matthew 8:1-18
<b>Reader</b>	Earl Miller
<b>1st Prayer</b>	Dan Marton
<b>Speaker</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Communion</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Harold Marshall

### Wednesday

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

## *News N Notes*

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

- Zeda Goddard, also her family— sons, Dallas and Terry, and daughter Tammy Garrison
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband
- Jerry & Dottie Henderson are in Hood River, WA this weekend then are heading to Meadford, OR
- Betty Isinghood will be going back to see the doctor June 3<sup>rd</sup>, then to the knee doctor on the 11<sup>th</sup> and her knee surgery is scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Ronald Lancaster is doing better, but still recovering
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Alfred & Mary Jane Myers
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Kris Shane
- Gabriel Taylor, 4 year old great grandson

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

#### **Valley Haven:**

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

#### **Ann's Retreat:**

- 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