

# Weatherly Weekly

July 16, 2023

2023 Edition, Number 29

## Water Gate Renewal

Michael W. McLemore

**T** rue revival doesn't begin at church; it begins in the heart of the individual. Nehemiah knew the renewal he hoped for required more than rebuilt walls—the people had to become a Bible-centered people. For this, a scribe-priest named Ezra is introduced. His first task? He gathered all the people to the Water Gate and read the Book of the Law in their hearing, *Nehemiah 8:1-3*.

Nehemiah 8 reveals the secret to being quickened from spiritual sickness, discouragement, faintness and death. He encouraged, "Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength," *10*. This chapter provides an invitation to respond on the part of the Lord's workers appointed to the work of revival and restoration.

Renewal begins with an intellectual response. Would be workers manifest a desire for the book, *1*. That desire is demonstrated when time is made for the book, *2-4*. Reverence for the author of book is shown to it's being read, *5*. Hearty agreement is properly expressed

for the book, *6*. Devotion to knowing its full meaning and application continues, *7-8*

Renewal will involve an emotional response. The book will expose missteps and error when deeply embraced. Sorrow for sin begins renewal, *9*. But, joy comes on its heels, for the truth of God's forgiveness is found within, *10-11*. Celebration follows naturally, as truth is known, *12*.

Renewal is incomplete without an obedient response. True worship is restored when confession is made of sin in the life, *13-18; 9:1-4*. The resolution to live in accord with the will of God is necessary, *9:38*. Fellowship become possible when the divine plan for renewal culminates in repentance from sin, *10:28-32*.

Make this your Water Gate moment. Prepare your heart to receive God's Book. The Lord pleads for souls who will reverence His Book, take it to heart and obey it. In His Book you find the richness of God's grace and the greatness of your sin. In His Book alone is discovered the remedy for sin. Repent and find renewal.



Watch LIVE!

[www.weatherlychurch.com](http://www.weatherlychurch.com)

### LESSONS FROM A

# LEPER

By Michael W. McLemore

**N** aaman was a very successful man. He was commander of the Syrian army, a great and honorable man in the eyes of his king, a victorious general, and a mighty man of valor. But, he had a terrible disease: leprosy. 2 Kings 5:1-14 gives us the divine record of Naaman.

Naaman learned from a young Israelite slave girl that there was a prophet in Israel who could heal him of his leprosy. As we read the account of how Naaman sought a cure for his leprosy, we may learn some valuable lessons about our own need for cleansing from an even greater malady than leprosy — sin.

Naaman thought his healing could be purchased. When the King of Syria granted him permission to go to Israel, Naaman "took with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing" (2 Kings 5:5). Apparently he thought he could pay someone in Israel to heal him.

Like Naaman, we cannot purchase our cleansing from sin. However, a price must be paid for our redemption, but not with "corruptible things, like silver or gold" (1 Peter 1:18). Christ paid the price for our redemption on the cross. The Apostle Peter states that Christians have been redeemed "with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1 Peter 1:19).

Naaman had an idea about how he thought his healing would take place. He said to himself, "He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy!" (2 Kings 5:11). When the servant of Elisha the prophet told

him to go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and his flesh would be restored and he would be clean (v. 10), he became furious. His preconceived ideas concerning his healing were wrong.

When it comes to our own cleansing from sin, we must also seek God's instructions instead of what we might think would work. We must not approach God's word seeking to justify our current beliefs; rather, we must seek to know God's will through His word, and believe His word.

