

Weatherly Weekly

August 15, 2021

2021 Edition, Number 33

“Recall the Former Days”

Michael W. McLemore

The Hebrew writer employs a powerful tool of persuasion taking them back to the beginning — “Recall the former days when, after you were enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings,” 10:32-39. Christians’ “hard struggle” is described.

Jewish persecution ignited almost immediately following the first preaching according to the New Testament historian, Luke, *Acts 24*. Preaching salvation in Jesus Christ met with vehement opposition in Jerusalem with the arrest and stoning of Stephen. Saul of Tarsus, believed by many to be the author of Hebrews, sought all who followed Jesus.

Trials were public. Any who followed Jesus or taught in His Jesus’ name was subject to be made a “gazingstock” to the crowds. Others were forced helplessly to watch their brethren exposed. It was not enough to convict, a message must be sent to any others who might be persuaded by these teachers.

Many suffered imprisonment. The faithful had become their caretakers, recognizing that their aid to the imprisoned would immediately invite the critical eye of the powerful. Simply being of help to the imprisoned could mean these same.

Confiscation of property was a very real possibility. This was nothing new. In the beginning, the author reminds them, you “joyfully accepted” it, 34.

“Do not throw away your confidence” now, patiently endure, 35-36. He references Jesus’ promised return to bring judgement upon their persecutors as God had upon the Babylonians, *Habakkuk 2:3-4*. “A very little while the coming one will come,” be patient. The faithful enjoy divine protection, while those who “shrink back,” or “stealthily retreat” have only destruction in their future. “We are not of those” says the writer. WE live by faith, 39.

“Recall your former days when life was hard!” □

Thoughts About Life

Dee Bowman

Solomon was the wisest man of his age. When he was but a young man and had just ascended to the throne of his father, God appeared to him in Gibeon and said, “Ask what I shall give thee.” Solomon, showing that he was a wise man even then, said, “Give me an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad...,” *1 Kings 3:1-ff*. God did according to His word and gave him the mind of minds, a wisdom far above all that were before him. He ultimately became the expression of human wisdom. He went around once and did it all—life had to offer.

Solomon ran an experiment with life. He decided to consider “all things that are done under heaven,” to see what had value and what did not. His experiment ran the gamut of life. He searched in science, in politics, in agriculture, in philanthropy, in pleasure, looking in every nook and cranny to ascertain “what was that good for men all the days of their life.”

With a mind filled with determination, he lived life “with all the gusto you can.” He sought wisdom and knowledge and found that “in much wisdom is much grief: and he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow,” *1:18*. He worked on inequities and he saw that “that which is crooked cannot be made straight, and that which is wanting cannot be numbered,” *2:15*. He concluded that “it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting,” *7:2*, that there is no good to be had in reminiscing about the “good ol’ days,” *7:10*, that prosperity and adversity both have a place in life, *7:14*, that life is filled with all sorts of inequities, *9:11*, that a reputation which was a lifetime in the building can be destroyed in a few minutes by just one misplaced word, *10:1*, that there is no such thing as a secret, *10:20*, that diligence, *9:10*, humility, *9:12* and prudence, (*9:16*) are a necessary part of good life here. But in none of it did he find any real satisfaction.

Life became for him a frustrating experience. He said, “I hated all my labor which I had taken” and he concluded after having slaked his thirst for living by drinking of the very dregs of life, “I looked on all the works that my hands

had wrought, and on the labor that I had labored to do: and behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun,” *2:11*. He found in life only frustration and repeated anxiety. The more he did the greater his frustration.

Interestingly, as he performed this experiment with life, his wisdom remained with him. He was able, for instance, to stand off and view himself when he was intoxicated with wine or when he had “increased more than all that were before” him, while apparently retaining a sense of balance that allowed him to objectively appraise what he saw and felt, *cf. 2:3,9*.

He does note several things which contribute to happiness and tranquility as life is lived “under the sun.” Good food and good friends, along with nice garments are concluded as being desirable for quality living, *9:10*. Living joyfully with “the wife of thy youth” is recommended. And the ability to accept with resignation the allotments of Divine Providence contributes to a happy life, he says, *9:11*. It is not that life has now joy and pleasure, he concluded; there are joyful and satisfying moments in it.

But mostly his experiment is finished in sheer frustration, for he says, “Then the dust shall return to the earth as it was: and the spirit to God who gave it,” *11:9*. And in one last gasp of desperation he concludes, “Vanity of vanities, saith the preacher, all is vanity,” indicating that there is actually no lasting benefit to life under the sun.

Life here us what you make it. Its real value is to be properly measured by your determination to live it with the joy of salvation in it. To live a truly happy and satisfying life without God in it is a foolish endeavor doomed to sure failure. And a mind not tuned to the word of God for its guidance and success is a demented mind which in the end produces nothing but sorrow.

And so, “let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter,” he says, “Fear God, and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man,” *12:13*. A man's focus must be other-worldly, his attitude that of a sojourner or he will never be truly happy. □



Watch LIVE!



FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Peggy Childress apparently contracted an infection last week. Her doctor started her on an antibiotic. Please pray that this will be able to control the infection and that she will be back to 100% soon. She's had a really bad cough. **Terry & Peggy** appreciate all of the prayers offered for them.

