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:

Qualifications of Elders: A Closer Look-03

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

Learning To Trust God Larry Rouse via-The Auburn Beacon—10-1242010

What is the purpose of the body of Christ, the church of our Lord? Are we building in a wise way or are we pursuing things that are not in the Lord's will? It is important to know the foundation that God gave His people so that we can be sure to build upon it. "According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:10-11).

We must build on the foundation of Jesus Christ. In the work of conversion and in the work of helping a Christian to grow, we must help others to build a personal faith in the Lord. To truly bring one to "see the unseen" and then to "know the Lord" is not an easy process. When you see the reality of the spiritual realm, then you will make decisions that will be very much "out of step" with this world. When Moses rejected the riches and esteem that was offered to him as a prince of Egypt so that he could "suffer affliction with the people of God," he did this because he could "see Him who is invisible" (Hebrews 11:24-27). Are we helping people to "see the

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unseen" or are we making people comfortable in their worldliness?

My Personal Struggle to Find a Biblical Faith

How did you come to trust in the Lord? I can remember many years ago, when I was in High School, an occasion in my life where I saw the emptiness of the path I was following and desired to find something more. On a clear, cold night I went outside and looked up at the stars and prayed a simple prayer for God to let me find Him. It was a humble prayer for light and truth that I followed up with my first attempt to read the Bible for myself.

As I started reading the scriptures there were so many things that I did not understand but there were some things that stood out distinctively to me. As I read the book of Romans I came to see the power and optimism of a genuine faith in Christ. When I read the words of Paul concerning his life and sufferings as viewed by the heart of faith, I was amazed! "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). Later, in the same chapter, Paul expresses the confidence that faith brings in our outlook on our day-to-day events. "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). After reading that chapter I sincerely wanted to have that kind of faith in my life!

I came to find out that the process of building such a faith takes time! In the year that followed I began to seek the Lord in the best way that I knew (John 7:17). So many steps that I took were imperfect, but I constantly sought to do what I believed the Lord had spoken in His word. As I went through this seeking process I tried to surround myself with people who also placed a high value on walking by faith. I found that both in the denominational world and in the local churches that I would later attend, that I was "out of step" with others that seemed to have another reason for attending the assemblies of the local church.

The stand that I take today is one of faith.

When I left the human movements that dominate the religious world, I simply wanted to follow the Lord apart from the rule and the traditions of men. Paul left Judaism with this simple goal in his heart: "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him" (Philippians 3:7-9). When I was baptized into Christ, I did so with "faith in the working of God" (Colossians 2:11-13). As I came to face the unpredictable difficulties of life, I came to know that I serve a God that will never forsake me and thus learned to live without fear (Hebrews 13:5-6). Over time I have found a faith that allowed me to view my life in light of the promises of God (Romans 8:18, 28)!

Have We Drifted?

Does the local church that we attend make the building of faith a priority? Are our homes a place where a daily trust in God is a priority? The reason why I ask these questions is that I fear some Christians and some churches have drifted from this great foundation. "Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin" (Hebrews 3:12-13).

Some Personal Questions

- 1. Do I have a daily confidence in the promises of God and of His care, or do I worry and have the scornful attitude of the world?
- 2. In times of uncertainty and hurt do I read the promises of God and pour my heart out to Him in prayer, or do I complain and seek out worldly companions to take my burdens? (Matthew 11:28-29).
- 3. When I attend the assemblies, am I able to place myself before God and personally find application to my life from His word <u>regardless</u> of how interesting the speaker is or how friendly others are?
- 4. Do I often think about the Lord, His present approval, His future return so that in eve-

rything I do I see Him as my constant companion (Colossians 3:17, 22-23)?

Do Not Accept Substitutes

Please do not let the approval and the praise of men be the "joy" you find among Christians (Galatians 1:10, 2 Corinthians Some become "issue-oriented" 10:12, 17). out of a sense of party loyalty or out of a desire to display their personal knowledge and thinking skills. There is a big difference between building up another's faith in the Lord and in preaching one's personal glory (2 Corinthians 4:1-2).

What will the Lord find when He returns? It is my prayer that He will find in each of us a genuine, pure faith that has been tested by fire! Does this describe you and me?

"In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:6-9).

What Should We Demand of God? Gary Henry via-Diligently Seeking God—12-01-2010

"Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: 'Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge?" — Job 38:1,2

Throughout his affliction, Job maintained his faith, but before the ordeal was over he developed a demanding spirit that was not pleasing to God. As most of us do when the long haul has become so long that we're nearly exhausted, Job began to be more and more insistent that God explain the

reason for his suffering. He didn't go so far as to question God's righteousness, but he did start to sound as if he was irritated at God.

When our hardships are not alleviated in what we think is a reasonable time, and especially when we don't understand why we should be suffering in the first place, almost all of us begin to grow impatient. In our impatience we become demanding, and in our demanding frame of mind we often begin to say things that go beyond our understanding. We speculate about matters known only to God, and we come close to putting Him "on notice" that He'd better remove our pain or tell us why not. When Job made his arguments and laid down his demands, he spoke of things that he had very little understanding of. And when he finally realized how presumptuously he had spoken about God, he was humiliated: "... I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know" (Job 42:3).

God is indeed the Giver of gifts and the Answerer of questions. For those with Job's faith, there can be no doubt about this fact. But God's wisdom far exceeds our own, and so His gifts and His answers are not always supplied according to our timetable. When we're faced with either God's "inaction" or His "silence," we need to hold our tongue and also watch our attitude. After all, it is not the gifts or the answers of God that we seek; it is God Himself. We know that He has our greatest good at heart and that He can be counted on to act in infinite, powerful love. (At least we know these things if we've considered what happened at the Cross.) We know also that whether God deems it wise to share with us the answer to every question, He knows the answer. Not only does He know the answer, He IS the answer! The fact that He will give Himself to us is far, far more than enough.

"'Lust' means 'I must have it at once.' Spiritual lust causes me to demand an answer from God, instead of seeking God Himself who gives the answer" —Oswald Chambers

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer
Announcements
Song Leader
Scripture
Reader
Prayer
Speaker

Earl Miller
Don Coen, Jr.
Nathan Marshall
Ken Prager
Matt Ferrell
Tim Henderson

Lord's Supper

Bread Wayne Campbell
Fruit of the Vine Dan Marton
Serve Don Coen, Sr.
Serve CJ Isinghood

Closing Prayer

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

Sunday PM

Announcements Don Coen, Jr. Ed Roberts Song Leader Mark 3:14-35 Scripture Nathan Marshall Reader 1st Prayer Don Coen, Sr. Tim Henderson Speaker Tim Henderson Communion Dan Marton **Closing Prayer**

Wednesday

Class Prayer
Announcements
Song Leader
Invitation
Closing Prayer

Nathan Marshall Don Coen, Jr. Ken Prager Matt Ferrell Tim Henderson

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Tim Henderson

Sick/ Poor Health:

- Phyllis Coen
- Zeda Goddard
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband, recovering from surgery.
- **Robert Schwerferger**, Alberta Headen's brother-in-law diagnosed with brain cancer.
- Ronald Lancaster
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Harold Marshall, recuperating from his surgery.
- Kitty Morgan, is at Carriage Inn in Steubenville.
- Alfred and Mary Jane Myers
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Kris Shane
- **Gabriel Taylor**, 5 year old great grandson of Don & Phyllis, dealing with cancer.

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

Brightwood Center:

- Shirley Campbell

Valley Haven:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

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 contact Tim Henderson