

*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 Speakers:

AM: Tim

Henderson

PM: Chuck

Isinghood

*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*

The Race of Life

By—David Cox

Via—Market Street Messenger—10-18-2009

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1).

The Hebrew writer is writing to the Hebrew Christians to encourage them to remain faithful and to keep their focus on the goal. He has just concluded a list of great examples of faith in Hebrews 11 such as: Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sara, Issac, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses. After mentioning these he writes, *"And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets..."* (Hebrews 11:32). Of these that he did not mention he says that they suffered violence of fire, imprisonment, and other violent mistreatments and declares *"of whom the world was not worthy"* (Hebrews 11:38). It is in this setting he pictures for the Hebrew Christians this great cloud of witnesses as gathered about them for encouragement as they run their race of life. Let us notice the instructions the writer gives as they run this race.

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Lay Aside Every Weight and Sin

The analogy here is that in a race no one will race carrying around extra weight to burden them as they run. In the race of life, many things serve as distractions to our fully devoting our lives to the service of Christ. Some of these things may not actually be sinful in and of themselves, but they encumber us as we strive to serve. We must honestly look at our lives and see if there are things which are hindering us in being fully committed to serving Christ. It may be in our work, hobbies, etc. We must shed any excess baggage as we run the race of life.

He also mentions sin. The rejection of sin is an absolute must if we are to finish with victory. Sin will sap us physically and emotionally, but will also destroy us spiritually. We must stand against sin and do all we can to avoid it. At times, we may fall back into sin, but we must not let it remain with us or it will destroy us in our race. The great cloud of witnesses understood this and we must understand it too: to rid ourselves of all encumbrances and sin. They did it and so can we.

Run With Patience

Patience is a key part of the race we are running. The Christian life must not be seen as a sprint or a 40 yard dash, but a long distance run, a marathon. Good starts are good in any race, but it is not what is necessary in a marathon. Rather, a long distance runner must train and develop for the race and then pace himself for the long run. In our lives as Christians, we must learn to be patient and to not expect immediate results. Patience is one of the attributes Peter says that we must add to our faith, if we are to not lose our faith (2 Peter 1:3-10). Let us run with patience and endurance; not becoming weary in well doing.

Let us remember the exhortation of the Hebrew writer to remain focused on the long-term race, and not be turned away by short-term distractions regardless of how appealing they may seem to be. The great people of faith mentioned in Hebrews 11 have given us the example that the race can be run and finished well. The race of life must be run in patience and endurance focusing on "*Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith*" (Hebrews 12:2).

The Humble Heart of the Seeker

By—Gary Henry

Via—Diligently Seeking God—09-06-2009

“The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts.”

— Psalm 10:4 —

If there is one quality that is more needful than any other for seeking God, it is the quality of humility. Pride is the power that lured us away from God in the first place, and it is the power that will, if we let it, keep us from returning to Him. If God must be dealt with on His terms, then proud people simply will not deal with God. *“The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts.”*

Pride keeps us from enjoying so many good things, it is a pity that we don't reject it any more decisively than we do. It is a heavy, soul-wearying bag of rocks that we drag around with us wherever we go. Rather than seeing humility as an unpleasant burden that we must somehow learn to bear, we'd do better to see pride as an unnecessary burden that we need not bear any longer. Those who have finally let go of their pride always report enjoying such a sense of freedom that they wish they'd made the decision sooner. We pay a high price for holding on to our ego.

Pride can be so subtle, however, that we may not see how much we have been affected by it. Few of us see ourselves as being “proud” people. And yet few of us are as humble as we need to be in our seeking of God. The deep changes that have to be made in our hearts require that we adopt a more receptive, teachable attitude than we've had up to now. Whether we call it by its right name or not, it's pride that prevents our repentance.

