

Weatherly Weekly

December 1, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 48

Guilty, So What?

James W. Adams

The following joke that we recently read suddenly reminded us of an attitude among brethren, it ceased to be so funny.

“All right, I like to spend money,” admitted the harassed wife, “but can you name one other extravagance?”

The brethren say, “So, we don’t have any Scripture for what we are doing, but can you name one other thing that’s wrong with our practices?”

Brother N. B. Hardeman used to say in illustration of some point, “I have fifty-two (or some other figure) reasons for not be buying a new car — the first being I don't have any money; there isn't any need to mention the others.” Surely our apostatizing brethren ought to use the same kind of good common sense with reference to their digressive practices. If they do not have Scripture for them, that is sufficient; there is no need to mention other deficiencies even if they exist.

Sad days have fallen upon us when elders, preachers, and experienced brethren

among professed churches of Christ do not regard a lack of Scripture for practice as being any argument against its acceptability. The distinguishing characteristic of the brethren has up until only a decade or so ago been their demand for a “thus saith the Lord.” Now it is different. To demand a “thus saith the Lord” is to identify oneself among the majority of professed churches of Christ as a “legalist” or an “anti.” This reminds us of an incident which was related to us some time ago. I think the preacher involved was Brother Cecil B. Douthitt. At some length, he had demonstrated to an individual that many of the practices of the brethren today are parallel to the missionary society. The individual to whom Brother Douthitt was talking said, in substance, “Well, I can see that all right, but I don't see anything wrong with the missionary society!” Everywhere we turn with the indictment, “But that is not Scriptural,” we hear brethren in effect, say, “Guilty, so what?” □

Nobility in an Open Mind

Michael W. McLemore

In Acts 17:10-12 Luke speaks highly of the Bereans. They were more “noble,” he says, because they “searched the scriptures daily” to be sure the truth was being taught to them. Luke tells us his readers the result — more were converted or believed. What is Luke trying accomplish in this text? To fully grasp his implication we should define some key words.

“Searched,” means to examine, investigate or inquire. “Daily” implies an everyday or regular event, not just occasionally. Lastly, “noble” is used as one noble-minded or of superior nature.

At the time of Paul’s preaching journeys, the spoken word, epistles and Septuagint were the main sources of God’s word. So unlike us, they didn’t have the full Gospel to study. What the apostles or other teachers taught was new, and unavailable from any other resource. The only way to discern if it was the truth was to look back to what prophecies said and see what they foretold. Luke says that the Bereans confirmed what was taught them, by daily investigating Paul’s teaching against the old record. The result was greater belief and conviction.

In 2 Timothy 2:15 Paul admonishes Timothy, “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” Once again we observe the technique, searching and studying the scriptures to prove the teacher’s instruction. By this means Timothy would be useful in directing his student’s path to the truth; and in doing this he would become a servant of whom could be proud.

Consider 1 Peter 3:15, “But sanctify the lord God in your hearts and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a question

regarding the hope that is within you, yet with meekness and fear.” Center attention on the word “answer.” It means “to make a defense for oneself.” As a lawyer makes a rebuttal to defend his client in a court of law, Christians should be ready, willing and able to defend the word of God to our fellowman, truth seeker or not.

These texts describe people who of their own free will or because of exhortation studied the word of God. Why were they doing this? Either to prove what was being taught as the truth, to teach the truth, or to defend the truth. No matter the reason, they were always studying the word of God with the heart to understand and live it.

With an over abundance of wrong religious messages surrounding us today it is imperative that we be as the Bereans. Search for the truth! No matter how much respect we have for a teacher or preacher of the Gospel, we should check their teaching. Why? Look at the Bereans; they checked Paul to be sure of what he taught. As we check what is being taught, we must be sure to understand it also. Once we come to a better understanding of God’s word, we will be able to become workmen for him. Those who know God’s word become His studied lawyers to ensure the truth is always spoken or taught of Him. We become His defenders.

Useful service is not easily attained. It takes work, devotion and time! The Bereans are singled out and are lasting examples to God’s people in every generation. Why not join the Bereans and the Timothys of the first century? Follow the example Luke displays, the advice Paul offers, and the exhortation Peter gives to search for the truth and find true nobility in an open mind. □

Watch LIVE

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Please remember **Ron Harmon's** upcoming surgery scheduled for December 4th. Ron will require an open heart procedure to address both the blockages and the heart valve. Pray for **Ron, Phyllis** and their family.

Gordon Dorris' sister, **Brenda**, remains on our prayer list. She has many challenges ahead. It is clear that she will not be able to return home. At this point no decision has been reached as to how Gordon will address this concern. Your prayers are appreciated.

Jenny Jacks was not able to be with us last week. She ran fever for several days. We are praying that she will be back to 100% soon.

Steven Guice is doing well. No decisions have been reached about the treatments at this printing. As soon as we have that information we will pass it along.

Bobby Ferguson continues at home. Your prayers for him are solicited. We are including his address in this issue. A number have asked for it. Please make note.

