

Power for a New Beginning

Michael W. McLemore

Salvation is the theme of the Bible: The restoration of humankind to God. The Bible's book ends of Adam's sin in the garden and the marriage of the Lamb take the reader from man's lowest point, cut off from paradise, to his zenith, united with God in Heaven's New Jerusalem. "Sotarea" is the human need; the Bible is its story.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith," *Romans 1:16-18*. The NT word "sotarea" is our English "salvation," and "the gospel," declared Paul, is God' "power for salvation to everyone who believes." The gospel, the good news of Jesus, is God's power for a new beginning.

The greatness of God's power in saving sinners can only be valued against the background of man's desperate condition. The glorious

good news is salvation for the helpless sinner.

Every sinner is spiritually helpless, "dead in trespasses and sins," with no hope of pleasing God, *Ephesians 2:1*. Our Savior Himself portrayed man's condition as one of utter helplessness, "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me," *John 6:44-45*. God draws the sinner by the power of the Gospel when it is heard, learned and believed, *Romans 1:16*.

The world desperately seeks to know the solution to its struggle in this life. Sin wrecks lives and leaves its wounded cutoff from the only One who can save. But, God has not left us without help. He has given the power for a new beginning — The Gospel. That good news can propel sinners from helplessness to heaven. Hear Him. Learn of Him. Believe Him. Obey Him.

Retrospective & Prospective

Foy E. Wallace, Jr.

old year is dying. The new year is dawning. It is a time for reminiscence and resolution. The one relates to the past, the other to the future. Concerning the former there are some things to be remembered and there are some things to be forgotten. It would be folly to linger either on the summit or in the valley, except as the future may be blessed by reminiscence in the fruit of good resolutions it may yield.

Some one has painted a word picture of an old man, pale and frail, standing on bleak, icy hills, leaning in decrepitude upon the arm of his last surviving but dying child—the Departing December. His sandals are old and worn. And his form is wasted. His name is the Old Year. To us he is Old Man 1932. He belongs to a family whose genealogy presents the world with no two contemporaries. The birth of one is always preceded by the death of the other. And wailing requiems over the death of the old, dying on the air, turn into the songs of lullaby over the cradle of the new.

The old year is gone, but his footprints are left. Many a lovely babe fondled and caressed by a happy, hopeful mother last New Year is not here. Some beautiful girls and bounding boys whose smiles and shouts of laughter enlivened the home a year ago are not with us now. Various articles of personal ownership, now unclaimed—toys, books, clothing, or an empty room—are mute reminders of their presence

with us and make us weep anew. An old armchair is empty in the corner—some of us are fatherless and motherless. One and all, they gathered up our affections and carried them away, in consequence of which we love the earth less and heaven more.

No year ever passes without some one dying whom we knew and loved. The name of every succeeding year is engraved upon the marble in our cemeteries, "1933" will be chiseled upon the tombstone that marks the head of some of our graves. Death is an officer that no money can bribe, that no power can resist, that no skill can evade. The pale horse and its rider cross the threshold and waft loved ones away whether in the bloom of youth or in the gray of years, "What is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." Life is a vapor. So is the rainbow. So is the fog of the morning. How short and uncertain, then, are our days! "We spend our days as a tale that is told!" What kind of a story are you weaving into the fabric of your life? Whether long or short, it may be worth reading. It is not the length of a life or of a story that makes it worth while. The greatest Life that was ever lived was only thirty-three and one-half years, and the greatest stories ever written are his parables. So we should not stay the stride of time, if we could but labor to make life a story worth reading, whether long or short.

Gospel Advocate, December 29, 1932





News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Mike & Peggy Coward are both much improved. Peggy is able to be with Keith's family at home in Clinton, Arkansas. Mike is a patient in their local rehab center there and is under Keith's care. Mike will be undergoing a procedure in the next few days to place a shunt that will allow fluid to properly drain from around his brain. This should aid him in overcoming the balance issues that have plagued Mike for some time. Pray for the Cowards.

Mechi Hunt is recovering at home from COVID with only mild symptoms. We are thankful that she is doing well.

We are continuing to pray for the Fraziers. Natalie & Henry are home doing well. Their daughter, Rebecca Smith, who contracted COVID at work, is also making out well at her home. Please pray for these two families.