God is always appealing to us to lay down

our prideful rebellion and come back home to Him. But while we may see some of the good that would come from doing that, we don't find it an easy thing to do. Reconciliation to God is appealing, but if it means having to humble ourselves, we're reluctant to go that far. It may have been a long time since we deferred to God on any question that really mattered to us, and the thought of openly admitting how poorly we've lived our lives is embarrassing, to say the least. Pride dies a hard death.

"Not irreverently we may say that God has no easy time of it to smash the bridgeheads of our clever self-sufficiency, to break down the fortified walls of our self-defenses, and capture the inner stronghold of our pride" —Paul Stromberg Rees

Our Utilitarian Approach to God

By—Gary Henry

Via—Diligently Seeking God—09-28-2010

"So Jonah went out of the city and sat on the east side of the city. There he made himself a shelter and sat under it in the shade, till he might see what would become of the city. And the Lord God prepared a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be shade for his head to deliver him from his misery. So Jonah was very grateful for the plant"
—Jonah 4:5,6

Although we understand the Scriptures to teach that we are God's "vessels," we sometimes look upon Him as a vessel for our own use. We tend to take a utilitarian approach to God, as if He were an instrument

that exists to accomplish OUR purposes, rather than vice versa.

The degree to which we delight in God is too often determined by how "useful" He is to us. In our own minds, we have a concept of how we would like our lives to be, and to the extent that God helps us move toward having this sort of life, we are delighted with Him. We look for the "practical" benefits of the spiritual life, and if these are not found, then we tend to become angry with God. Perhaps we reject Him altogether. We might not say it in so many words, but we have little use for a God who doesn't come through for us in the clutch.

In the heat of the blazing Assyrian sun, Jonah was pleased when God prepared a plant that would provide welcome shade and "deliver him from his misery." He was not so pleased the next day when the plant was destroyed and he had no choice but to sit in the sun again. "It is better," he said, "for me to die than to live" (Jonah 4:8). Just so, our estimate of how well God is doing often depends on how satisfactorily He is providing what we desire.

Yet if our relationship with God is based upon love, we can ill afford to let self-centered (though we would simply call them "practical") motives enter in. Our enjoyment of God cannot depend on whether some desired payoff is being received from Him. Love does not calculate or bargain for personal benefit; it gives out of the sheer joy of giving to one who is beloved. "The only reward love seeks is someone to love" (Bernard of Clairvaux). And if there is any question of benefit, we exist for HIS benefit: our glory is to accomplish HIS purposes and to show forth HIS goodness.

"That which cannot be explained or made useful tends to be rejected as contrary to our purpose. Under those circumstances, we lose the ability to remain instruments of God's will. We would rather inform God of our needs in the hope that he will comply with our conceptions of what life ought to be"

—Paul Ciholas—

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Announcements	Nathan Marshall
Song Leader	Wayne Cambell
Scripture	Luke 6:1-19
Reader	Dan Marton
Prayer	Tim Henderson
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Don Coen, Jr.
Fruit of the Vine	Matt Ferrell
Serve	Ken Prager
Serve	John Lemal
Closing Prayer	Harold Marshall

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

Sunday PM

Announcements	Nathan Marshall
Song Leader	Tim Henderson
Scripture	Luke 6:20-49
Reader	Bryan Legg
1st Prayer	Harold Marshall
Speaker	Chuck Isinghood
Communion	Ed Roberts
Closing Prayer	Dan Marton

Wednesday

Class Prayer	Matt Ferrell
Announcements	Nathan Marshall
Song Leader	Singing/Praying
Invitation	Harold Marshall
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

News N Notes

Ladies Class tonight after services in the auditorium.
Men's Training class tonight after services in class room 2 & 3. Men have your passage ready to read

Please remember these in your prayers:

Sick/ Poor Health:

- Don Coen, Sr.
- Zeda Goddard is in the hospital at Weirton Hospital, room # 852
- 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 back in the hospital at Weirton Hospital, room #822
- Harold Marshall, Sr., Harold's father
- Kitty Morgan is at Weirton Hospital, room #842
- 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