

Weatherly Weekly

March 5, 2023

2023 Edition, Number 10

HOW IS WRONG MADE RIGHT?

Adapted

How can what is wrong be made right? Culture says the solution is more education and more laws. Teach people more stuff and give them more information. How do we combat prejudice? Anti-hate classes; remove historical reminders. What about a manager who assaults an employee? Anger-management classes. Just give people more information and everything will be fine. But, these answers provided by our culture leave us wanting and empty. Worse than that, they change nothing.

Sin is a blight that cannot be removed by human power, or man-made law. What's done is done. You can't fix it. Culture is powerless to stop the spiral into chaos and complete moral collapse. Mankind's rejection of a God to which we must give final account is the most fundamental problem. God said, "The soul who sins shall die," *Ezekiel 18:20*. But, God is no vengeful hater as Culture claims. Instead, He gave sin-

ful man a means for human atonement, and a path not only to forgiveness, but also to ultimate fellowship and a life of right - His own Son, *John 3:16*.

What is wrong can only be made right by the atoning death of Christ: "he [Jesus] has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach," *Col 1:22*. Christ is the only means available by which we can be made right with God once we have committed sin [wrong], *Acts 4:12; 2 Cor 5:21*. In Christ alone the sin-stream is interrupted, *James 5:20*.

The ills of this world are answered only in Christ. Wrong can only be made right in Christ. It begins with the faith that comes from the Word of God, *Romans 10:17*. Reconciliation and healing with God, people and nations for the wrong-doer is available from one source, the Bible book of God. Only in the forgiveness and fellowship of Christ can the wrong of inhumanity be made right and grace abound. □

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"I Will Not Deny You.."

Michael W. McLemore

Few of us can relate to the dramatic churning of emotions in the mind of the apostle Peter that began the night prior to Jesus' death — from moral outrage at the idea that he could ever deny the Lord, to angry militancy when the Jews confronted Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, to confusion and dismay as he watched the trial from afar, to utter despair after realizing he had indeed refused to admit even knowing his Master. But all of us have at one time or another come to the realization that we were not as devoted to the Lord as we had thought.

Through the eyes of Peter, we can appreciate the total lack of understanding among the apostles regarding the cross. Shortly after Peter's great confession of faith, Jesus began to warn the apostles of His coming death, *Matthew 16:21*. In fact, several more subtle references had been made already, *John 2:19; Matthew 12:39-40, etc.* But here, when Jesus states the fact of His future, Peter rebukes the Lord and is sharply chastised for it. Peter's picture of the kingdom was the same as that of his contemporaries — a physical, political entity with Jesus at the head (and hopefully, himself not too far below). His awakening would be a rude one.

When Peter is rebuked for his one-man assault upon the arresting officers, *John 18:10-11*, he flees with the rest of the apostles; however, his composure and devotion are enough to compel him to watch the trial proceedings from afar, *Mark 14:53-54*.

His best friend, John, had pulled some strings to get Peter within eyesight of his Lord, *John 18:15-18*; of course, for Peter's sake, this "favor" would have better gone undone. In quick succession, Peter denies the Lord three times, even emphasizing his point with oaths and profanity, *Mark 14:66-72*. And when the cock crowed, reminding Peter of the Lord's warning, he looked to his Lord and found Him looking back, *Luke 22:61*, no doubt with the most doleful expression imaginable. Peter is overcome with grief and cannot bear to be in his Master's presence another moment.

How often have we been there? Have we ever looked in retrospect at an opportunity to confess our Lord that we allowed to pass by? Have we found ourselves dreading

religious conversations, knowing that we will be called upon to distance ourselves from our friends in the world? Let us realize that when we do that — when we are ashamed to be associated with Him — we have fallen under the same condemnation as Peter. May God forgive us!

Our failures, too, are results of our lack of appreciation regarding the cross. Just as Peter and the rest of the apostles were blinded by personal ambition, *Luke 22:24*, we can be so consumed with our own agenda that we forget about the Lord's agenda. We must accept Him for who He is — the Master who graciously offered His life on the cross for our sins, not someone who promised us the position of prominence and prestige that we may want. When we have a clear view of the cross, we can more adequately see our own role.

Peter was slow to recover from this traumatic blow. He did not believe in the resurrection after Mary Magdalene's testimony of the empty tomb, nor after seeing it for himself, *John 21:1-10*. It appears to have taken a personal appearance from the Lord to revive his spirits, *Luke 24:34, 1 Corinthians 15:5*. We certainly can see his renewed enthusiasm when the Lord appears to the apostles in Galilee; he leaps into the lake and swims to the shore, not willing to wait for the small boat with the others, *John 21:1-8*. And here the Lord gives him three opportunities to confess his love for Him, as if to balance the three denials. We also see a new modesty in Peter. At the table that fateful night, Peter said, "Even though all may fall away, yet I will not," thus proudly vaunting himself above his friends. But in response to Jesus' first question — "do you love Me more than these" — he refuses to compare his devotion with that of the others, content with simply affirming it.

