



September 3, 2023

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# Authority & Jesus

Michael W. McLemore

Authority is a word that makes some people cringe. Undoubtedly we live in an age when it is popular to rebel against authority. The fads of the sixties are back with a vengeance and with them are rebellion against convention. We find ourselves longing for the days when children only mutilated their bodies with piercings and tattoos. Appearance is symbolic of their rebellion. Decorum, simple propriety, and conventional thinking are out the window. Authority is taboo! It's everywhere. It's even invading the Lord's church, and that's frightening!

Jeremiah wrote of the unrestrained life in *Jeremiah 2:24*. He lamented the lack of respect for authority: "Who can turn them away from their pleasure?" Christians must "awaken out of their sleep." God's people are not immune from the influence of a culture turning away from God's authority.

The Christian is a person under "Authority"!

He doesn't direct his own footsteps for this is the apex of foolishness. He is bound to respect and to adhere to it. The child of God places himself under authority of Jesus' own example. Jesus did not rebel against authority, but neither did He foolishly exploit his position as the Son of the Creator. Consider Jesus's example.

Jesus' life demonstrated the humility of submitting to the Father's authority to direct our lives. Jesus respected the authority of his parents. He taught his disciples to respect the authority of civil government. Above all, Jesus recognized the authority of the scriptures, and dealt with his own authority in an uncompromising and humble way. In everything he did, Jesus appreciated the power and authority of God. If Jesus is going to be our example, we cannot help but notice how He dealt with authority, how he respected it himself, taught others to respect it, and lived a life of evident adherence to God's authority. □

# Back to the Beginning

By Sewell Hall

About A.D. 60, Paul wrote to the Colossians: "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and vain deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ, *Colossians 2:8*."

Ungodly philosophy has long been the enemy of true faith. Unlike faith, it ministers to pride, it encourages the notion that the way of man is in himself and that he can discover spiritual truth for himself without divine revelation; it even rejects divine revelation with which it disagrees. It places a premium on human intellect and elevates philosophers above ordinary men. By providing rationalization for sin, it removes the shame that should humble the sinner.

The need for Paul's warning is evident from the Lord's letters to the churches of Asia (the province where Colossae was located) and from John's epistles written from Asia. By the time these were written (possibly 30 years later), human philosophies had infiltrated many of the churches. They had done their pernicious work: questioning the inspired revelation of the nature of Christ, puffing up with pride, disdain for the brethren, and justifying immorality and ungodliness of every kind.

Much is to be learned from John's inspired challenge to such philosophies in his epistles.

John did not attempt to meet the philosophers on their own turf. The very nature of human philosophy makes absolute conclusions impossible. Any effort to oppose philosophy with philosophy will result in the kind of "useless wrangling" and

"foolish disputes" against which Paul warned both Timothy and Titus. Neither did John speak the truth in technical and academic language which would appeal to pride.

Rather, John, guided by the Holy Spirit, spoke with all of the authority of an apostle concerning the basic tenets of the faith: the character of God, the principles involved in sin, the human and divine nature of Jesus Christ, His great work on our behalf, the absolute necessity of fellowship with God and Christ, and the love, the purity, the attitudes toward truth and error which such fellowship requires. And he stated these in the simplest, most direct language possible. In glaring light of such basic truth, the reasoning of ungodly men appeared in its true colors.

Today, Christians are again threatened by ungodly philosophies: Humanism, New Age, and a host of others. Taught in schools and colleges, they enjoy dignity and influence which they do not deserve. They invade our minds through books, TV, paid counselors, and through conversations with our associates. All too often, elements of these philosophies are surfacing in Bible classes and some preaching is more pop-psychology and modernistic theology than Bible. Human philosophy is bearing the same fruit it bore in the first century: pride, questions regarding the nature of Jesus, and rationalization to justify every form of immorality.