2607 Quail Ridge Lane SW
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Betty Reavis is continuing Chemo. Please remember her to the Lord as you pray.

Will Starks' sister, **Sarah Jernigan**, continues on our prayer list. She is recovering from several mini strokes. Say her name.

Jenny Jacks' mom, **Laura Phillips**, remains in our prayers. Say her name to the Lord. ☐

Daily Prayer List:

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Travis Barnett | Glenda Cavender |
| Melvin Godette | Marty Haselden |
| Betty Reavis | Debbie Harbin |
| Barbara Jean Woodard | Dot Summers |

Directory Update

Phil & June Furlough have new email addresses. Please make note of them.

Phil: KJeeda1968@gmail.com
June: junefurloughm@gmail.com

McLemore's Are Away

Mike & Gwyn are away visiting family in Texas. Today we are blessed to have **Gary Patton** speaking in his absence. Gary is well known to our family at Weatherly. We are fortunate to have him preaching.

Also, **Tommy Hill** will be teaching the auditorium class in Mike's place today as he did Wednesday night. Tommy is teaching John chapter 8.

Study Series

THANK YOU to each and every person who made our series such a resounding success. We love you for all you do for us! ☐

Group One Meets Tonight

Group One, led by **W.D. Patrick**, will meet immediately following evening class in the back classroom. Please plan to attend.

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



| | | | |
|-------|---------------|-------|------------------|
| 11-25 | Debbie Harbin | 11-25 | Amanda Stovall |
| 12-2 | Ryan Patrick | 12-4 | Steve Hagewood |
| 12-4 | Carley Hill | 12-4 | Tommy Hill |
| 12-4 | Ron Holland | 12-4 | Gwyneth McLemore |

The Right Choice

David McPherson

Often we are reminded of Joshua's statement to Israel of old, "choose you this day whom ye will serve... ..but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord," *Joshua 24:15*. What choice are you making? Are you submitting to the Lord? Are you serving Him? Just what is the right choice? For the non-Christian, the right choice is to obey the gospel. Paul wrote, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek," *Romans 1:16*. A failure to obey the gospel results in "everlasting destruction," *2 Thess. 1:8*. Obey today! For the unfaithful Christian, the right choice is to repent and pray. When a Christian named Simon was guilty of sin, Peter commanded him to "Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven" *Acts 8:22*. In sin, one is separated from God, *Isa. 59:1-2*. Choose to be rejoined in fellowship with the Lord and your brethren! For the faithful Christian, the right choice is to keep on keeping on. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not," *Galatians 6:9*. Be thou faithful unto death! ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



Weatherly Heights CHURCH OF CHRIST
930 Weatherly Road SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Mailing:

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Huntsville, Alabama 35815

Phone: 256 881-9535

Email: contactus@weatherlychurch.com

TIMES OF SERVICES

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Sunday Bible Classes | 9:00 am |
| Sunday AM Assembly | 10:00 am |
| Sunday PM Assembly | 5:00 pm |
| Wednesday Classes | 7:00 pm |

Stay informed and engaged online at
www.weatherlychurch.com

WATCH:

LIVE Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



Weatherly's Shepherds

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Tommy Hill | 256 883-0010 |
| Will Starks | 256 883-5273 |
| Forest Summers | 256 348-2251 |

Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore 256 698-5941
Email: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Phil Furlough | Steve Hagewood |
| Ron Harmon | Kirk Hatcher |
| David Jacks | Ben Little |
| Hill Roberts | Collis Terry |
| Bobby Wright | |

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, December 1

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
Song Leader: **Charles Hill**
Opening Prayer: **Will Starks**
Scripture Reading: **Ken Cavender**
TBA
Sermon: **Gary Patton**

Closing Prayer: **Ron Holland**

Evening Worship

Bible Skills **Hill Roberts**
Songs Leader: **Charles Hill**
Opening Prayer: **David Jacks**
Closing Prayer: **Nick Holland**

Wednesday, December 4

Songs Leader: **Phil Furlough**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Ed Dill**

Group 4

2020 Weatherly Lectures
April 30th—May 3rd

Sunday, December 8

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
Song Leader: **Hill Roberts**
Opening Prayer: **Marty Hunt**
Scripture Reading: **Searcy Hall**
TBA
Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Guest Speaker
Phil Shaver

Evening Worship

Bible Skills **Mike McLemore**
Songs Leader: **Hill Roberts**
Opening Prayer: **Bill Thompson**
Closing Prayer: **Charley Skinner**

Wednesday, December 11

Songs Leader: **Mike Coward**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Terry Barnett**

Group 1

Quarterly Adult Classes
October – December 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY

The Gospel According to John
Mike McLemore

Serving in December

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Serving on the Lord's Table AM | Jeremy Leshko | Ed Dill |
| ** Overseer | Dwight Ivey | Bill McCord |
| | John Bersherse | Ryan Patrick |
| | Forest Summers ** | Jim Risner |
| Lord's Supper PM | Phil Furlough ** | Kirk Hatcher |
| Communion Prep Building Lockup | | Kim Barnett |