Terry's mother, **Sandra Ivey**, remains about the same. Her blood pressure continues to be very low. Your prayers are solicited for her.

A couple of **the Furlough's** family members are in our prayers. **June's** sister, **Betty Kendrick**, 86, had shoulder surgery on Friday. She is recovering well. Also, **Nellie Dubose**, their son-in-law's mother, had her gall bladder removed on Friday. She is doing well. Each prayer for them is greatly appreciated by the Furloughs.

Edith Turner's daughter, **Glenda**, who lives in suburban Kansas City, has not been doing well recently. She is taking proper medications now. We are praying this will be helpful for her. Remember Edith, Glenda and her husband, **Wolfgang**, in your prayers.

Shirley Taft, daughter of **Betty Dubose**, had surgery last week. She is recovering well. Your prayers for her are appreciated.

Please continue to pray for **Buddy Taft**, great-grandson of **Betty Dubose**. We are praying that he will be able to come for a visit soon. He has been undergoing tests in Pensacola.

Prayers for **Mechi Hunt's** sister, **Zoila Her-ring**, are in order. We are continue to pray for her well being as she faces this very challeng-

ing ordeal. This family has been through a difficult year.

Pray for those who are in assisted living facilities and memory care — **Laura Phillips, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Dot Summers.** ☑

Daily Prayer List:

Glenda Cavander	Melvin Godette
Laura Phillips	Dot Summers
Charlotte Hagewood	Lane Roberts
Bill Reavis	Ron Harmon

IN PERSON ASSEMBLY

UPDATE: We had a great "restart" of our in person assembly last Sunday. Your cooperation was greatly appreciated. Our number was off a bit, which we expected. Our classes went well and were well representative of our Weatherly Family. Others have indicated that they plan to be back today. We are praying that our efforts to "keep everyone safe" are helpful and that the Lord will bless our diligent effort. Make your plans to stream live with us on Wednesday night. Also, please try the Zoom study tonight. It is a most encouraging effort.

THIS WEEK: Sunday Bible Class begins at 9:30 am. Mike is continuing his series **Divided We Fall**. Morning worship will begin at 10. Mike's lesson today will ask the pressing question, **Worthy of MY Calling?** from **Ephesians 4**.

Remember our ZOOM Devo at 7 Sunday evening. If you haven't participated, you will benefit from giving it a try.

Wednesday our **1 Corinthians** study, **Abounding Together** continues at 7 pm. No public assembly Wednesday. ☑

Flee from Evil!

Michael W. McLemore

A fellow with rather weak dietary resolve had an ingenious way of "testing" himself as he described it to a friend. He would dish out a heaping bowl of his favorite ice cream, the high fat, loaded with sugar, covered with hot fudge syrup, draped in maraschino cherries kind of forbidden pleasure. Setting it on the dining room table, he would then pull up a chair and state at the sinful concoction. That was all. He just stared at it. For a period of several minutes, he bravely resisted the temptation. He would not eat that ice cream.

Finally, when the second hand of his watch swept around to the twelve for the inwardly agreed upon period of depravation, he would heave a huge sigh of relief. He'd done it. He had successfully succeeded at standing of the forces of gluttony. He hadn't taken even the smallest bit of the off-limits dessert. Victory was his. "Now," he would say, "I shall reward myself."

And, without further ado, he would devour every single bite of that ice cream, and even lick out the last drops of chocolate syrup.

Is that resisting? Scripture tells us to FLEE FROM EVIL. Somehow I do not think six inches away for the next three minutes is what the Holy Spirit had in mind! ☑

WEEKLY WALK



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 Stream 9:30 am
Sunday AM Assembly Stream 10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly Zoom 7:00 pm
Wednesday Classes Stream 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 Hagewood
Kirk Hatcher	David Jacks
Hill Roberts	Collis Terry
Bobby Wright	

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, August 15

Welcome: **Will Starks**
Song Leader: **Mel Ambrose**
Opening Prayer: **Bill Thompson**
Scripture Reading:

Ephesians 4

Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Worthy of MY Calling?
Closing Prayer: **Alex Thompson**

Sunday, August 22

Tommy Hill
David Jacks
Will Starks

1 Corinthians 15:52

Mike McLemore
When the Roll is Called!
Ron Harmon

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz CANCELLED

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

Evening Worship

CANCELLED

Wednesday, August 18

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

None

2021 Singing Cancelled

Wednesday, August 25

Streamed Bible Study

None

Quarterly Adult Classes July – September 2021

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Divided We Fall
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

First Corinthians
Mike McLemore

Serving in August

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

**** Steve Hagewood, Phil Furlough**

Lord's Supper PM

Communion Prep Building Lockup

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



August 15, 2021

8-11	Phyllis Harmon	8-19	Peggy Childress
8-23	Janice Schrimsher	8-24	Mike Coward
8-24	Lucas Hatcher	8-24	Marty Hunt
8-25	Ron Harmon	8-26	Kirk Hatcher
8-27	Bill McCord	8-28	Adelaide Hatcher

