

*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:

*AM: Prepare Your
Minds for Action
PM: Are You
Listening?*

*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.*

Do We Lay It To Heart?

By—Robert Turner

Via—The North Charlottesville Beacon—03-06-2011

Every parent knows the difference in "Do I have to go?" and "Do I get to go?" "Do I have to go to bed?" means the child wants to stay up. "Do I get to go to the show?" means the child wouldn't miss it for anything.

Isn't it strange that some of us will wave those same clear signals with reference to the Lord's services, and not see that we are being just as transparent as our children? "Do we have to go to Bible study?" says the same thing about our desires as it does when voiced by our child. When one asks, "How much must I give?" he is clearly saying, "I do not want to give anything, and would like to know how little will pay the bill." Either that, or he has failed to grasp the most fundamental and essential element in the spirit of acceptable service unto God.

There can be no coming to Christ except we deny or give up self (Matthew 16:24). Translated into the context of "doing" this means we must first want to do all possible (100% committed) to serve the Lord. The proper spirit must

In this Issue:

Do We Lay It To Heart?—pg 1—Robert Turner

Are We Willing to be Weak?—pg 2—Gary Henry

In This We Groan—pg 3—Gary Henry

Those Serving & Announcements—pg. 4

motivate the doing, or it is shallow and empty -- may even be an abomination in His sight (Hosea 6:6). God told the priest of Judaism, *"If ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name...then will I send the curse upon you, and I will curse your blessing; yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart"* (Malachi 2:2).

Lay it to heart! That means truly respect God; take Him seriously. The priests had offered polluted bread on the altar (Malachi 1:7); offered blind and lame animals as sacrifice (Malachi 1:8). They said of worship, *"What a weariness it is!"* (Malachi 1:13-14). To make this current, they said, "Do we have to do or give?" "Do it any old way, just get it over with; we want to go home to the TV." And to top it off, when rebuked, they acted so innocent and said, "When did we ever do that?"

"Oh, that there were one among you that would shut the doors, that ye might not kindle fire on mine altar in vain" (Malachi 1:10). Better to close up shop -- call it off -- than to play at worship, and not "lay it to heart."

Are We Willing To Be Weak?

By—Gary Henry

Via—Reaching Forward—02-07-2011

***"And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me"* — 2 Corinthians 12:9**

Often we have no choice but to tolerate weakness for a while, but we're not content to remain weak for very long. If we have deficiencies or inadequacies, we want them removed as quickly as possible. We don't like being weak. And we adopt an almost demanding attitude about the matter: **GOD HAD BETTER GET RID OF OUR NEEDINESS!** In our lexicon, "dependency" is the ultimate bad word, and "self-confidence" is the ultimate good one. If serving Him leaves us still weak and needy, what good is God?

Spiritually speaking, however, the attitude we call "self-confidence" can be a dangerous thing. What feels like strength may be little more than pride. If we're not careful, we can fall into the error of thinking that we're getting by on our own. As long as the good times roll, we can deceive ourselves into thinking that we need no help. Yet without God, we would perish in an instant, and it's sinful to forget that fact. Not only is it sinful, it's ridiculous. If we ever suppose that we can get by without God's help, then we are simply, and quite seriously, out of touch with reality.

It's true, of course, that by self-confidence we often mean little more than optimism, and optimism is certainly preferable to pessimism. But even here, our optimism needs to be grounded in what God can do, not what we can do. There is no doubt whatsoever as to the eventual outcome of the war between good and evil, and we need to confront our daily problems in the confidence that God's victory over His enemy is certain. The war has already been won.

Paul had to learn that God's strength "is made perfect in weakness," and we need to learn it too. Although it sounds contradictory, an admission of our weakness is the only way to be strong. Not only that, it's the only way to make progress. We can't really be useful to the Lord until our pride has been broken, perhaps by some lifelong "thorn in the flesh," and we've been helped to understand that God's grace is all we ever really have to have.

