

University Heights Church
of Christ
445 Columbia Ave.,
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-6257
www.uheightschurch.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is immediately followed by a short worship period)

First Friday of Each Month

Singing: 7:30 PM

LEADERSHIP

Elders

Garry Banks, David Collins,
John Thompson

Evangelist

Adam Litmer

Deacons

Troy Antle, Richard Brundige,
Matt Thompson, Adam
Litmer, Bill Morelan, Jim
Parsons, Pat Seabolt, Adam
Daniels, Jamie Powell

TODAY

The congregation will meet today at 5 so the elders can discuss the work of the church with us.

shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away” (Revelation 21:1-4).

Whatever troubles us here will not trouble us there. There will be no sitting in cold, stark waiting rooms while a loved one is being operated on. There will be no gazing down upon the face of friends and family for the final time as the casket is closed. There will be no worry, pain, or sorrow. There *will* be the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, surrounded by the saints singing endless songs of praise. There *will* be our faithful loved ones who have gone before waiting to embrace and welcome us. There *will* be eternal paradise.

“I’ve a home prepared where the saints abide, just over in the glory-land. And I long to be by my Savior’s side, just over in the glory-land.” Perhaps I’ll find myself back in Cincinnati one day. Perhaps you’ll find yourself back in whatever city holds a special place in your heart. Though in the end it really doesn’t matter, does it? I just want to go *home!* What about you?

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Paul Atkisson, Barbara Matheny, David Morrow, Debbie Parker, Vina Krissow, John Bennett, Robert Brundige, Donald Dawson, Gail Stein, Sandy Childress, Susie Burton, Jacob Profit, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Wilma Lawson, Jannett’s mother and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Doris Baker, Lyn Kincaid, Bernard Larch, Burnice Richardson, Ann Chrusiel, Janett Brundige’s mother, Ruth Poynter

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I found the following article by Casey Head to be quite interesting. He sourced his article very well, though I could not fit them in. If you would like his sources, just ask.

The Goose Has Been Cooked

Prior to the Reformation era, the Roman Catholic Church was, unfortunately, *the* face of “Christianity.” It was both a religious and political force throughout Europe that not only sought to exterminate all opposition, but had the power and authority to do so (e.g. the Inquisition).

However, from approximately 1306-1376, the Catholic Church faced a crisis of authority, with the papacy being moved temporarily from Rome to Avignon in France. This 70-year period has been called “the Babylonian Captivity of the Papacy.” It wasn’t long after the Pope returned to Rome in 1376 that he died, resulting in multiple claimants to the papal office.

Early reformers such as John Wycliffe (1320-1384), began to challenge Papal authority, and by extension, the supreme authority of the Catholic Church. It was during this time that John Huss was born (in 1369) to peasant parents in the town of Husinec—also known as “Goosetown”—in Bohemia, which is now the Czech Republic. To escape poverty, he made the decision to become a Catholic priest. He obtained a Master’s degree from Charles University in Prague in 1396, was ordained to the priesthood in 1400, and later served as the preacher at Bethlehem Chapel, the most popular church in Prague.

While he supported the Catholic Church in the early days of his studies and ministry, the contemporary writings of John Wycliffe opened his eyes to the problem of papal authority as well as the corruption in Catholicism. He began to embrace the full authority of Scripture, “desiring to hold, believe and assert whatever is contained in [the Scriptures] as long as I have breath in me.” When Huss embraced the full authority of the Scriptures, he naturally abandoned many of the Catholic doctrines in pursuit of biblical Christianity. And this is where it gets interesting.

Richard Wyche was a contemporary of John Huss in North Kent, England, a county where “Lollard” churches were plentiful. “Lollard” was a term used by the

Catholic Church to describe heretics. They generally rejected the practice of infant baptism, instead teaching believer's baptism (by immersion). They rejected a number of other notable Catholic doctrines, and referred to themselves as "Christians" and their churches as "churches of Christ." Richard Wyche, inspired by the "Lollards" as well as the example of Sir John Oldcastle, dissented from the Catholic Church.

On September 8th, 1410, Wyche wrote from Deptford to John Huss in Bohemia, addressing him as "a brother beloved in Christ, though unknown to me by face." He rejoiced that Huss was *now* "walking in the light." Huss reportedly read Wyche's letter before a congregation of as many as ten thousand people!

Huss replied: "*Dear brother, the people will hear nothing but the Scriptures, especially the gospels and epistles. And wherever, in town, village, house or castle, a preacher of the sacred truth appears, there the people flock together in crowds. Lo, I have but touched the tail of the Antichrist, and it has opened its mouth, that it may swallow me up with my brothers. Our Lord the King and his whole court, queen, barons, and common people, are for the word of Jesus Christ. The Church of Christ in Bohemia salutes the Church of Christ in England.*"

John Huss was excommunicated in 1411 and burned alive at the stake in Constance on July 6, 1415, having been condemned by the Council of Constance on charges of Heresy. Richard Wyche was charged with being a "Lollard" and executed on August 2, 1439 at Tower Hill in London.

John Huss, while in his twenties, came to be known by his friends as "Goose." Over a hundred years later, Martin Luther would remind his followers of the "goose" that had been "cooked" for defying the Pope." Indeed, the Catholic Church executed many for their faith. And yet Huss is noted for having prayed, "Lord Jesus, it is for thee that I patiently endure this cruel death. I pray thee to have mercy on my enemies."

Stories such as these inspire me and revive my faith. The words of Hebrews 12:1 echo in my mind as I think of men such as John Huss and Richard Wyche. "*Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.*"

"He Has Prepared For Them A City"

Adam Litmer

A few years ago I was returning to Lexington from Michigan. I drove through Ann Arbor, passed Toledo, through Bowling Green and Dayton, and then reached Cincinnati. As I drove through it occurred to me that I'll probably always consider

that city home. I know many of the streets and buildings like the back of my hand. There is an easy familiarity and comfort with Cincinnati that I have not developed with any other city.

However, such thoughts also make me think of the lessons learned from Hebrews 11:13-16. "*These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.*"

Truly it doesn't matter where I live on this earth. Whether I am in Lexington, Cincinnati, or a city on the other side of the globe, I am merely spending up the days of my exile. It is up to me to make sure that I do not allow myself to become so attached to a *place*. It is up to me to make sure that I am a useful and active instrument for the Father regardless of my location in this world. Through the eyes of faith I see my homeland and everything that I do here on earth, and in whatever location I do it, is just preparation for that city to be revealed after my Lord returns.

Think of that place, my friends! I have heard so many Christians say things very similar to what I said at the beginning of this article. So many speak of their home, talking about some place in this country. They speak with longing in their hearts and a far away look in their eyes. Even if we have the opportunity to return to the earthly city we think of as home, how will that change our current condition? We will still have to struggle with sickness. We will still have to struggle with death. We will still have to struggle with temptation. We will still have to struggle with sorrows. In the end, one city is just as good as another when it comes to changing the things all humans must face because *none of them can do it.*

However, *one* place can. "*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither*