

# The Weatherly Weekly

April 29, 2018

2018 Edition, Number 17

## Building Barns

Michael W. McLemore

In Luke 12:16-21, Jesus tells of a rich farmer whose land "brought forth plentifully." Faced with insufficient room for his produce, the man determined to tear down his old barns for greater, then he'd "eat, drink, and be merry." One thing he forgot, tomorrow is not promised. He looked too far into the future.

James likewise reminded his readers, guilty of similar miscalculations, that life is but "a vapor," or a "mist." Essentially he asks, "where is the Lord in your plans?" We should say, "if the Lord wills, we shall live, and do this or that" (James 4:14-15). The rich man's plan for his future was all for naught. God tells him, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee" (Luke 12:20).

A second observation may be made from this text. The rich farmer was self-centered. Instead of praising God, who had blessed him with abundance, he gloried in himself. He determined that the results had been from his own hand, rather than gifts God had given him. Notice this attitude in his chosen language. The King James translation of this text uses the

words "I" and "my" some eleven times in only three verses. I read a sermon outline once from this selected text that was entitled, "I" Problems. The man is guilty as charged!

It may also be properly argued that the man was driven of covetousness. Jesus warned His listeners, "Take heed and beware of covetousness; for a man's life consists not in the abundance of the things which he possesses" (Luke 12:15).

Three things are summarized in this little story. Life is short. Nothing I have comes from my own doing. Life is not "stuff." Jesus calls His followers not forget the fate of the rich man, and not suffer a similar fate to his: "So is he that lays up for himself, and is not rich toward God" (Luke 12:21).

We live in a time of great prosperity. It's easy to drift into the Devil's trap of looking far into the future and building our proverbial barns. May God help us to think differently. Life is short. Nothing we have comes for our own doing. True life is not here, but in heaven. ☐

### WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

**THIS WEEK**  
APRIL 29

**NEXT WEEK**  
MAY 6

#### Sunday AM

**Announcements** Will Starks  
**Song Leader** Jared Jimison  
**Opening Prayer** Collis Terry  
**Scripture Reading** Adam Hagewood  
**Closing Prayer** Terry Barnett

**Forest Summers**  
David Jacks  
Marty Hunt  
  
Jim Ehl

#### Sunday PM

**Song Leader** Jared Jimison  
**Opening Prayer** Nick Holland  
**Closing Prayer** Doyle Wray

#### Wednesday PM

**Song Leader** Phil Furlough  
**Invitation** Louis Garrett  
**Closing Prayer** Ben Little

**MAY 2**  
MAY 9  
Collis Terry  
Mike McLemore  
Terry Barnett

#### Group Meeting

Group 1

### MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES

#### May

**Serving on the Lord's Table AM**

Dwight Ivey  
Terry Barnett  
Ben Little  
Tommy Hill \*\*  
Ed Dill  
Marty Hunt  
Charlie Skinner  
Jerry Mitchel

\*\* Overseer

#### Lord's Supper PM

Phil Furlough \*\*  
Jim Risner

#### Visitor Greeting

**Sunday AM** Murray & Wanda Castleman  
**Rear Door** John Stokes  
**Side Door** Mike & Peggy Coward  
**Sunday PM**  
**Rear Door/ Side Door** Terry & Wright  
**Communion Prep** Megan Caudle  
**Building Lockup** Phil Furlough

### QUARTERLY BIBLE CLASSES JANUARY – MARCH 2018

#### AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Acts of the Apostles  
Mike McLemore

#### AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

The People of Acts  
Various Teachers



### 2018 WEATHERLY LECTURES

Lowell Sallee, Kevin Clark, Greg Chandler  
& Robert Harkrider  
May 3-6

### 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

Phil Furlough Steve Hagewood Ron Harmon  
Kirk Hatcher 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.

