

Weatherly Weekly

December 6, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 49

"LOSS"

Michael W. McLemore

Saul of Tarsus spent his life pursuing the law and Judaism — "circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrew; as to the law a Pharisee; as to zeal a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless," *Philippians 3:5-6*. Judaism was his life. This was what gave him meaning and significance. It was his gain, his fortune, his joy. Christ changed it all!

"But, whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss..." 7-8. In Christ, Paul considered his past spoiled produce — rubbish. He asserts four desires for which he was willing to give up every earthly aspiration and attainment, 9-11.

KNOWING CHRIST — Paul counted the opportunity to know Jesus above anything and everything else. In big red letters he wrote, **"LOSS"** over every accomplishment and every possession. Knowing Christ is the only thing that meant anything in this life. It meant finding true prominence (excellency, *kjv*) in this life

and the next. Knowing Jesus meant understanding the law of Moses. It meant grasping the eternal plan of God. Knowing Christ meant finding the forgiveness God offers to all men.

GAIN CHRIST — Giving up "all things" for "his sake" is required if Christ is to be gained. Paul happily left it all. The roadway toward God is littered with the valueless rubbish of those who walk with Jesus and Paul.

FOUND IN CHRIST — Being found "in him" became the singular aspirational goal of Paul, 8-9. While Paul lived blamelessly under the law, his righteousness was still suspect. No more. "In Christ" his faith is counted as righteousness by the God of Abraham.

RESURRECTION — Paul was willing not only to suffer, but also to die suffering in order to "attain the resurrection of the dead," 11. He says, "by any means possible." Paul showed us that when living with Christ is the only thing of value or importance, "rejoicing in the Lord" is the result come what may! ☐

PREDISPOSITION

By James W. Adams

All of us to one extent or another are creatures of prejudice, or "predisposition." While imagining that we are independent thinkers, studiously logical, and quite objective in our appraisals, we have strong dispositions toward certain views, procedures, and organizations. These dispositions result from many things: rearing, custom or tradition, popularity of the thing in question, innate personality traits etc. The cause may differ with different individuals, and whatever the cause the practical result in the same, but we all have predispositions. This fact should cause every man who desires to spend eternity with God to reexamine the spiritual ground on which he stands. Am I what I am and do I believe and practice that which I believe and practice because they are right and true, or because they are what I want to be right and true?

One of the universal tendencies of mankind has been to worship a God of his own creation. This can and is done without constructing a graven image of wood, stone, or precious metal. Many individuals professing to be New Testament Christians who would consider it quite heathen to bow down to a graven image (to) worship a God of their own creation. The Psalmist warned against this tendency when he quot-

ed God as saying to the wicked: "These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such a one as thyself. . ." *Psalm 50:21*. Do we worship and serve God as He is revealed to us in His word? Or, do we worship and serve Him as we desire Him to be?

Frances Bacon wrote: "What a man had rather were true he more readily believes. Therefore he rejects difficult things from impatience of research; sober things, because they narrow hope; the deeper things of nature, from superstition; the light of experience, from arrogance and pride, lest his mind should seem to be occupied with things mean and transitory: things not commonly believed, out of deference to the opinion of the vulgar. Numberless in short are the wars, and sometimes imperceptible, in which affections color and infect the understanding." (*Novum Organum via Logic and Language*.)

Jesus impressively taught in the "Parable of the Sower" that the "good seed" — "the word of God" — takes root and grows to fruition only in the "good and honest heart," *Luke 8:11-15*. The more strongly therefore we desire to believe a thing, the more carefully we should guard against being deceived by our own predisposition! ☐

Watch
LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Mike & Peggy Coward have been diagnosed with COVID. Both are doing well considering, but do have significant symptoms. They are slated for IV Antibody treatments on Monday.

Terry Childress is doing better after several days of dealing with COVID. Last Saturday and Sunday were his bad days.

Bill McCord is cleared from quarantine after two weeks with COVID. We are thankful that he is making good progress.

Several in our family have family members and close friends who are fighting COVID: **Melvin Godette's** brother, **Bernie Godette**; **Julie Guice's** granddaughter, **Carie**, and husband **Nathan Urban**; **The McLemore's** son-in-law, **Trenton Barksdale** and daughter **Emily** (now showing symptoms); **Tommy Hill's** niece, **Libby Joiner**; **Adam Ivey's** mother-in-law, **Karen Cooper**; **WD Patrick's** friend, **Lon Porch**; and **Jason Henderson's** friend, **Rob Ryan**.

