

# University Heights Messenger

Volume 5--Number 11

March 17, 2013

## 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

### List:

**Ed Sissel** (Brianna's grandfather) is recovering after a successful surgery to remove his kidney. **Lindsay Morgan** continues to experience the problems that hospitalized her a few weeks ago. Let's pray that further testing produces an answer. **Reese Worley** will be traveling to Arizona for her surgery soon. Let's continue to remember Reese and her family in our prayers.

**Our members:** Jeff Howerton, Glenn Kimberlin, Paul Atkisson

**Others:** Lenny Shepperson, Jan Hogen, Barabara Matheny, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Rita Pagan, Vina Krassow, John Bennett, Robert and Sarah Brundige, Donald Dawson, Jean Gartland, Gail Stein, Dawn Rutledge, Sandy Childress, Mary Wilson, Doris Baker, Bill Childress, Susie Burton, Fred Dalton, Norma Hurt, Taylor Osterling, Vernon Johnson

<u>WEEKLY READING</u>		<u>LEADERSHIP</u>		<u>SERVICES</u>
<b>Mon</b>	Exodus 16-18, Ephesians 4	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>DEACONS</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
<b>Tue</b>	Exodus 19-21, Ephesians 5, Psalm 33	Garry Banks	Troy Antle	Bible Study: 9:45 AM
<b>Wed</b>	Exodus 22-24, Ephesians 6, Psalm 109	David Collins	Richard Brundige	Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM
<b>Thu</b>	Exodus 25-27, Philippians 1, Psalm 90	John Thompson	Matt Thompson	<u>Wednesday</u>
<b>Fri</b>	Exodus 28-31, Philippians 2		Adam Litmer	Bible Study: 7:30 PM
		<u>EVANGELIST</u>	Bill Morelan	<u>1st Fri. of Month</u>
		Adam Litmer	Jim Parsons	Singing: 7:30 PM
			Pat Seabolt	<u>3rd Fri. of Month</u>
			Adam Daniels	Bible Study: 7:00 PM
			Jamie Powell	(Finished for the time being)

### **There's A Lesson Here**

Being full of pride is bad enough, but when that pride develops into arrogance, then one's decisions can only end in damage and destruction all around. Arrogance will result in the rejection of authority. Arrogance will lead one to make foolish decisions, ignoring wise advice to one's own detriment. Arrogance will ultimately end in the forfeiture of one's soul for all eternity.

Adam Daniels and Jamie Powell were appointed deacons last Lord's Day. Let us encourage them as they serve the Lord and His church.

Arrogance is haughtiness arising out of a superior state of mind, an inaccurate belief about oneself. It manifests itself as insolence towards others, especially those in authority, and a disdain for the legitimate rules established by that authority. Arrogance prefers offensive displays of superiority or self-importance rather than the exercise of reason in dealing with others.

In the days of Jeremiah, God's people had become a haughty people. Their arrogance is evident in their statement to God, "We will not walk in it!" (Jeremiah 6:16) What God had said to them no longer mattered. The fact that it was God who said it had become irrelevant. They said, "We will not..." They placed themselves above God. God was no longer making the rules for them, as they saw it. Their attitude was clearly that they would no longer tolerate God telling them what to do.

Had God told them something that was so intolerable? Had He given them a path to follow that was so fraught with obstacles and difficulties that they were justified in telling Him "no?" Quite the contrary! Through Jeremiah, God had given them divine guidance on how to correct themselves and return to His favor. "Thus says the Lord: "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls." (Jeremiah 6:16) God was saying that they were way off

## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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course. He was telling them what they needed to do to get back on the right path. There was divine wisdom and guidance to be found in those ancient paths. God called it the good way and urged them to walk in those ancient paths. He said that they would find rest for their souls. But they had become an arrogant people and they replied, “WE WILL NOT WALK IN IT!”

But man has always had a problem with the tendency towards arrogance. From Cain who killed his brother rather than properly sacrifice to God to the desire of the people of Babel to make a name for themselves; from the strange fire of Nadab and Abihu to the failure of King Saul; from Israel’s constant giving in to idolatry to the multiple problems within the church at Corinth, man has allowed arrogance to keep him in trouble with God. Thus Paul warned in 1 Corinthians 10:12: “*Therefore let anyone who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.*”

“Stand fast in the faith of Christ, always eager to defend. Put on the whole armor of God, and having done all to stand. Stand girded about with truth. Don’t turn from the narrow way. Remember God in your youth, in the Master’s footsteps stay. Stand for the things which Christ stood for, stand for the things which Christ died for, stand, seek and ask for the old paths, stand, take heed lest you fall!” (Hymn Stand Fast in the Faith)

How Satan must glorify in man’s arrogance and ultimate fall! The Elders

### **Truthful Excuses**

By Robert Turner

An excuse does not need to be a lie. It is “*a cause, factor, or circumstance that frees one from blame or releases him from obligation.*” Many excuses are both quite truthful and legitimate; some outright lies; while still others may be very truthful yet reveal a most unbecoming character in their maker.

When someone “explains” his absence from worship with, “We had some visitors at home,” this does not need to be a lie at all. It may be as truthful as it can be—which, of course, serves to tell us that this person regards social amenities and amusements as being more important than worship.

“No one is perfect!” Truer words were never spoken! So—there can be no standards, no true “rights” and “wrongs.” There can be no ideals to which we vehemently urge one another, nor should we urge high moral or spiritual goals upon anyone. Can’t we see that the very imperfection of man is the very reason for recognizing our failures as such, and helping each other to get back up and try once again?

“Many people are doing it,” to which we all must agree. Does that alone make it the will of God? “Many people” think that man made God in his own image, and happily accept a “situation ethic” standard; but it cannot be demonstrated that such a philosophy has ever elevated mankind, much less promoted a stable society. This is a very poor substitute for faith in God and individual character.

“There are hypocrites in the church?—and the world has none? Does someone think that using a hypocrite as their excuse somehow makes them a better person? And how is it that one is so easily able to *see the truth* with reference to hypocrisy in others, yet be so blind to the same thing in themselves (Matthew 7:1-5)?

“But I meant well!” This also may be the truth. It commends, to a certain extent; but it remains a commendation only as our “honest heart” leads us to further consider God’s truth, and make corrections accordingly.

A radio commercial of some years back has one man excusing (?) himself from worship with, “Things are so unsettled these days. There is so little time. Why, the whole world may be blown apart at any moment!”

The reply came back, “That’s right!” Needless to say, the man’s truthful excuse will not fly with God.

**Sermons:** (AM) God is holy

(PM) Are we drifting?

**Reading:** (AM) John 6:53-71

(PM) John 7:1-24