# FOLLY OF REJECTING CHRIST!

**Bobby K. Thompson**

Many words may be properly and correctly used in describing the actions of those who would reject Christ. Tragedy, fatal, sad, pathetic, shame, and sinful are but a few of them! The word folly is the one that we wish to dwell upon in this lesson. Folly is defined: "state of being foolish, levity or weakness of mind". A building left unfinished because the cost proved too great is a figure conveying a conception of folly. One of the most disastrous things an accountable being can do is to reject Christ. His own rejected Him. (John 1:11, 5:40). Proud Jerusalem rejected Him. (Matt. 23:37). It is possible for His own to reject Him now. Numbers of passages teach this truth: Gal. 1:6-7, 3:1, 4:11, 5:7; II Cor. 11:3, Heb. 10:25-26. Many people reject Christ and it never appears as folly to them. Why is this so? Why do men fail to see the folly of rejecting Christ? To certain ones, no folly is realized because in their rejection of Christ they are obtaining other things. We suggest a few of these things:

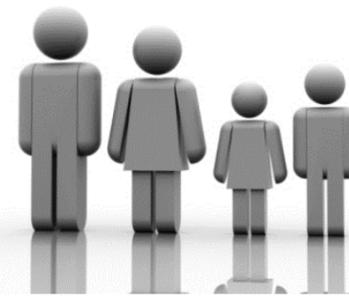
**Wealth—** Success usually attends persevering efforts. Many by fraud or oppression add field to field. Tyrants go about enlarging their dominions. Men refuse to obey Christ for in doing so they could not and would not continue in their evil gain. The majority of men still look at the seen (II Cor. 4:17-18) and view the sacrificial life of the Christian as sheer folly. Wealth is idolized and Christ is ignored.

**Pleasures of Sin—** To deny that there is pleasure to be found in sin is absurd. Truly these pleasures are short lived, but it is difficult for the worldly-minded to realize this truth. They live for the present and fail to see the unseen. Moses stood at the crossroads and made the right choice. "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;" (Heb. 11:24-25). While enjoying the pleasures of sin that are for a season, individuals fail to realize the folly of rejecting Christ. They don't desire to give up these pleasures to be faithful in Christ. They are foolish enough to think that they are being well paid. At times even professed followers of Christ seem to envy the lives of those rejecting Christ to enjoy the pleasures of sin.

**Worldly Honor and Praise —** The world has her smiles, distinctions and crowns to bestow. For these many pant! They mean more to them than the blessings in Christ. We once knew of an individual who desired to be elected to a public office. He was quoted as saying that to have that office meant more to him than anything on earth. He strove to obtain it and in so doing abandoned all faithfulness to Jesus Christ. He didn't count that as folly, for in so doing, he was obtaining the position that was so strongly coveted. No toil too great, no effort too strenuous, no sacrifice too dear to make to the obtaining of worldly honor and praise, is the slogan of many in this materialistic world who are rejecting the Christ. "Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him: but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God." (John 12:42-43). These advantages shall be lost to those who reject Christ, "He that saveth his life shall lose it" (Matt.16:25).

**Their Enjoyment Often Interrupted —** Wicked Ahab got the vineyard of innocent Naboth, but the preaching of the prophets continually caused him misery. His view of the faithful prophet: "but I hate him, for he doth not prophesy good concerning me but evil" (I Kings 22:8). Bodily afflictions, social diseases, scourges of conscience often interrupts these advantages that men hold so dear in their rejection of Christ. The Bible abounds in illustrating this truth. What did Gehazi gain by accepting silver and raiment? (II Kings 5). What did Haman gain by his high position? (Esther 6). What did Belshazzar gain by midnight reveling? (Daniel 5). What did Ananias and Sapphira gain by trying to deceive? (Acts 5). What did Judas gain by receiving thirty pieces of silver? All these are but to say: "whosoever shall save his life shall lose it."

