

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

David Collins

John Thompson

Troy Antle

Evangelist

Adam Litmer

Deacons

Richard Brundige

Matt Thompson

Adam Litmer

Bill Morelan

Jim Parsons

Pat Seabolt

Adam Daniels

Jamie Powell

MEETING

Remember that our meeting with Jay Dixon
begins next Sunday.

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Rick Small (meets with the oncologist on
the 19th), the Collins and Daniels family,
Mary Weatherholt, David Seabolt, Jeff
Howerton, Rhonda Boyd (and her sister,
Dorothy), Louis Harrod, Paul Atkisson, Ed
Allison, Dwight Antle, Taylor Osterling, The
Bays and Robbins family, Sheila Lawson,
Keia Burton, Robert Brundige, Susie Burton,
Valerie and Barry Boyd, Janett's mother
and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young,
Larry Sells, Evelyn Damron, Jennifer
Dunbar, Jean Gartland, John Blessing,
William Roberts, Paul Lyda, Pete Soro, The
Ward and Thacker family, our brethren in
southern Philippines, our brethren in
Zimbabwe, Jamie Powell's father, Bruce
Feltner, Harleigh Spartman, Fay Thomas,
Mattie Johnson, the brethren in Texas and
Louisiana.

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With The Lord

*The following is an excerpt from a sermon preached by J.W.
McGarvey well over a century ago. The content is just as
meaningful and encouraging now as it was when he first
preached it.*

To be with our friends in heaven is a source of joy
that we all can appreciate. It is to many the chief source of
enjoyment, as we anticipate our heavenly home. For this
reason, the most popular hymns are those which picture
to the kindled imagination that meeting which is to know
no parting. But such is not the chief joy of heaven as it was
seen prophetically by the eyes of Jesus and Paul. When
Jesus would comfort his disciples in the hour of
separation, he said to them, *"I go to prepare a place for
you. I will come again and take you to myself; that where I
am there you may be also."* (John 14:3) To be where Christ
is, rather than to be with the angels or earthly kindred, is
the crowning hope and chief consolation. So, when he
offered for them his last prayer, the closing petition was
this: *"Father, I will that they also whom thou hast given me*

be with me where I am, that they may behold my glory which thou hast given me." (John 17:24) To see his glory is the one absorbing sight that will ravish the eyes of the redeemed, and to be with him where he is, the one presence that will satisfy the soul.

Paul's sentiment on the subject was the same. To be absent from the body was with him, not merely to rest in Abraham's bosom, as Lazarus did, nor to be with loved ones gone before, though all this was true; but it was to be "*present with the Lord*" (Philippians 1:23), and in the thought of this his soul overleaped and forgot all other thoughts. So, when he would comfort the brethren in Thessalonica, bereaved by the loss of friends, while he assures them that those who sleep in Jesus God will bring with him, he reaches the consummation of his consoling words when he says, "*Then we who are alive and remain, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so we will ever be with the Lord. Wherefore, comfort one another with these words.*" (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

I fear that such is not the experience of many Christians of the present day. Though we may not be like the Gergesenes, who, when they knew that Jesus had cast out the legion of demons by his word, were so much afraid of his power, and so much troubled by his presence, that they begged him to go away "out of their coast" or like Peter when, on seeing the amazing miracle of the first draught of fishes, fell down at the Master's feet and exclaimed, '*Depart*

from me, O Lord, for I am a sinful man!" Yet we are too much like the apostles when they saw him still the tempest: they were filled with fear, and gathering themselves together as far from him as the little ship would allow, they whispered, "*What manner of man is this, that the winds and sea obey him?*" In other words, we often think of meeting the Savior face to face with trepidation and alarm. On this account it is hard for some Christians to realize that the presence of Jesus will be the chief joy of heaven, hard for them to make the hope of this their comfort amid the sorrows of earth.

But even though none of us could realize this heavenly thought, it would still be true, and our realization of it at last will not be prevented by our failure to anticipate it now. How many times have you gone on a visit to distant friends with glowing anticipation of the pleasure which you would enjoy in the society of certain persons, when, though not disappointed in this, you have met one person there from whom you expected little or nothing, but in whose friendship you found more enjoyment than from all other sources? Thus, will it be in heaven; whatever mistaken anticipations we shall have entertained, the highest bliss and glory of that eternal abode will be the presence and the smile of Jesus.

