

The Weatherly Weekly

July 16, 2017

2017 Edition, Number 29

Armageddon

Michael W. McLemore

Salvation is a spiritual event that involves the spiritual washing away of sins (Acts 2:38). The church, the body to which the saved are added, is a spiritual "fellowship" and likewise has an enjoined spiritual work to perform (Ephesians 1: 22, 23; 1 Timothy 3: 15). Many err insisting upon placing a physical meaning on spiritual principles and teachings (John 3: 1-9). Hence, in the case of the Lord's church, many seek to reduce it to a physical institution that performs purely social activities and has only monetary goals.

In like fashion, the warfare in which the Christians and the church are to engage is spiritual, not physical. Jesus, our "Commander in Chief" lead us in this spiritual warfare with spiritual weaponry than material (Ephesians 6: 13-17).

Many today believe and teach that the battle of Armageddon is going to be a literal

physical battle in the actual location of the valley of Megiddo in the Middle East. They also believe it will be fought with relatively primitive weaponry; hence, the intense interest regarding the current issues in the Middle East. Most scholars agree that Revelation 19: 19-21 refers to the same event mentioned in Revelation 16: 12-16 and designated as Armageddon. The leader of the great army in Revelation 19 is described in verses 11-13.

The Commander of the great army involved in the battle of Armageddon is obviously Jesus Christ, called "The Word of God" (cf. John 1: 1 ff.). In view of the teaching of the scriptures concerning the spiritual warfare in which we are engaged, the view of Armageddon that involves Jesus and his people in physical combat is utterly untenable and repulsive. One would do well to let spiritual things remain spiritual. □

Watch us
LIVE!

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WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

	THIS WEEK JULY 16	NEXT WEEK JULY 23
Sunday AM		
Announcements	Forest Summers	Forest Summers
Song Leader	Jared Jimison	Charles Hill
Opening Prayer	Marty Hunt	David Jacks
Scripture Reading	Searcy Hall	Jim Ehl
Closing Prayer	Ron Harmon	Jared Jimison
Sunday PM		
Song Leader	Jared Jimison	Charles Hill
Opening Prayer	Phil Furlough	Forest Summers
Closing Prayer	Gene Preston	Doyle Wray
Wednesday PM	JULY 19	JULY 26
Song Leader	Mike Coward	Collis Terry
Invitation	Mike McLemore	Mike McLemore
Closing Prayer	Louis Garrett	Terry Barnett
Group Meeting	Group 3	Group 4

QUARTERLY BIBLE CLASSES JULY – SEPTEMBER 2017

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

1 & 2 Thessalonians
Gene Preston

ADITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Study of First Century
Churches
Various Speakers



2017 FRIDAY NIGHT SINGING

Tim Stevens, John Kilgore and Jeff May
August 11th, 2017

MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES

July	
Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Ken Cavender Wes Caudle Nick Holland Will Starks ** Jim Ehl
** Overseer	Kirk Hatcher Rob Crank John Patrick
Lord's Supper PM	Gene Preston ** Terry Childress
Visitor Greeting	
Sunday AM	Louis Garrett
Rear Door	
Side Door	Forest & Dot Summers
Sunday PM	
Rear Door/ Side Door	Cavender/T. Hill
Communion Prep	Becky Hill/Julie Singleton
Building Lockup	Collis Terry

Weatherly's Shepherds

Louis Garrett	(256) 883-7785
Tommy Hill	(256) 883-0010
Will Starks	(256) 883-5273
Forest Summers	(256) 348-2251

Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore	(256) 698-5941
Email:	mmclmore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

Steve Hagewood	Ron Harmon	David Jacks
Hill Roberts	Collis Terry	Bobby Wright

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Assembly	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:00 p.m.

LESSONS FROM A LEPER

Michael W. McLemore

Naaman was a very successful man. He was commander of the Syrian army, a great and honorable man in the eyes of his king, a victorious general, and a mighty man of valor. But, he had a terrible disease: leprosy. 2 Kings 5:1-14 gives us the divine record of Naaman.

Naaman learned from a young Israelite slave girl that there was a prophet in Israel who could heal him of his leprosy. As we read the account of how Naaman sought a cure for his leprosy, we may learn some valuable lessons about our own need for cleansing from an even greater malady than leprosy — sin.

Naaman thought his healing could be purchased. When the King of Syria granted him permission to go to Israel, Naaman "took with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing" (2 Kings 5:5). Apparently he thought he could pay someone in Israel to heal him.

Like Naaman, we cannot purchase our cleansing from sin. However, a price must be paid for our redemption, but not with "corruptible things, like silver or gold" (1 Peter 1:18). Christ paid the price for our redemption on the cross. The Apostle Peter states that Christians have been redeemed "with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Peter 1:19).

Naaman had an idea about how he thought his healing would take place. He said to himself, "He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy" (2 Kings 5:11). When the servant of Elisha the prophet told him to go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and

his flesh would be restored and he would be clean (v. 10), he became furious. His preconceived ideas concerning his healing were wrong.