All advantage that might be gained at the expense of rejecting Christ must be forfeited at death. Think of the Rich Fool in Luke 12! One reaps as he sows and the culmination of the reaping is in eternity. (Gal. 6:7-9). We brought nothing into this world and it is certain that nothing will be carried out. (I Tim. 6:7). The great end of life is to lay up treasures in heaven. (Matt. 6:19-21). It is folly to reject the one sure thing in the world. The sure thing is Christ (John 6:66-69). □



## Family matters

News and Notes of Interest  
To Weatherly Members

### Pray for Those in Need

*Melvin Godette* underwent surgery on Wednesday of last week. He had a good bit of pain and discomfort following the procedure. We are praying for relief for our brother. Your prayers are solicited for *Melvin* and his family. We will give the latest on *Melvin* in our morning announcements.

*Cathy Preston* will be having knee surgery on Wednesday. Please remember *Cathy* to the Lord as you pray. This will be an outpatient procedure.

*Ann Summers* and *Glenda Cavender* remain in our daily prayers. Ask for their care. These two beautiful spirits are desperately missed in our assemblies.

### Memorial Service for Jack Barr

A memorial service in honor of *Jack Barr* will be held tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Cahaba Heights Church of Christ, 4602 Caldwell Mill Rd, Birmingham, Alabama 35243.

*Susan Hand* is receiving the food brought by our membership for the family gathering that will take place following the services in Birmingham. See her after morning or evening services today.

### Thanks to Our Helpers

We had a splendid turnout for the Spring Spruce Up yesterday. We are grateful for the hard work. Almost three dozen people came out and worked dili-

gently for several hours. We appreciate the hard work of every individual. Also, we want to express our thanks to *Will & Sarah Starks* for hosting a luncheon for the workers, and to *Joanne Abernathy* for coordinating the effort. It was a great day.

### Lecture Week at Weatherly

*The Gospel for Every Generation* begins Thursday evening at 7 p.m. *Lowell Sallee & Greg Chandler* will kick us off. They will also speak Friday morning at 10. *Robert Harkrider & Kevin Clark* will be speaking Friday night at 7 p.m. Then on Saturday morning at 9 and again Sunday at 2 p.m. *Greg, Lowell & Kevin* will each speak. It's going to be great. Make sure to be present for each of these assemblies. You will benefit greatly.

### Sunday Night Study Series Finale

Tonight is our series finale for spring study series. Overall it has been phenomenal. We are looking forward to hearing from our little ones this evening. Remember we will have an abbreviated assembly worship to conclude tonight's event.

### No Group Meeting Tonight

As this is the 5th Sunday, we will have no group meeting. □



### Weatherly Birthdays

5-2	Cathy Preston	5-8	Hill Roberts
5-9	Nick Holland	5-9	Ruth Mitchell
5-12	Betty Dubose	5-12	Joe Pellegrini
5-14	Sarah Starks	5-15	Dot Summers
5-17	Megan Caudle		

## Faith & Works

Michael W. McLemore

"An old Scotsman was operating a small rowboat for transporting passengers across one of the little lakes in Scotland. One day a passenger notices that he had carved on one oar the word 'FAITH' and on the other oar the word 'WORKS.' Curiosity led him to ask the meaning of this. The old man said, 'I will show you.' He dropped one oar and plied the other called 'WORKS,' and they went in circles. Then he dropped that oar and began to begin to ply the one called 'FAITH,' and the little boat went around in circles again—this time the other way around."

"After this demonstration the old man picked up both 'FAITH' and 'WORKS' and, plying both oars together, the boat sped swiftly over the water, explaining to his inquiring passenger, 'You see, that is the way it is in life as well as in the boat.'"

Apparently the old man had read James 2. It escapes reason for one to claim obedience plays no role in the salvation of a man from sin, in light of James' inspired instruction. Peter pled with his first century listeners, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation" (Acts 2:40). "Ply the oar of WORKS" acting upon conviction. May God help us to see this simple truth. □

*Weekly Walk!*