Jenny Jacks remains on our prayer list. We are trusting that physical therapy will help her to get past her recent severe back pain.

Mechi Hunt is in Peru until December 9th. She is there helping her father, **Lorenzo Rojas**.

Betty Reavis is continuing to recover from a fall during Thanksgiving. Pray for her.

Steve Guice received a good report from his scans last week. "Stable" is the news he got. We are thankful for that.

Please pray for those who are confined to assisted living facilities and memory care — **Louis Garrett**, **Laura Phillips**, **Jim Risner**, **Lane Roberts**, **Dot Summers**.

Daily Prayer List:

Betty Reavis **Laura Phillips**
Melvin Godette **Glenda Cavender**
Steven Guice **Dot Summers**

WEATHERLY UPDATES

This Week at Weatherly:

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin at 9:00 — Join us for Mike's streamed Bible class on **Recognizing Daily Needs** from James.

Sunday morning worship will begin at 10. Mike is beginning a December series entitled **Jesus in Action**. His sermon is entitled **Follow ME!** His text is **Mark 1**.

Sunday Evening "Virtual Devo" will begin on Zoom at 7 pm. We will email a link Sunday.

Wednesday Bible Study — Mike is beginning a study of **The book of Jude**. We stream at 7. No public assembly Wednesday.

PRECAUTIONS

With COVID numbers rising to all-time highs in Madison County, we want to emphasize the need to take great care. We have been spared spreading the virus from an assembly at Weatherly thus far. The members who have had COVID or do have the virus now contracted it elsewhere and exhibited symptoms before coming to an assembly. Several Weatherly members will not be present in our assembly this week because of potential exposure, though they are showing no symptoms. That's a good thing. If you are attending the Sunday assembly, pay close attention to how you feel. Stay home is you don't feel well. ☐

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



DECEMBER 6, 2020

12-6	Ken Cavender	12-6	John Patrick
12-13	Joanne Abernathy	12-15	Carol Roberts
12-17	Stacey Beshers	12-17	Kayleigh Stovall
12-17	Bill Thompson	12-23	Charles Hill
12-25	Betty Reavis	12-26	Phil Furlough
12-27	Searcy Hall	12-29	Peggy Coward
12-29	Gene Preston		

After God's Heart

Michael W. McLemore

When Samuel told Saul that his throne would be taken from him due to his disobedience he said, "The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you," *1 Samuel 13:14*. David was that man, *Acts 13:22*.

David loved God's word. In the 119th Psalm he says, "Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day." Do we meditate upon it? Do we study it daily? Are we searching to find its truths?

David hid God's word in his heart. He not only loved it, he made it his life. He sought to live as God would have him live. *Psalms 119:11* "Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You!" If we are to live as David did God's word must be hidden in our hearts also.

David was willing to confess his sins. Pride creates many problems and stands in our way when we err from the faith. David sinned as we all do, but he was willing to confess his sins before God and man, *Psalms: 51:3*.

David also hated every false way. *Psalms 119: 104* "Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way." Can we truly say that we hate all sin and every way that is contrary to our God?

We must be asking ourselves: "After whose heart am I?" ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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Weatherly Heights
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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:



Sermon archive or
live stream during
all Weatherly services



Weatherly's Shepherds

Tommy Hill	256 883-0010
Will Starks	256 883-5273

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



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, December 6

Welcome: **Mike McLemore**
Song Leader: **Jared Jimison**
Opening Prayer:
Scripture Reading:

Mark 1
Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Jesus in Action: Follow Me

Closing Prayer:

Sunday, December 13

Mike McLemore
Jared Jimison

Mark 2
Mike McLemore
Jesus in Action: All Authority

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz	CANCELLED	CANCELLED
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Songs Leader:		
Opening Prayer:	Virtual Devotion on ZOOM	Virtual Devotion on ZOOM
Closing Prayer:		

Wednesday, December 9

Songs Leader:
Invitation: **Streamed Bible Study**
Closing Prayer:

None

2021 Planning Underway

Wednesday, December 16

Streamed Bible Study

None

Quarterly Adult Classes

October – December 2020

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Recognizing Daily Needs
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Add to Your faith: Study of 2 Peter
Mike McLemore

Serving in November

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

Lord's Supper PM

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

