

Weatherly Weekly

February 21, 2021

2021 Edition, Number 8

What I Owe the Church

Adapted

This piece has been with me from the beginning of my preaching. I apologize that I do not have it sufficiently referenced as to be able to share it's author. But, its sentiment is far too powerful to leave it buried in a cabinet drawer or in a box of papers. Maybe some of you have read it before in another publication. For those who have not, please give it place.

When I think of all that the church has done for me, I cannot help but feel a deep sense of debt. I owe everything to the family of God, for I cannot separate it from Christ. And I owe Him all. I hope this piece is of value to you. (MWM)

"I owe it my loyalty. I must help carry out every good work it undertakes. I should help other congregations in special efforts, but I should not neglect my home congregation.

I owe it my dependability. I am depending on it for many things it does in my behalf. It is not fair and right for me to depend on it and not

be such that it cannot depend upon me.

I owe it my financial support. It takes money to operate the church and preach the gospel. I am responsible to the Lord to give as He has prospered me. My home congregation has first call on my financial ability, for if the members of the church do not support the work of the home congregation, it will not be supported. The expenses go on whether I am there or not, so I should make up my contribution when absent.

I owe it my presence. If everyone stayed home there would be no worship of God. I am responsible as anyone to attend all of my congregation's services. I must not be a parasite.

I owe it the influence of a godly life. The life I live either helps others to obey the gospel or makes it the harder for them. How I live effects the work of the church and the salvation of the lost. I should live in such a way that my life will be blessing to others." □

Living in the WORLD NOW

Doy Moyer

There is no greater blessing than that of being God's child. As Christians, we are the recipients of the promise made to Abraham: "You are the sons of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.' God, having raised up his servant, sent him to you first, to bless you by turning every one of you from your wickedness," *Acts 3:25-26*. We really cannot put into words that sense of gratitude we ought to have for what God has done for us. We are unworthy servants, yet God has blessed us in spirit of ourselves. We have been born again to a living hope, *1 Peter 1:3-5*, and that keeps our focus on eternal matters, knowing that we are heavenly citizens first, *Philippians 3:20-21*. This also means that we have the spiritual tools by which we may live the abundant life. As Jesus said, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly," *John 10:10*.

While keeping our focus on the heavenly, we need to be reminded that being a Christian is not just about what happens in eternity. Being a Christian is meant to affect how we think and live while here, now. Yes, we are to be thinking in terms of eternity, but there is a connection between now and then, between "here" and "there." While, with Paul, we prefer to be with the Lord, while we are still here we have responsibilities, e.g., *Phil 1:21-24*. Eternal life is not a disconnected

"out there in the clouds" idea in Scripture. It is deeply connected to what we do and how we live right now. For Christians, eternal life does not just begin when we die. It begins even now as we are transformed by the renewing of the mind back into the image of the One who has redeemed us. We are born again to live a transformed life.

Paul wrote, "I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect," *Romans 12:1-2*. Not conforming to this world does not mean we do not engage the world. It does mean that we do not assimilate into the world in such a way that compromises our discipleship.

This is why we are to be concerned for our fellow human beings and their welfare. This is why we are not to use "freedom as an opportunity for the flesh," but rather "through love" we are to "serve one another," *Galatians 5:13*. This is why we are to seek the healing of the nations (the gospel for all people), why justice and righteousness are to be top priority, and why we are to be people who correct oppression and care for the widow, *Jas 1:27; Isa 1:17*. Our concern is not merely "other worldly," as if we are allowed to ignore the activities and obligations of

this world, but also "this worldly"—not in the sense of loving the things of this world, *1 John 2:15-17*, but in the sense of carrying out our mission in this world of being salt and light. Holiness is not disconnected from how we treat people, but is integral to how we understand people so that we are servants to all.

Forgiveness of sins, while beyond magnificent, is not the end of the Christian's story, but the beginning. We are forgiven and saved to serve. We are blessed to be a blessing to others. We are reconciled to be peacemakers. We have been brought to the Light in order to be lights. What we do here and now counts, and we take it with us into the eternity that we do not yet see, *2 Cor 4:17-18; 5:10*. The cross of Jesus informs our purpose by showing us what it means to be sacrifices in service to God. Jesus "died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised," *2 Cor 5:15*.

Ultimately, the goal is resurrection *Phil 3:11*, which is made possible by the death and resurrection of Jesus. Until we attain this, we are to recognize, with Paul, that "Christ Jesus has made me his own," *v. 12*. Our eyes are fixed on Jesus, and because of this we care for the things He cares about even now. Don't become so detached from the world that we lose sight of the fact that we have tasks in this world that are ours by virtue of our relationship to the One who created us anew. □

Watch
LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Mike Hunt's (Marty's brother) surgery was postponed to this Thursday. His surgeon had a family emergency that forced Mike's procedures to be rescheduled for this week. Please continue to pray for **Mike & Karen**.

