

University Heights Messenger

Volume 4--Number 39

September 16, 2012

GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

- Hear the gospel (Romans 10:17)
- Believe Jesus is the Christ (John 3:16)
- Repent from sins (Luke 13:3)
- Confess faith in Jesus (Romans 10:9-10)
- Be baptized for remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
- Live worthy of the calling (Ephesians 4:1)

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Recent Additions:

John Thompson continues his rehab. As of this writing he is in Cardinal Hill. **Jan Hogen** (Ron's sister) has seen improvement in her blood work. However, she still has a ways to go and needs prayers.

List:

Our members: Jeff Howerton, Glenn Kimberlin, Paul Atkisson, Louis Harrod, Julie Patton

Others: Lenny Shepperson, Taylor Osterling, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Lala Whitson, Rita Pagan, Vina Krassow, Courtney and Aubrey Reeves, John Bennett, Robert and Sarah Brundige, Donald Dawson, Jean Gartland, Gail Stein, Michael Poynter, Sandy Childress, Mary Wilson, Charlie Little, Doris Baker, Edith Tirey, Kathy McKibben, Bill Childress, Susie Burton, Gladys Dunbar

<u>WEEKLY READING</u>	<u>LEADERSHIP</u>		<u>SERVICES</u>
Sun: Ps 18, 1 Sm 5:1-7:2, Jer 50, 1 Pe 1:1-12	ELDERS	DEACONS	Sunday
Mon: Ps 19, 1 Sm 7:3-17, Jer 51, 1 Pe 1:13-2:3	Garry Banks	Troy Antle	Bible Study: 9:45 AM
Tue: Ps 20, 1 Sm 8, Jer 52, 1 Pe 2:4-10	David Collins	Richard Brundige	Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM
Wed: Ps 21, 1 Sm 9:1-10:16, Lm 1, 1 Pe 2:11-3:12	John Thompson	Neal Erickson	Wednesday
Thu: Ps 22, 1 Sm 10:17-11:15, Lm 2, 1 Pe 3:13-4:19	EVANGELIST	Adam Litmer	Bible Study: 7:30 PM
Fri: Ps 23, 1 Sm 12, Lm 3, 1 Pe 5	Adam Litmer	Bill Morelan	1st Fri. of Month
Sat: Ps 24, 1 Sm 13, Lm 4, 2 Pe 1:1-11		Jim Parsons	Singing: 7:30 PM
		Pat Seabolt	3rd Fri. of Month
		Matt Thompson	Bible Study: 7:00 PM
			(Ask for location)

Reminder

The first men's class will be held this evening at 5. All men are encouraged to attend.

There's a lesson here

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for.... (Hebrews 11:1)

What is the one thing for which our hope is paramount? Is it not eternal life in heaven with God? Do not all of our other hopes pale in significance to our hope of a home in heaven where there will be no more tears, no sorrow, no sickness, no temptation to sin?

So, how does faith relate to our hope of eternal life in heaven? Faith provides the assurance that heaven is real and not just some fictional place a clever writer dreamed up. Faith is what makes heaven as real to us as if we could reach out and touch it, or we could open a door and look into it, or we could put it onto our travel itinerary and take a trip there. Faith assures us that the following events took place:

By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. (Hebrews 11:5)

When the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. (2 Kings 2:1, 11)

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." (Acts 1:9-11)

But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. (Acts 7:55)

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows.(2 Corinthians 12:2)

*After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.”*² *At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne.* (John 4:1-2)

Is heaven real to us? Does heaven occupy our thoughts daily? Is our faith so strong, so immovable, so steadfast, so rock solid that it is, truly, the very assurance that heaven is there awaiting our arrival? Remember what Jesus said? *“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.* (John 14:1-3)

“Above the bright blue, the beautiful blue, Jesus is waiting for me and for you. Heaven is there, not far from our sight. Beautiful city of light.” The Elders

Me? I'm Different.

By Dee Bowman

Did you ever notice that any weakness, any wrong committed, any neglect is always worse in someone else? When I commit some infraction it's never quite as bad as when someone else does the same thing. For instance:

They're lazy; I'm just busy. When someone else is not responding to the Lord's work as he ought we are quick to brand him as shiftless, slothful, slack concerning his responsibility. But when I don't get involved doing what I should, it has nothing at all to do with being indolent or uninterested; I'm busy. I have things to do that are important. I have places to be that are necessary.

They're indifferent; I'm just not quite ready. If we observe others gradually falling away, we quickly conclude that they are unconcerned, mediocre. But if I do not participate, if I am inattentive, if my actions show a want of care and enthusiasm, I'm not indifferent at all, I just haven't gotten around to doing it yet. Oh, I'll get to it sooner or later, but not just yet.

They're gossips; I just tell it like it is. When someone tells us some story which is not calculated to edify or strengthen, we will likely brand the teller a gossip. But when I repeat such information it could never be construed as being gossip or backbiting; I'm just telling it like it is. I'm a frank and honest person, you know.

They're complainers; I'm just concerned. All of us have seen people who complain. They are obviously not thinking straight. They murmur softly in half-articulated terms their dissatisfaction with the state of things. In hushed tones they accuse, indict, belittle. Never, mind you, in sound, convicted tones, but in low rumblings whispered in quiet places. But, brother, not me. No one would ever surmise that I am a whispering spiritual adolescent when I lament the terrible state of affairs. Complainer? Me? I'm just concerned, just interested. How could you ever think of me as a complainer?

They have a bad attitude; I'm just upset. Since people must dwell together, sometimes problems arise. In fact, most problems are in some way or another people-related. It's sad that when some problem arises we're quick to see in our adversary deceit, dishonor, disrespect, rudeness, even dishonesty. How can we know? Why, it's obvious. His attitude. Can't you see that? When I engage in controversy watch how I can defend my poor position. All's fair when I do it. I can get upset with impunity. I can retaliate without regard to dignity or honor. After all, I'm just upset—he's the one with the bad attitude.

They're hypocritical; I'm just trying to help. We all talk some about “constructive criticism,” but no one but me knows what it really is. We hear others as they enumerate in order what they think to be the faults of the preacher, for instance—or the song leader, or one of the elders—and we are instantly horrified at such deplorable conduct. After all, it doesn't take a Solomon to identify the chronic hypercritic as he goes about cutting people down to size. But when I do it, it's somehow different. I don't criticize, except to help. I don't find fault or nit-pick, I seek to improve.

We would all do well to consider the beam in our own eye. When it has been removed, we can see more clearly how to cast the speck out of the eye of our brother. Oh, how many problems this would solve among brethren, how many divisions would be avoided, how many feelings spared!

“Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things.” Romans 12:1

Sermons: (AM) “Love bears all things” (PM) Garry Banks preaching

Reading: (AM) Luke 6:46-7:10 (PM) Luke 7:11-29