Ron Harmon remains in our hearts. His physical progress is negligible at best right now. Though he does his therapy, Ron really is not seeing much noticeable improvement. Of course this is discouraging for both Ron & Phyllis. Pray for them. Your expressions of kindness toward them are so meaningful. We are all waiting for the time that we can see them and spend time in their company again.

Denny & Ellen Freeman are both better! Denny still has some weakness and fatigue. but is much improved. Ellen's symptoms were never as bad as Denny's. Other than not being able to taste and smell she is felling back to normal. They are thankful for your prayers.

Jimmy Carter, Kim Barnett's brother, remains in Huntsville Hospital. We continue to

pray for him as he faces a very long recovery. The Carter & Barnett families appreciate your prayers.

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:

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

WEATHERLY UPDATES

This Week at Weatherly:

NO PUBLIC ASSEMBLY until January 24th. Hospitalizations are high. With that in mind and the holiday interactions that most of us have had, this delay in returning to in-person worship is a precaution against accidentally bringing the virus into the meeting house.

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 LIVE STREAM will begin at 2 Corinthians 5.

COVID numbers continue to climb in this area.

10. Mike is beginning a January series entitled, All Things New. His sermon today is taken from

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

Wednesday Bible Study — Mike is beginning a quarter long study of The book of Lamentations. We stream at 7. No public assembly. \Box

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JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	13	14	15	16	17	18
12 19 26	20 27	21	22	23		
		28	29	3	0 1	31

JANUARY 3, 2020

Keria Godette 1-6 1-9 Wes Caudle **Margaret Smith** 1-11 Ed Dill 1-19 1-23 **Gordon Dorris**

1-29 Jim Risner 1-30 Jenny Jacks

1-3

Laura McKnight

Bobby Wright 11-7 Elena Hagewood 1-11 1-15 **Xavier Cole Edith Turner**

Isabella Hatcher

1-20 1-26

Marissa Hunt 1-29 Will Starks

Plans

Michael W. McLemore

Morris was a Russian man who saved his rubles for twenty years to buy a new car. After choosing the model and options he wants, he's not the least bit surprised or even concerned to learn that it will take two years for the new car to be delivered. He thanks the salesman and starts to leave; as he reaches the door he turns back and asks, "Do you know which week two years from now the new car will arrive?"

The salesman checks his notes and tells the man that it will be two years to the exact week. He starts to leave, then turns and asks, "Could you possibly tell me what day of the week the car will arrive?" Mildly annoyed, the man checks his notes and responds, "Thursday."

Morris thanks the salesman and once again starts to leave. Halfway though the door, he hesitates, "I'm sorry to be so much trouble, but do you know if that will be in the morning, or in the afternoon?" Now irritated, the salesman flips through his papers and says sharply, "Afternoon!"

"That's a relief!" says Morris. "The plumber is coming that morning!" Now that's planning.

We often make plans far in advance so as to avoid any conflicts. Planning ahead isn't wrong; it's a scriptural principle. What makes it wrong, though, is planning ahead without any thought of God. "For what is your life? It is even a vapor." Don't leave God out of your plans this year.



Weatherly Weekly





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:



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 Ron Harmon **David Jacks** Collis Terry

Steve Hagewood Kirk Hatcher Hill Roberts **Bobby Wright**



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, January 10

Stream ONLY Sunday, January 3

> Mike McLemore Mike McLemore Hill Roberts Hill Roberts

Opening Prayer: Scripture Reading:

Welcome:

Song Leader:

2 Corinthians 5 **Lamentation 3** Mike McLemore Mike McLemore Sermon:

2021: All Things New **Closing Prayer:**

God's New Mercies

Evening Worship Evening Worship

Bible Skillz CANCELLED CANCELLED

Songs Leader:

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

Wednesday, January 6 Wednesday, January 13

Songs Leader:

Invitation: Streamed Bible Study Streamed Bible Study

Closing Prayer:

None

2021 Planning Underway

None

Ouarterly Adult Classes January - March 2020

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Recognizing Daily Needs

Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

The Bible Book of Lamentations Mike McLemore

Serving in January

Serving on the Lord's Table AM ** Overseer

Lord's Supper PM

Communion Prep Building Lockup

