

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:

Faith

*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 Greatest Task

By—Billy Norris

Via—Market Street Messenger—07-17-2011

Great tasks have been given to men, such as building the pyramids and the great wall of China, digging the Suez and the Panama canals, orbiting the earth and landing on the moon. The greatest task, however, the world has ever known is taking the gospel to every creature on earth in every generation. Jesus said, *"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature"* (Mark 16:15).

This is the greatest task because:

1. It has been assigned by the greatest being—God, through Jesus Christ, his Son. God is described as *"Almighty"* (Genesis 17:1), infinite (1 Kings 8:27), eternal (Isaiah 57:15), omnipresent (Psalm 139:7-12), omniscient (Psalm 139:1-6). Paul said that even the foolishness of God is wiser than men (1 Corinthians 1:15).

Because of God's greatness we cannot question his way of

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carrying out this assignment. After his resurrection from the dead and just before his return to be with his Father in heaven, Christ gave to his disciples the great commission to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. In carrying out this assignment they had an individual responsibility, as do Christians today; but when the church was established a few days later, it had the responsibility as the pillar and ground of the truth of carrying out this commission (1 Timothy 3:15). Evangelists sent out by a local congregation would preach the word, establish other congregations, and then return to the congregation from which they went out to give a report of their work (Acts 13; 14). No other organization was used in their work of evangelism. The local congregation proved adequate in accomplishing the work God gave it.

Also, because of the success of God's way of evangelizing the world, we cannot question its wisdom. Without the use of any kind of missionary society, and without congregations combining their resources into some super organization, but simply by individual disciples going out on their own (Acts 8:4), and by local congregations sending out evangelists, in a relatively short time the gospel was preached throughout the world of that day. Only thirty or so years after the establishment of the church, Paul said that the gospel *"was preached to every creature which is under heaven"* (Colossians 1:23).

2. It manifests the greatest love. Through the ages man has been rebellious against God, and has repeatedly transgressed God's laws. Jeremiah said that God's people had forgotten him days without number (Jeremiah 2:32). Since the wages of sin is death, and all have sinned, man is under the sentence of spiritual death and stands to

spend all eternity in hell as the consequence of his transgressions. But even though man has been so rebellious, God has manifested his great love for us in the gift of his precious Son to die in our stead. Through the great sacrifice of Christ he has provided the gospel, which is his power to save our souls from the terrible consequences of our sins. *"Him who knew no sin, he made to be sin on our behalf; that we might become the righteousness of God in him"* (2 Corinthians 5:21). It is said that Ben Hogan, the great golfer, seeing that he and his wife would be involved in a terrible automobile accident, threw himself in front of his wife to protect her. His body was crushed, and he never was able to reach again the skill that he once possessed, but he saved the one that he dearly loved. God's love was far greater, because he sacrificed his Son for all mankind, even for his enemies, and those who had been so rebellious against his will.

3. It makes available the greatest power—the gospel, *"the power of God unto salvation"* (Romans 1:16). Paul said that the Corinthians were saved by the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:2.) Though they had been a very ungodly people, there was power in the gospel to save them from their sins when they obeyed. *"Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with men, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye were washed, but ye*



were sanctified, but ye were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:9-11). Indeed there is power in the blood of Christ to cleanse "from all sin" (1 John 1:7).

4. It covers the greatest territory—"all the world." The gospel is not limited by distance, nor by color, nor by station in life. It is for, and is needed by, every man, everywhere. It is mankind's only hope for true unity; for by obedience to the gospel all men can be of "one heart and soul" (Acts 4:32). It reaches out to heaven itself; for it is from the mind of God, will be the basis of man's judgment in the last great day (John 12:48), and will make possible the entrance of the redeemed into the heavenly home (Revelation 7:9-17).



5. It can have the greatest results. It can save souls from an eternal hell. In the judgment day Jesus will have to say to the great majority, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matthew 25:41.) John says that the smoke of their suffering goes upward forever and ever (Revelation 14:11), and that they shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Revelation 20:10.) Forever is time beyond our comprehension, and yet we can realize, at least in some measure, how terrible it will be to spend eternity—time that knows no end— in suffering and misery that knows no relief.

Carrying the gospel into all the world can not only save souls from hell, it can greatly affect the lives of men in their earthly relationships. It can turn men from the ways of evil to righteousness. After Paul had listed a great number of sinners in writing to the Corinthians, he said, "And such were some of you, but ye were washed, but ye were sanctified, but ye were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and in the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:11). When people obey the gospel, being baptized into Christ, they rise to walk in "newness of life" (Romans 6:3, 4).

Carrying out this God-given assignment of taking the gospel into all the world can fill the hearts of men with joy in this world and in the world to come. Even when Jesus was in the shadow of the cross, he said to his disciples, "These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full" (John 15:11). Even in the terrible experience of the cross Christ could experience joy—"who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross" (Hebrews 12:2.) Paul as a prisoner in Rome could speak of his joy and also write to the Philippian brethren, "Rejoice in the Lord always: again I will say, Rejoice" (Philippians 4:1-4).

6. It requires the efforts of the greatest number of workers. God has given to his people the task of carrying the gospel into all the world. It is for men everywhere to obey the gospel in order to receive its precious benefits, and then help to carry it into all the world until it covers the earth as the waters cover the sea. This is man's hope, and only hope, both in this world and the world to come. The harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Millions are needed. Are you a worker?

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Announcements	Nathan Marshall
Song Leader	Ed Roberts
Scripture	Luke 17:1-19
Reader	John Lemal
Prayer	Harold Marshall
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Ken Prager
Fruit of the Vine	Don Coen, Jr.
Serve	Dan Marton
Serve	CJ Isinghood
Closing Prayer	Chuck Isinghood

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

Sunday PM

Announcements	Nathan Marshall
Song Leader	Ed Roberts
Scripture	Luke 17:20-37
Reader	Earl Miller
1st Prayer	Harold Marshall
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	John Lemal
Closing Prayer	Dan Marton

Wednesday

Class Prayer	Harold Marshall
Announcements	Nathan Marshall
Song Leader	Singing/Praying
Invitation	Ed Roberts
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

News N Notes

Please remember these in your prayers:

- Ethel Mahan passed away Wednesday, the family are having a private service.

Sick/ Poor Health:

- Leila Brady, Nancy Morris' daughter
- Don Coen, Sr.
- Clifford Coen
- Zeda Goddard
- Grace Lancaster
- Ronald & Charollette Lancaster
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Harold Marshall, SR, is at home under hospice care
- Alfred and Mary Jane Myers
- 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 Coen, Sr., dealing with cancer which has spread into his lung.
- Trudell Tennant

Our Shut-ins

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

Brightwood Center:

- Shirley Campbell

Valley Haven:

- 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