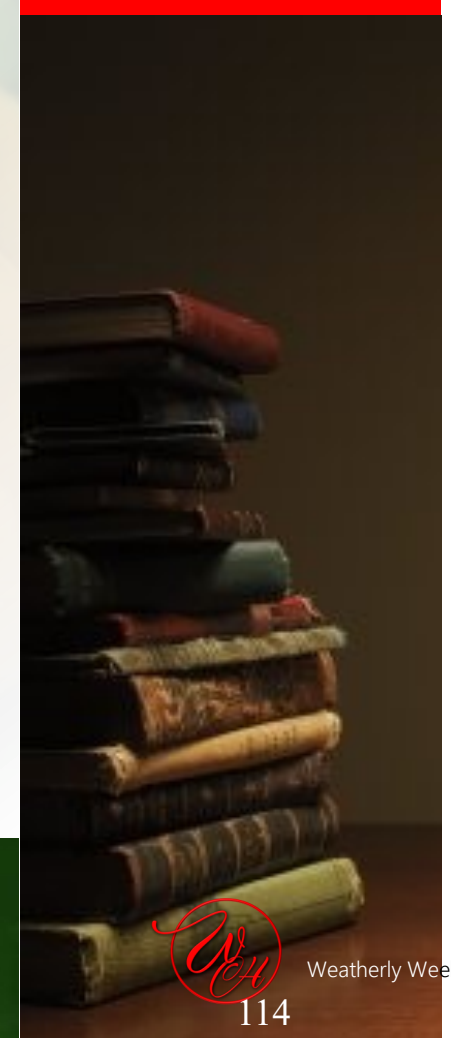
Naaman tried to substitute his own terms of obedience instead of the Lord's. He did not want to wash in the Jordan River. He asked, "Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage" (2 Kings 5:12 NKJV).

We must never try to substitute our own doctrines in the place of the teaching of God's word. Only through our obedience to His commands may we ever have the blessings attached to them.

Finally, Naaman humbled himself and obeyed the Lord's instructions. Naaman could see no logical connection between dipping in the Jordan River and being cured of his leprosy, but he obeyed. Obedience brought its reward: Naaman was healed.

A penitent believer in Christ may not see the logical connection between being baptized (im-mersed) in water and having his sins washed away (Acts 2:38; 22:16). Certainly, as in the case of Naaman, it is not the water that saves. It is God who saves us, when we obey Him. Obedience has its reward: the cleansing of our sins.

Will you obey?



# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## Family Updates

### Prayers:

**Ron Harmon** was hospitalized late Wednesday evening after suffering from an infection. Tests revealed the source of the infection and he is being treated with IV antibiotics. He is in room 280 at Huntsville Hospital. He is improving and did not have to be placed in isolation as first feared. He is anticipating a test that will attempt to get to the bottom of a swallowing issue that has developed over the last couple of months. Your prayers for him are greatly appreciated. He may go to a rehab facility after this hospital stay to help him regain strength. Remember **Phyllis** to the Lord also. We are thankful that their daughter **Gina** and children are here with them.

Please continue to remember our sister **Peggy Childress** in your prayers. We are thankful that she is better.

Please continue to remember **Wes's** mom, **Louise Caudle**, in prayer. She is undergoing 28 intensive daily radiation treatments. This is no cake walk. Your thoughts and prayers are so meaningful.

**Bill McCord's** knee replacement surgery, originally scheduled for the 18th, has been postponed. Keep Bill in your prayers. We will relay more information as he has it.

**Wanda Castleman** was with us Sunday! We were all thrilled to see her smile!

**Shelia Hagewood's** mom, **Pat Gamble** is home. She is surrounded by family celebrating her 90th birthday. We are thrilled by this good news. Prayers of thankfulness are surely in order.

**Silvia Henderson's** sister-in-law, **Ann Hen-**

**derson**, remains on our prayer list. Please continue to remember her to the Lord.

Pray for **Susan Watson's** mother, **Janie Cheatham**. We are thankful for the good days and are continuing to pray for her and family.

**Zoila Herring, Mechi Hunt's** sister continues to have an interest in our prayers.

**Ciera Elledge, Will & Sarah Starks'** granddaughter, remains on our prayer list. She will be undergoing a PET scan in a few weeks. Remember Ciera to the Lord as you pray.

**Susan Woodard, Steve's** wife, has been diagnosed with cancer. Pray for her.

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

## This Week at Weatherly

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE** class meets at 9:30. **Tommy Hill** is continuing his study, **Building Strong Homes**. Please see Mike McLemore if you have not picked up your copy of the material being used for this class. Everyone needs their own book.

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP** follows at 10. **Mike** is continuing series "When God is Silent." Today's lesson, **A Priest from Judah**, is taken from **Hebrews 7:11-14**.

**SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP** begins at 6. **Mike** will lead us in a devotion. We hope you will plan to gather with us.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY** begins at 7. **Mike** will continue his verse by verse study of the **Gospel of Mark**. See you then. ☐

## JULY BIRTHDAYS



JULY 16, 2023

7-19	Jim Ehl	7-19	Peggy Shelton
7-27	Donna Godette	7-29	Mike McLemore
7-31	Phillip Dill		

# Praise to HIM!

Michael W. McLemore

"O praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him all ye people," *Psalm 117:1*. The child enjoys the opportunity to assemble with other brethren and worship God by singing praises to our Maker. What a privilege it is to worship God in song.

The Hebrew writer declared, "let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name," *Hebrews 13:15*. When we worship, we give God homage, adoration, devotion, praise, love and service. The fact that some do not understand this explains why so many have turned their so-called "worship" into an entertainment performance. It is a concept foreign to scripture that the primary purpose of worship is for worshipers to GET something from it.

True, Paul affirmed edification as a by-product: "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord," *Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16*. In song worship we teach, we speak to and with one another to God from our heart. No one can do worshipping for ME or for YOU! We are commanded to sing; it is our individual and collective responsibility.

As a follower of Christ, I am called to give to God what He has called for in the manner in which He has called for it. When one changes the reason for singing from teaching, admonishing, and giving homage to entertainment, he is practicing vain worship, *Matthew 15:9*. ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



115



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CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## TIMES OF SERVICES

<b>Sunday Bible Classes</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>
<b>Sunday AM Assembly</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>Sunday PM Assembly</b>	<b>6:00 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday Classes</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>

Stay informed and engaged online at  
[www.weatherlychurch.com](http://www.weatherlychurch.com)

### WATCH:

**LIVE** Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



## Weatherly's Shepherds

<b>Tommy Hill</b>	256 883-0010
<b>Will Starks</b>	256 883-5273

## Evangelist

**Michael W. McLemore** 256 698-5941  
Email: [mmclmore@weatherlychurch.com](mailto:mmclmore@weatherlychurch.com)

## Weatherly's Deacons

<b>Phil Furlough</b>	<b>Steve Hagewood</b>
<b>Kirk Hatcher</b>	<b>David Jacks</b>
<b>Hill Roberts</b>	<b>Collis Terry</b>
<b>Bobby Wright</b>	

# Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

## Sunday, July 16th

**Welcome:** **Tommy Hill**  
**Song Leader:** **David Jacks**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Collis Terry**  
**Lord's Table Lead:** **Steve Hagewood**  
*Hebrews 7:11-14*  
**Sermon:** **Mike McLemore**  
*What? A Priest from Judah?*  
**Closing Prayer:** **Will Starks**

## Sunday, July 23rd

**Will Starks**  
**Hill Roberts**  
**Bill Thompson**  
**Tommy Hill**  
*Habakkuk 2*  
**Mike McLemore**  
*Keep Silent Before Him*  
**Searcy Hall**

## Evening Worship

**Bible Skillz** **Mike McLemore**  
**Songs Leader:** **David Jacks**  
**Opening Prayer:** **Jim Ehl**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Dwight Ivey**

## Evening Worship

**Mike McLemore**  
**David Jacks**  
**Phil Shaver**  
**Ron Harmon**

## Wednesday, July 19th

**Songs Leader:** **Hill Roberts**  
**Invitation:** **John Patrick**  
**Closing Prayer:** **Bobby Wright**

## Wednesday, July 26th

**Doyle Wray**  
**Mike McLemore**  
**John Patrick**

## Weatherly Heights Singing August 11th

**Tim Stevens, Jim Deason**  
**Lane Alexander**

## Quarterly Adult Classes April – June 2023

**AUDITORIUM SUNDAY**  
Building Strong Homes  
**Tommy Hill**

**AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY**  
The Gospel of Mark  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in July

Serving on the Lord's  
Table AM & PM  
\*\* Overseer

\*\* **Ed Dill (7-2), Phil Shaver (7-9), Steve Hagewood (7-16), Tommy Hill (7-23), Marty Hunt (7-30)**

Communion Prep  
Building Lockup

**Phil Furlough**

