

# **Treasures in Heaven**

Michael W. McLemore

Jesus' sermon on the mount is challenging to every generation. From beginning to end His words appeared revolutionary — "The crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes," Matthew 7:28-29. Among the many subjects Jesus said, "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven," Matthew 6:19-20. How do I "lay up treasures in heaven?" Jesus commanded it. How do I do it?

The first question one must answer is, "What is <u>IN</u> heaven?" God! Jesus! The Holy Spirit! Yes, and the angelic host. But, what else? The souls of man. So, when it comes to laying up "treasures of heaven" what more concrete way could there be than helping others gain heaven as their eternal home?

When it comes to this critical work, all Christians are personally responsible. Jesus said to His disciples, "As the Father has sent Me, I also send

you," John 20:21. One cannot get involved in a wiser or more everlasting venture than pouring your spiritual wealth into another person's mind and heart. Investing in souls is the only "sure thing."

With all the economic turmoil one's true longterm investments are critical. But we are not referring to stocks or bonds, savings or property. Christians invest in the lives of others, first our family, our neighbors, and those who come into the sphere of our influence. The material riches of this world will rot, decay and perish; only faithful souls will gain the true treasure. So we must devote ourselves to helping as many as possible reach heaven.

This is not merely reaching the lost of this world, but also aiding one another in our common pursuit of heaven. Lay up treasures in heaven. Step into the life of someone near you. Show them the Christ. Aid them in their walk with Christ, then help them do the same! It must be our number one goal of life!

# The Kingdom is in You

**Michael W. McLemore** 

hrist, in replying to the Pharisees' misunderstanding of the nature of the kingdom, said, "The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, lo, here! or, there! for lo, the kingdom of God is within you," Luke 17:21.

It is obvious that the nature of the kingdom is misunderstood by the religious world today. It is likewise abundantly obvious that many within the kingdom have no clear conception as to what it is all about verily, some think it is "eating and drinking", unsuitably called fellowship. We can further narrow the view and find "faithful" members of "faithful" churches who do not seem to have the foggiest notion of what it means to "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly," and who seem totally unaware of the importance of Hebrews 8:10: "For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and on their heart also will I write them: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people." I was asked some time ago about the meaning of this passage, thus this piece arose from my deeper consideration of it.

The Savior expressed it in these words to the woman at the well: "...whosoever drinketh of the water that, I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up unto eternal life" (John 4:14). Paul's words in Ephesians 6:6 also have a bearing upon God really with you? Do you love the Lord, or are the subject as he urged Christians to serve their employers "not...as men-pleasers; but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart...."

It is admitted that not all of these passages are dealing with the same subject in their context. But, I want us to notice that whatever subject is discussed, the innermost feelings and motives of man are considered. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." How sorely needed is the disposition of members of the church to have the kingdom of God within them, and to have God's commandments in their hearts. How superficial and shallow is the kingdom in the lives of so many. We must understand, the kingdom of Christ is a "kingdom of souls."

Consider the person who absents himself from the assembling together of the saints to go fishing, to entertain company, or to voluntarily work for a little more money. Is the kingdom of God really within that person? Does the word of Christ dwell so richly within him that his every thought and deed is regulated by the will of the one who gave His own life for us? Is this the joyful expression of that well of water springing up within him unto eternal life? Is this the result of the fervent desire within that person to do the will of God from the heart? We know that it is not!

It is hard to express the thought that came to me that very day as I contemplated what it would be like if all the members of the kingdom really and truly had the kingdom of God within them. Think of the tremendous saving of time, energy, and effort that could then be put to use toward those who have not the gospel, and who have absolutely no hope of everlasting life!

Consider it seriously, brethren. Does the word of Christ dwell richly in your hearts? Is the kingdom of you creating more work for others to do? Are you helping to solve problems, or are you a part of the problem? Are you working to save others, or are you helping them to be lost because time has to be taken from teaching them in order to keep you on the track? Consider it well, for your eternity depends upon it.







News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

#### **Note from Bill & Nancy**

Bill & Nancy McCord sent a note to us last week that I just had to share with our family.

"We are having a safe and happy summer in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Will return to Huntsville sometime during October.

Thank you so much for your efforts to get church and Sunday school on the internet. Some neighbors come over and we all watch together."

#### **FAMILY UPDATES**

#### Pravers:

Mike Coward is scheduled to have a pacemaker installed on Thursday at Huntsville Hospital. We are praying this will prove helpful.

Cathy Preston sent word to us yesterday that Michael has been diagnosed with COVID. Please remember Michael in prayer.