When it comes to our own cleansing from sin, we must also seek God's instructions instead of what we might think would work. We must not approach God's word seeking to justify our current beliefs; rather, we must seek to know God's will through His word, and believe His word.

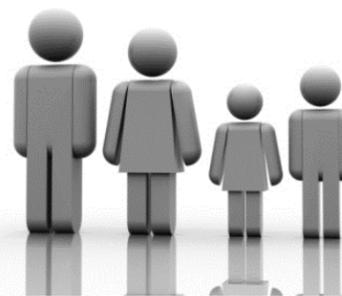
Naaman tried to substitute his own terms of obedience instead of the Lord's. He did not want to wash in the Jordan River. He asked, "Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage" (2 Kings 5:12 NKJV).

We must never try to substitute our own doctrines in the place of the teaching of God's word. Only through our obedience to His commands may we ever have the blessings attached to them.

Finally, Naaman humbled himself and obeyed the Lord's instructions. Naaman could see no logical connection between dipping in the Jordan River and being cured of his leprosy, but he obeyed. Obedience brought its reward: Naaman was healed.

A penitent believer in Christ may not see the logical connection between being baptized (immersed) in water and having his sins washed away (Acts 2:38; 22:16). Certainly, as in the case of Naaman, it is not the water that saves. It is God who saves us, when we obey Him. Obedience has its reward: the cleansing of our sins.

Will you obey? ☐



Family matters

News and Notes of Interest
To Weatherly Members

Pray for Those in Need

Glenda Cavender has been regressing rather than improving of late. *The Cavenders* are very discouraged. Please say their name to the Lord daily. They are in hopes a change in her medication will help.

Erin Riggs is scheduled for a second opinion this week. Your prayers are solicited.

Joanne Abernathy is in Nevada with her sister and brother-in-law *Steve Giddings*. *Steve* is not well. He is in the finally stages of cancer. Please pray for him.

It was wonderful to see *Ann Summers* last Lord's Day. Unfortunately she wasn't up to attending Wednesday night, but she doing remarkably well. Your prayers are so appreciated.

Mike Coward has gone back into AFIB. He is still anticipating a heart ablation in two separate areas of his heart soon. His doctor believes this will prevent *Mike's* heart from going back into AFIB. Prayers please!

Edith Turner got good news from her Orthopedist Wednesday. Her pain is likely caused from inflammation related to arthritis and not the tear in her knee. No surgery! That is great news. Thanks for your fervent prayers.

Abbey Crank continues her recovery at home. Your prayers, cards and words have been very encouraging.

Carol Blackwood, niece of *Mar-*



JULY 16, 2017

Weatherly Birthdays

7-19 Jim Ehl

7-27 Donna Godette

7-31 Phillip Dill

7-19 Peggy Shelton

7-29 Mike McLemore

garet Smith, remains at UAB. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Melvin Godette remains on our minds daily. We are trusting the Lord for his strength and comfort. Say his name daily to the Father.

At this printing I do not have word on the result of *Jenny Jacks'* appointment at Vandy. We will try to update you today.

Sherrie Stovall's aunt has been moved to rehab. She's progressing.

Art Miller, Mike Gore, and Vickie Stevens remain on our prayer list.

Guest Preachers

Louis Garrett and *Jared Jimison* will be standing in for *Mike McLemore* today. We are thankful for these men. *The McLemore's* are in Texas for a wedding.

Skills Class Tonight

Jared Jimison will be standing in for tonight's Sunday night skills class. Be here at 6. We hope all of our little ones will be able to be present. It is most encouraging.

Group 3 Meets Tonight

Group 3, led by *Murray Castleman*, will meet immediately after evening services for group meeting in the classroom off the foyer. We hope you can attend your meeting. ☐

What a Sermon!

Michael W. McLemore

The "Sermon on the Mount" is considered to be one of, if not the most, encompassing single sermon on "faithful" living. In it we find 10 "beatitudes," lessons on such vital areas as anger, worship, prayer, devotion, treatment of enemies, and many more. In the midst of this great sermon we are given the magnitude of choices before us all. We each can choose either the "broad" way or the "strait" way. What is at stake is our eternal destiny (7:13-14). After illustrating these choices the Lord lets us know of a serious danger — there are those who will seek to deceive many into thinking the broad way is in fact the correct way (7:15-20). Jesus then gives a solemn admonition -- "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven ..." (7:21-23).

Jesus clearly taught that claiming a relationship is not enough! Tragically there will even be those who have done many "wonderful" things who are rejected (22). Though they have done good things, they have not done the will of the Father (21b).

Many today are "good people" but the question is, are they doing the will of the Father in heaven? Multitudes cry "Lord, Lord" but are unwilling to "obey." Jesus' words still ring true.

What of us? Are we deceiving ourselves by our "good works," and yet failing to submit to what the Lord asks us to do? Jesus asks us to not only be religious, but obedient! ☐

Weekly Walk!