

Weatherly Weekly

December 13, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 50

The Great High Priest

Michael W. McLemore

The Hebrew letter describes Jesus as “the great high priest,” *Hebrews 4:14*. The unknown author went further to encourage his readers, “let us hold firmly to what we profess.” Christians have a living, empathetic advocate at the right hand of God who is willingly awaiting our pleadings. What could inspire us more?

Jesus did not become high priest arbitrarily, but by divine oath, “the Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, ‘You are a priest forever,’” *Hebrews 7:20-21*. Nothing extraordinary was involved in the mode of the appointment of the Aaronic priesthood. Levitical priests were born into the office. Generation after generation, Aaron’s descendants were born, came of age, served as priests and died. They were priests by the “carnal decree of the letter of the law” *cf. verse 16*. Jesus, the Son of God, was pronounced a priest by divine oath and was qualified to do so “by the power of an indestructible life.” This was extraordinary and invites confidence.

But, there is more. The Holy Spirit asserts

the permanence of Jesus’ priesthood in the Psalmist’s words, “The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind.” Christians must not look past the full implication of this affirmation, namely the temporary role of the Law of Moses and it’s priestly provisions as compared to the enduring priesthood of Jesus.

The Lord Jesus is in a unique position to give foundation to the new, better covenant. By divine oath He has become “the guarantor of a better covenant” *Hebrews 7:22*. He is our “pledge” of a new and better hope.

Who could name the priests descending from Aaron? “They were many.” They all had one thing in common, they died. When they did, their service was completed, *7:23*. Not so with Jesus. He was placed in the priestly office after His resurrection: “he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever” *7:24*. Jesus lives and “is able to save to the uttermost” those who draw near to God “since he always lives,” *Hebrews 7:25 cf. Hebrews 5:5-6*. Rejoice! □

Coming Along Side

By Michael W. McLemore

The Bible is replete with models of effective encouragers, but one man stands atop the crowd. Barnabas was given a name to match his life – Son of encouragement. Our first introduction to him was of his willingness to sell property to help those in need, *Acts 4:32-37*. He came along side of Paul in the early days when everyone else feared, *9:27*.

When word reached Jerusalem of the spread of the gospel to Antioch in Syria, it was Barnabas who was sent. Dr Luke offered the following commentary, “When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians,” *Acts 11:23-26*. Barnabas was remarkable throughout his life. He collected funds to help persecuted Christians. He powerfully partnered with Paul to preach the gospel in his first evangelistic journey. He took John Mark under his wing when Paul refused to take him on his second. He was a model encourager.

Encourage, comfort or consolation, as it most often appears in the King James Version, is from the Greek “parkelsis” meaning “to come along side.” It’s noun form, “parakletos,” is used by John of Jesus, “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous,” *1 John 2:1*. Jesus is our “advocate” — comes along side to plead for the forgiven.

Doing the work of coming along side without the heart of an encourager bears little fruit, and can do more harm than good. Paul left a powerful portrait of both the person and the important work in his letter to the Galatians, “Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of

Christ,” *6:1-2*. Scripture has a great deal to say about the way we relate to one another in “coming along side.” An effective encourager...

COMES ALONG SIDE IN LOVE

Loving encouragement is at the heart of work in the local church – “Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,” *Ephesians 4:15*. When writing concerning the role of miraculous gifts, Paul cautioned, “Let all things be done for building up,” *1 Corinthians 14:26*. Peter joined the conversation in his first letter, “Keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins,” *1 Peter 4:8*. Love seeks to give and not take. Love seeks to heal and never hurt. Love seeks not to expose but to deliver the sinner.

COMES ALONG SIDE IN HUMILITY

Listen to Paul: Pride has no place in the work of an advocate – “Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with long-suffering, bearing with one another in love,” *Ephesians 4:1-3*. In His mountain message, Jesus reminded against arrogant judgement of our fellowman, *Matthew 7:1-5*. Humility requires one look inwardly first – personal examination and cleansing – then extend the hand to the brother overtaken by sin.

COMES ALONG SIDE IN GENTLENESS

“And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness,” *2 Timothy 2:24-26*. Coming along side must never be characterized by a quarrelsome spirit, but gentleness and patience.