Wes' dad, Neal Caudle, continues his recovery from COVID. Your prayers for him are appreciated. We will try to update his condition in the morning announcements.

Betty Dubose is better following an adjustment to her medication. Please continue to remember her in your daily petitions.

Peggy Childress is to undergo a series of tests over the next couple of weeks. If all goes well she may be able to return home to Fayetteville soon. We are trilled by this news.

**Debbie Harbin** is recovering from COVID. We are so thankful that she is getting better. Say Debbie & Jimmy's names to the Lord.

Maragem Harbin remains on our prayer list.

Your prayers are appreciated.

Barry Hume has suffered another set back since our last issue of the Weekly. He thinks he is now "surely" on the road to recovery. Keep Barry in your prayers. He is a great servant in the Lord's Kingdom.

Say Wanda Castleman's name to the Lord this week. She continues her struggles with chronic issues that compete for her strength and hinder mobility.

Zoila Herring, Mechi Hunt's sister, continues in our prayers. We are praying that her recent surgery will prove effective.

Sandra Ivey, Terry Childress' mom, remains on our prayer list. Ask the Lord for her care.

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

#### Daily Prayer List:

Glenda Cavender Laura Phillips Charlotte Hagewood **Bill Reavis** 

Melvin Godette **Dot Summers** Lane Roberts Ron Harmon

#### **WEATHERLY UPDATES**

Sunday morning Bible Class begins at 9:30. Mike is continuing his series Divided We Fall.

Sunday morning worship begins promptly at 10. Mike's lesson today is entitled, Goal of **Life.** from *Matthew 13:18-23*.

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.

#### **SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS**

| Sun Mon        | Tue      | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|                |          | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   |
| 5 6            | 7        | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  |
| _              | 14       | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  |
|                | 21       | 22  | 23  |     |     |
| 12 13<br>19 20 | 14<br>21 |     | 23  | 24  |     |

LaNelle Patrick 9-25 10-6 **Henry Frazier** 10-11 Caryl Ehl 10-26 Dwight Ivey 10-29 Charlotte Hagewood 9-28 10-10

10-27 Jimmy Harbin

Doris DeCelles **Karen Thompson** Janeth Hagewood **MERCY** 

Michael W. McLemore

It is common to pay lip service to the truth that "salvation is not of works lest any man should bast." Too often men in arrogance of heart forget that their salvation is wholly dependent upon the mercy of God. The Psalmist beautifully articulated the standing of the saved, "He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him," Psalm 103:10-11.

Were God to deal with us "according to our sins," we would long ago have perished from the earth. Only Divine mercy has stayed God's hand of justice. Apart from Christ and the cross of His crucifixion we are yet in our sins. His sacrificial death has made possible the extension of mercy to the sinner. Paul wrote of Christ, "whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus," Romans 3:25-26.

The saved of Christ claim no merit. It is only through our faith in His work of mercy and love that we are saved. Thanks be to God!







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#### TIMES OF SERVICES

**Sunday Bible Classes** 9:30 am **Sunday AM Assembly** 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:



Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



# Weatherly's Shepherds

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

## **Evangelist**

*Michael W. McLemore* 256 698-5941 Email: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

### Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough Kirk Hatcher Hill Roberts **Bobby Wright**  Steve Hagewood **David Jacks** Collis Terry



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, October 3 Sunday, September 26

Will Starks Welcome: Tommy Hill **David Jacks** Hill Roberts Song Leader: **Opening Prayer:** Phil Shaver Tommy Hill

**Scripture Reading:** 

Sermon:

Matthew 13:18-23 Leviticus 23:33-36

Mike McLemore Mike McLemore The Goal of Life What's with the Tent?

Jim Risner

**Closing Prayer:** Kirk Hatcher

> **Evening Worship Evening Worship**

**Bible Skillz** CANCELLED CANCELLED

**Songs Leader:** 

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

> Wednesday, September 29 Wednesday, October 6

Songs Leader:

Invitation: Streamed Bible Study Streamed Bible Study

**Closing Prayer:** 

None

**Quarterly Adult Classes** 2021 Lectures Canceled July - September 2021

**AUDITORIUM SUNDAY** 

Divided We Fall Mike McLemore

**AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY** 

First Corinthians Mike McLemore

# **Serving in October**

None

Serving on the Lord's

Table AM \*\* Overseer \*\* Steve Hagewood (10-3), David Jacks (10-10), Bill Thompson (10-17), Phil Shaver (10-24), Phil Furlough (10-31)

Lord's Supper PM

**Communion Prep Building Lockup** 