Laura Phillips, Jenny Jacks' mom, continues her rehabilitation at Redstone Village Rehab. **Jenny** had a conference with the team at Redstone on Wednesday. Her mom is doing very well. She should be back at the Cottages tomorrow. "Thanks again for the cards and prayers," **Jenny, David & Laura**.

Edith Turner is undergoing rehab in an attempt to help with her back discomfort. Please pray that this is helpful. She's been struggling of late.

Louis Garrett continues to slowly improve after his fall. We are thankful that it wasn't worse than it was. He is still very slow getting around. He appreciates your continuing prayers and well wishes. **Will Starks** will keep us up to date on his situation.

Sam Eakes' dad, **Jerry**, remains in the hospital and is making some improvement. **Lori & Sam** wanted me to express their thanks for the prayers and the lovely cards following the loss of Lori's dad, **Bill Lewis**.

The McLemore's lost a long time friend in Houston last week to COVID. **Sharron Tomblin**, the wife of **Glenn**, who has been here for our singing several times, passed away after a lengthy battle with the virus. She was 73. Sharron was a ray of sunshine. We loved her.

As you can tell our list of sick is shorter, but

we still have many who need prayer. We are blessed to have so many who have recovered. Prayers of thankfulness are in order.

Remember the **Cavender's, Ken & Glenda**, to the Lord as you pray. Pray for both **Dot & Forest Summers**. Remember **Charlotte Hage-wood** who is back home for now. Also, mention those who are chronically ill and those who are confined — **Louis Garrett, Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Dot Summers**. ☐

Daily Prayer List:

Melvin Godette **Steve Guice**
Dot Summers **Glenda Cavender**
Ron Harmon **Charlotte Hage-wood**

WEATHERLY UPDATES

We are thrilled that we are beginning **IN-PERSON** worship **TODAY**. Thank you for your patience through this long process. Our prayer is that we will regain in the coming weeks what was lost over this last year. It's hard to imagine that some of us have not seen one another face-to-face in a year. It doesn't seem possible, but it's true. Remember your mask. We are praying for warm weather so we can visit in the parking lot after worship.

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin at 9:00 — Join us for Mike's live streamed study entitled **Reading the Psalms**.

Sunday morning will begin at 10. Mike is continuing his February series entitled, **Adoption: Heart of the Gospel**, from **Galatians 4:1-7**.

Sunday Evening "Virtual Devo" on Zoom at 7. We will email a link Sunday. Join in.

Wednesday Bible Study — Mike continues his quarter long study of **The book of Lamentations**. We stream at 7. No public assembly. ☐

FEBRUARY & MARCH BIRTHDAYS



FEBRUARY 21, 2021

2-23	Layla Belle Beshorse	2-27	Penny Hill
3-6	Harold Smith	3-11	Evelyn Hall
3-11	Chase Leshko	3-12	Steve Hage-wood
3-13	Andrea Leshko	3-13	Collis Terry
3-14	Becky Hill	3-18	Susan Ivey
3-22	Thomas Hill	3-28	Adrienne West

"It is Finished!"

Michael W. McLemore

I ran across the following illustration some time ago. I thought perhaps it would be of value to reconsider.

While two visitors were visiting Annapolis, they noticed several students on their hands and knees assessing the courtyard with pencils and clipboards in hand.

"What are they doing?" one of them asked their tour guide.

"Each year," he replied with a grin, "The upperclassmen ask the freshmen how many bricks it took to finish paving this courtyard."

"So what's the answer?" one of the visitors asked the tour guide when they were out of ear-shot of the freshmen.

The guide replied, "One."

That brings up an interesting question. How many sacrifices did it take to finish paying for our sins? The Jews would have needed lots of pencils and clipboards to make the calculation. "Let's see, let's take all the sin offerings, all the guilt offerings, the bulls, the goats, the lambs, the turtle-doves...."

So what's the answer? How many sacrifices did it take to finish paying for our sins? **ONLY ONE**, *Hebrews 10:12*.

After thousands and thousands of sacrificial animals had been sacrificed, Jesus Christ gave his own life on the cross. Only then could it be said, "It is finished," *John 19:30*. ☐

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: mmclmore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough	Steve Hage-wood
Ron Harmon	Kirk Hatcher
David Jacks	Hill Roberts
Collis Terry	Bobby Wright



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Stream ONLY

Sunday, February 21

Sunday, February 28

Welcome:	Mike McLemore	Mike McLemore
Song Leader:	Hill Roberts	Hill Roberts
Opening Prayer:		
Scripture Reading:	Galatians 4:1-7	John 3:1-21
Sermon:	Mike McLemore <i>Adoption: The Heart of the Gospel</i>	Mike McLemore <i>God's Heart for the World</i>
Closing Prayer:		

Evening Worship

Evening Worship

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

Wednesday, February 24

Wednesday, March 3

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

None

None

2021 Planning Underway

Quarterly Adult Classes

January — March 2020

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Reading the Psalms
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

The Bible Book of Lamentations
Mike McLemore

Serving in February

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

Lord's Supper PM

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