"Christ is never strong in us un-

*til we are weak. As our
strength diminishes, the
strength of Christ grows in us.
When we are entirely emptied
of our own strength, then we
are full of Christ's strength. As
much as we retain of our own
we lack of Christ's"*

—William Tyndale

In This We Groan

By—Gary Henry

Via—Reaching Forward—02-09-2011

***"For we know that if our earthly
house, this tent, is destroyed, we
have a building from God, a
house not made with hands, eter-
nal in the heavens. For in this
we groan, earnestly desiring to
be clothed with our habitation
which is from heaven ... "***

2 Corinthians 5:1,2

Created for fellowship with God but living in a world that is broken by sin, we frequently find ourselves crying out for relief. We earnestly desire, as Paul put it, *"to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven."* And most of us have observed that "groaning" is not too strong a word for what we do when the troubles of this world press down upon us.

We need to be reminded that groaning is not wrong. Rather than the act of a weak person, it's often that of a strong person whose eyes are open to what's gone wrong in the world. Isn't Jesus the most notable example of how a strong person can sorrow? As He approached the tomb of His friend Lazarus, He *"wept"* (John 11:35). Then the account says that He arrived at the tomb *"groaning in Himself"* (v.38). We need to dispense with the idea that spiritually mature people never hurt and never cry.

Not only is groaning not inconsistent with godliness, here is another thing, amazing but true: GROANING IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH JOY! The most joyous of God's people are those who deeply, and even sorrowfully, cry out for His redemption. Indeed, it's often the bitterness of groaning that makes our hope so sweet. The godly life fits the definition of "bittersweet," and it's quite appropriately compared to childbirth, an ordeal full of groaning, surely, but not without the joy that comes from hope: *"The whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now"* (Romans 8:22).

The Psalmist sang that *"weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning"* (Psalm 30:5). *"In this we groan,"* said Paul, speaking of our fleshly bodies. But if we're faithful in our walk with God, our groaning is helping us get to our goal more fervently. GROANING and EARNESTLY DESIRING are simply two sides of the same coin. The gospel, after all, is good news, but only to those who've sorrowed over their separation from God. Having obeyed the good news, they're now YEARNING for a final homecoming with Him, REACHING FORWARD to that day with every ache of their hearts.

***"Life is a bridge of groans
across a stream of tears"***

—Philip James Bailey

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	John Lemal
Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Song Leader	Earl Miller
Scripture	Luke 4:1-22
Reader	Nathan Marshall
Prayer	Harold Marshall
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Ken Prager
Fruit of the Vine	Wayne Campbell
Serve	Matt Ferrell
Serve	Dan Marton
Closing Prayer	Ed Roberts

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

Sunday PM

Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Song Leader	Dan Marton
Scripture	Luke 4:23-44
Reader	CJ Isinghood
1st Prayer	Matt Ferrell
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Earl Miller
Closing Prayer	Harold Marshall

Wednesday

Class Prayer	Harold Marshall
Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Song Leader	Earl Miller
Invitation	Dan Marton
Closing Prayer	Ed Roberts

News N Notes

Please remember these in your prayers:

Sick/ Poor Health:

- Don Coen, Sr.
- Zeda Goddard
- Robert Schwerferger, Alberta Headen's brother-in-law.
- Grace Lancaster
- Ronald & Charollette Lancaster, Ronald has been moved to Lifeline Hospital, room 214
- William Louthen, Charissa Erdman's grandfather. His address is: 127 10th St., Wellsburg, WV 26070
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother is also at Weirton Medical Center
- Harold Marshall, Sr., Harold's father
- Alfred and Mary Jane Myers
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Gabriel Taylor, 5 year old great grandson of Don Coen, Sr., dealing with cancer.
- Trudell Tennant

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

Brightwood Center:

- Shirley Campbell

Valley Haven:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

Weirton Geriatric:

- Kitty Morgan

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