COMES ALONG SIDE WITH SACRIFICE

Barnabas gave his things, his time and his life for the kingdom. In a powerful life-demonstration he modeled Jesus’ words, “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends,” *John 15:12-13*. He showed what is required to come along side. Next time your brother or sister comes along side of you, remember that they likely have sacrificed much to be there. □

Watch
LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Peggy Shelton was released from Huntsville Hospital on Friday after several difficult days of fighting COVID. She is weak and tired but feeling better. She wanted me to relay her thanks for the prayers, messages and phone calls.

Mike & Peggy Coward are both thankful to be home. They are taking meds and are still not well, but, they are much better. They are resting. Pray for them as they fight off COVID. Please remember them to the Lord.

Terry & Peggy Childress are doing well. We are thankful that Terry has COVID behind him.

Bill McCord, who was the first in this storm of COVID sufferers, is doing much better.

Sue & Collis Terry's granddaughter, **Addie**, has tested positive for COVID. Pray for Addie and her parents, **Jen & Trey**.

Others on our prayer list who are dealing with 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**, and their daughter, **Everleigh**. **Adam Ivey's** mother-in-law, **Karen Cooper**; **WD Patrick's** friend, **Lon Porch**; Lon has made progress but he is still touch and go; and **Jason Henderson's** friend, **Rob Ryan**, who is now home.

Jenny Jacks is doing better. We continue to pray that physical therapy will help her.

Mechi Hunt is home safe. She was in Peru helping her father, **Lorenzo Rojas**.

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

Jimmy Carter, **Kim Barnett's** brother, is in ICU at Huntsville Hospital after suffering complications following heart surgery. He has a long hard recovery ahead that will involve more surgery to help his sternum heal properly. Your prayers are appreciated.

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

CAUTION: With another holiday coming quickly the COVID numbers in Madison county are not likely to go down. Many families in our area have been touched. We would caution our group to exercise great care when going out into public and gathering with family.

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 continuing his December series entitled **Jesus in Action**. His sermon is entitled **All Authority!** His text is **Mark 2**.

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

Wednesday Bible Study — Mike will continue his four week exposition of **The book of Jude**. We stream at 7. No public assembly Wednesday.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



DECEMBER 13, 2020

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		

Confidence in Him

Michael W. McLemore

That our culture emphasizes the importance of self-esteem, a favorable impression of oneself, is apparent in every bookstore self-help section. It is believed that the individual who values "self" will achieve great heights. Scripture affirms that the child of God's genuine confidence flows, not from valuing self, but from valuing one's identity in Christ.

Confidence eludes many Christians. It is not discovered in Peale's Power of Positive Thinking; it is a gift of the Spirit of God, *Acts 2:38*. The basis for our confidence is not right circumstances (salvation), or even the ability to think highly of ourselves (God's children).

God's Word illuminates the source of our assurance. Paul expressed certainty regarding the revelation and ministry entrusted him by God, *Romans 1:16; Galatians 1:15-17*. The apostle rested in firm confidence on his belief that he could any challenge because Jesus lived in him, *Philippians 4:13*.

We have a role in the Kingdom. The same Spirit who strengthened Paul strengthens us today. The key? Study, obey and diligently follow His guidance. If we do, we can find assurance in an unstable world.

Are you are facing situations that make you feel inadequate? Open God's Book. Search it. Examine it. Scrutinize it. Internalize it. Follow it. Realize that our sovereign, almighty God lives in you. Find confidence in your Lord. ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



3



Weatherly Heights
CHURCH OF CHRIST

930 Weatherly Road SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Mailing:

P.O. Box 4619
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

Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore 256 698-5941
Email: mmclemore@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 13

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

Sermon: **Mark 2**
Mike McLemore
Jesus in Action: All Authority

Closing Prayer:

Sunday, December 20

Mike McLemore
Jared Jimison

Mark 5
Mike McLemore
Jesus in Action: Set Free

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz **CANCELLED** **CANCELLED**

Songs Leader:
Opening Prayer: **Virtual Devotion on ZOOM** **Virtual Devotion on ZOOM**
Closing Prayer:

Wednesday, December 16

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

None

2021 Planning Underway

Wednesday, December 23

Streamed Bible Study

None

Quarterly Adult Classes

October – December 2020

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY
Recognizing Daily Needs
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY
Jude: Contend with Mercy
Mike McLemore

Serving in December

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

Lord's Supper PM

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