Peter had not arrived yet — his first response after hearing the Lord testify to his future sufferings is to inquire if a similar fate is waiting for John, *John 21:18-22*. Jesus rebukes him for this, telling him that John's fate has nothing to do with Peter's service. We, too, often judge the fairness of our own situation by comparing it to that of others. But when we learn to focus first on the Lord, and then on our own responsibilities rather than those of others, we too can be profitable servants of the Lord. □



Watch LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



Family Updates

Prayers:

Jenny Jacks has received some relief from her latest injection. It was great to see her back in the assembly this past week. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Caryl Ehl underwent a successful procedure on Monday to retore her heart to its proper rhythm. We are praying that her heart will continue accordingly with medications. Remember to pray earnestly for **Caryl & Jim**.

Mike & Gwyn McLemore are rejoicing with their daughter **Amanda**, her husband, **Jared**, and son, **Liam**, in their official adoption of **Olivia Claire Jimison**. The final adoption proceeding took place on Friday. We are restricted from posting any images of Olivia in any public forum for another few days. We are thrilled that this journey has been realized. Thank you for all of your prayers. "We love you all!"

We are continuing our prayers for **Betty Dubose's** brother-in-law and sister, **Leonard & DeeDee Downum**. The family has decided to begin hospice care. Your prayers are solicited for them as they face uncertain days.

Wes Caudle's mother, **Louise Caudle**, has begun her Chemo. Please continue to pray for her as she goes through this series of treatments. We are praying for the benefit and for the side-effects to be mild.

Ciera Elledge completed her last round of radiation/chemo in the last couple of weeks. Her CT scan Tuesday came back with good results — no new or advanced growths! Ciera will continue on immunotherapy and have a more thorough scan in May. Thanks to everyone for the prayers and please continue

that treatments will be successful. *Will & Sarah*.

Zoila Herring, Mechi Hunt's sister, remains in our daily prayers. Say her name to the Lord.

Pray for these. Each has their own particular health challenge. — **Peggy Monroe, Bill McCord, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Glenda Cavender, Edith Turner, Melvin Godette, Maragem Harbin & Betty Dubose**.

Save the Date, March 18th

As most are aware **Mike & Peggy Coward** have sold their home in Southeast Huntsville and will be moving in March to a new place off Balch Road in Madison to be closer to family. This is a monumental development in our Weatherly family. A "pot-luck" gathering in their honor is being planned for **March 18th**, tentatively from **4 to 6 pm**. Please save that date. We will relay more information very soon. Come help us honor them properly.

This Week at Weatherly

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE class meets at 9:30. **Mike McLemore** is continuing his study titled "Maxims for Living" from Proverbs.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP follows at 10. **Mike** is beginning a March series titled, **Firm Foundations**. Today's lesson is taken from **Matthew 7:24-27**.

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP begins at 6. **Mike** will lead us in an informal devotional in an open forum setting. Let's all attend.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY begins at 7. **Mike** will begin his verse by verse study of the book of **Second Thessalonians**. ☐

MARCH BIRTHDAYS



3-6	Harold Smith	3-11	Evelyn Hall
3-12	Stevie Hagewood	3-13	Collis Terry
3-14	Becky Hill	3-18	Susan Ivey
3-28	Adrienne West		

MARCH 5, 2023

On Our Worldview Doy Moyer

A worldview is not just about what we think, but about how we act and interact with others. Our technical beliefs may be true and needed, but they also need to translate into appropriate action. Love God and love neighbor are the most important commands that begin in how we think, but they are nothing if how we act does not match, *cf. 1 Cor 13*.

Our greatest example of worldview thought and action is Jesus. Peter shows how suffering for Him is part of this: "For you were called to this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. He did not commit sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth; when he was insulted, he did not insult in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten but entrusted himself to the one who judges justly," *1 Pet 2:21-23*.

If we claim to follow Jesus, but our interaction with others is filled with deceit, insult, and threats, then our claims are empty. It doesn't matter how they have treated us. We are to deny self, take up the cross daily, and follow Him where He goes, *Luke 9:23*. The most difficult thing we will ever do is deny self, but at the heart of recognizing the Lordship of Jesus over all of life is a commitment to His will over ours.

It's hard to love people who act ugly toward us, but it's what Jesus did. ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes 9:30 am
Sunday AM Assembly 10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly 6:00 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

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Will Starks 256 883-5273

Evangelist

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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, March 5th

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
Song Leader: **Hill Roberts**
Opening Prayer: **Phil Furlough**
Lord's Table Lead: **Ed Dill**
Matthew 7:24-27
Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Firm Foundations
Closing Prayer: **John Patrick**

Sunday, March 12th

Will Starks
David Jacks
Bill Thompson
Steve Hagewood
Matthew 7:28-29
Mike McLemore
The Authority of Jesus
Jim Ehl

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz **Mike McLemore**
Songs Leader: **Bill Thompson**
Opening Prayer: **W.D. Patrick**
Closing Prayer: **Bobby Wright**

Evening Worship

Mike McLemore
David Jacks
Will Starks
Ron Harmon

Wednesday, March 8th

Songs Leader: **Collis Terry**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Hill Roberts**

Wednesday, March 15th

Hill Roberts
Mike McLemore
W.D. Patrick

Quarterly Adult Classes January – March 2023

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY
Maxims for Living
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY
1 & 2 Thessalonians
Mike McLemore

Serving in March

Serving on the Lord's Table AM & PM
**** Overseer** **** Ed Dill (3-5), Steve Hagewood (3-12), Phil Shaver (3-19), Marty Hunt (3-26)**

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

Mike McLemore

