

In
Search
of...

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

Today's Preacher:

*Nathan
Marshall*

*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.*

"No Work -- No Eat" By Jim R. Everett

Some at Thessalonica evidently thought that the coming of the Lord was imminent, so they had quit work and had become idle and busybodies. Because of Paul's concern about the immediate effect and far-reaching results of such a philosophy among these Christians, he wrote the second epistle utterly refuting the idea that Christ's coming was looming. Paul's instruction was for each, *"in quietness, to work and to eat his own meat,"* and *"if any would not work neither should he eat,"* (II Thess. 3:10-12). A person who cannot work needs help but a person who will not work has no right to eat.

The Christian does a day's work for a day's pay. That might seem old-fashioned to those who greedily get all they can with the least amount of personal out-put but a Christian's Master teaches higher principles —

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“Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward,” (1 Pet. 2:18). The employer — employee relationship is not identical to that of the master — servant, by virtue of degree, but the principle stands.

If a man agrees to work for a set wage, he is honorably bound to fulfill that responsibility and obey his employer. If he does not want to work there for those wages, he can quit and work elsewhere, but if he refuses to do the work agreed upon, he has no right to expect that man to pay him. Of course, the employer must realize that the LABORER is worthy of his hire, but no one has the right to exact undue benefits because the company has “made a mint.”

Thieves, gamblers and sluggards all thrive on the principle of something for nothing; eating without working; existing at the expense of others. In many societies there are too many thieves to catch; gambling is condoned because of the good revenue it produces (they never tell of the millions lost by the poor); and the sluggard lives off unemployment benefits. They have no right to eat the fruit of another’s labor.

The children’s story of the ant and the grasshopper is an excellent one to mould the character of every generation. The ant toiled in the heat of the summer while the grasshopper fiddled, danced and enjoyed life. The winter came and the ant snuggled warmly into his shelter to eat stored food, while the freezing grasshopper starved to death. The grasshopper learned his lesson the hard way. The wise man says, *“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways and be wise; which having no chief, overseer, or ruler, provideth her bread in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou*

sleep, O sluggard? . . . Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: so shall thy poverty come as a robber, and thy want as an armed man,” (Prov. 6: 6-11).

It wouldn’t hurt for a lot of people to step outside and take a look at the ant, step humbly inside to study their Bibles, and then live in all good conscience before man and God. It might start a famine, though, if some had to eat according to the amount they worked.

*Non-Attendance Merely a
Symptom
By Larry Ray Hafley*

Every Christian is familiar with Hebrews 10:25-*“not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching” (Heb. 10:25).* The passage is not the problem. Generally, a failure to attend services is not the issue. What, then?

Love for the Lord, dedication and devotion to serving God, and a sincere desire to go to heaven are the keys to godly living. Thus, a lack of attendance is not the problem. Instead, it is the symptom of what is wrong. Worldliness: *“And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful” (Mark 4:19).* Like some in the Old Testament, they are *“children in whom is no faith.”* Shall we exhort and encourage them to attend services? Of course. However, this is often the extent of our attempt to solve the problem. Obviously, it is not sufficient. So, what do we do? If each would do the following things, perhaps the weak would be strengthened.

“Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing. And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. Be at peace among yourselves. Now we exhort

you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all. See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all" (1 Thess. 5:11-15).

"Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted" (Gal. 6:1). "Therefore, strengthen the hands that are weak and the knees that are feeble, and make straight paths for your feet, so that the limb which is lame may not be put out of joint, but rather be healed" (Heb. 12:12, 13).

Rather than sitting back and complaining about those who "never come to church like they should," perhaps we should take some initiatives which will increase their faith and encourage their souls. Love can do no less.

Letting Ourselves be

Reminded

By Gary Henry

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure" (2 Corinthians 12:7).

PAUL'S THORN IN THE FLESH WAS TO SERVE A QUITE UTILITARIAN PURPOSE. It was to be a simple REMINDER. Every time he thought about the privileges he had been granted as an apostle, the pain of his "thorn" was to remind him to remain humble. But Paul's thorn in the flesh would not have served its purpose if he had not LET himself be reminded. When he felt the pain or difficulty, Paul had to THINK about the purpose it was meant to serve. Otherwise, the meaning — and VALUE — of his thorn would have

been lost on him. A similar thing may be said of the manna given to Israel in the wilderness. In **Deuteronomy 8:3**, Moses said, "So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord." The manna was given to everybody, but the learning of its lesson was not automatic. Only those "got it" who THOUGHT about it.

In the New Testament, we hear Jesus speaking of those who have "eyes to see" and "ears to hear" (**Matthew 13:10-17**). The point is not simply that some can see and hear while others cannot; it's that some are too PREOCCUPIED WITH THEMSELVES to see and hear the truth about God. There is no such thing as a reminder so powerful that it reminds those who aren't paying attention.

In truth, our lives are full of reminders every day. Both in our personal circumstances and in the wider world around us, there are numerous objects and events that should point us to greater things. Even with regard to the world of nature, Paul said that God "did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness" (**Acts 14:17**). But we have to PAY ATTENTION and GET THE POINT. And if we don't, we are the losers. If we fail to make the connection between the "story" and the "moral" of the story, then we will find it hard to keep in touch with God.

"Nothing happens that is not significant if you can only see the significance" (Christopher Isherwood).

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Earl Miller
Announcements	Harold Marshall
Song Leader	Nathan Marshall
Scripture	Luke 12: 1 - 21
Reader	Ken Prager
Prayer	Bryan Legg
Speaker	Nathan Marshall
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Chuck Isinghood
Fruit of the Vine	Ed Roberts
Serve	CJ Isinghood
Serve	Dan Marton
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

Sunday PM

Announcements	Harold Marshall
Song Leader	Wayne Campbell
Scripture	Luke 12: 22 - 40
Reader	John Lemal
1st Prayer	Ed Roberts
Speaker	Nathan Marshall
Communion	Chuck Isinghood
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

Wednesday

Class Prayer	Wayne Campbell
Announcements	Harold Marshall
Song Leader	Dan Marton
Invitation	Bryan Legg
Closing Prayer	John Lemal

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

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

- Don Coen Sr
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband
- Grace Lancaster,
- Ronald Lancaster
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Harold Marshall Sr
- Alfred and Mary Jane Myers
- Liela Brady is recovering at home
- Jim Moore, Nancy Morris' nephew
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Gabriel Taylor, 5 year old great grandson of Don 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

At Home:

- Mabel Fleming
- Zeda Goddard
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap
- Ann Rudolph

Traveling

- The Henderson's
- Dorothy Lancaster, Lora Smith
- Dave & Wilma Harless

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