"There is only one answer for the religious division and corrupting doctrines of our day, and that answer is the same as it was in John's day: back to the beginning—back to the source of truth—back to the apostles." □





# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## Joy in Heaven

Thursday morning a small gathering witnessed the new birth of **Carolyn Ramelle Holder**. I was contacted last week by her son, **Mark**, about using our baptistry if his study with his mother materialized. It did and she was baptized into Christ shortly thereafter. The Holders are south Huntsville natives and where members at Latham UMC on Weatherly. Mark obeyed the gospel when he was fifteen years old and has prayed for and worked toward his parent's conversion since that time. Sadly, his dad passed away in 2016. He was determined to teach his mother. We are rejoicing with the angels that he did. Much work remains to be done, but needless to say we are all thrilled. **Mark, Susan, Ethan & Katy Holder** are members of the West Huntsville congregation. You may write to **sister Holder** at the following address. Pray that we can encourage her to begin attending with the Lord's family here.

7020 Lauderdale Road  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

## Family Updates

### Prayers:

**Jenny Jacks** is much improved. We look forward to seeing her back with us. Thank you for your prayers.

**Peggy Childress** was released from Vanderbilt with a PICC line for continuing antibiotic treatments. Please pray earnestly for her.

Please continue to pray for **Elaine Dorris**. We look forward to her being better soon. Remember **Gordon** also as he cares for her.

**Bill McCord** continues rehab at home with

a physical therapist. He is attempting to get strong enough that his doctor will get the knee replacement surgery scheduled. Pray for Bill.

**Betty Dubose's** son-in-law, **Jackie Taft**, continues to have an interest in our daily prayers. He is under hospice care at home. Keep both the **Taft & Dubose** families in your prayers.

**Guy McDaniel**, former Weatherly evangelist, remains in our thoughts and prayers.

**Will & Sarah Stark**, granddaughter, **Ciera Elledge** anticipates resuming treatment. We will relay that information when we have it.

**Susan Watson's** mother, **Janie Cheatham** remains on our prayer list. Say her name to the Lord as you pray daily.

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

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** will continue his study: **Building Strong Homes**. We hope to see you all.

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP** follows at 10. **Mike's** lesson today is titled "Food for Life" from **Isaiah 55:1-13**.

**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**. Let's all be present. ☐

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



9-14	Brooke Hatcher	9-20	Sophia Hunt
9-25	LaNelle Patrick	9-28	Doris DeCelles

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## Go with Me...

Unknown

**G**o with me to work today. I am sometimes tired, troubled, discouraged.

There are so many problems at home, so many worries. Yet, I must not carry them with me. I must be pleasant and poised, keep smiling. I must produce. I must earn my pay. I must be an example.

Thank you that you will help me. You will sustain me, sweep me from of these problems until I am able to think about them again, focus my entire attention on them.

Lord, I put my worries into your hands. I turn my family over to you now for blessing and safekeeping. I know that you will be with them, loving and directing them wherever they are, all through this day. And I know that you will be with me.

As I go on with my work, I am suddenly thankful that I have it. I can lose myself in it, forget some of the these problems. I won't be able to brood on them, and make the mistakes that come from idle brooding.

I can withdraw and get perspective. And when I return to all these situations in the family, I'll be better able to handle things.

Thank you for this reassurance. Thank you for going to work with me today. ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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**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](mailto:contactus@weatherlychurch.com)

## 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](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: [mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com](mailto:mmclemore@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, September 3rd Sunday, September 10th

<b>Welcome:</b>	<b>Tommy Hill</b>	<b>Will Starks</b>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	<b>Hill Roberts</b>	<b>Mel Ambrose</b>
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	<b>Phil Shaver</b>	<b>Marty Hunt</b>
<b>Lord's Table Lead:</b>	<b>Ed Dill</b>	<b>Steve Hagewood</b>
	<b>Isaiah 55:1-13</b>	<b>Acts 27:22-44</b>
<b>Sermon:</b>	<b>Mike McLemore</b>	<b>Mike McLemore</b>
	<b>Food for Life</b>	<b>My Soul Anchor</b>
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	<b>Doyle Wray</b>	<b>Will Starks</b>

### Evening Worship

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<b>Bible Skillz</b>	<b>Mike McLemore</b>	<b>Mike McLemore</b>
<b>Songs Leader:</b>	<b>Bill Thompson</b>	<b>Mel Ambrose</b>
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	<b>WD Patrick</b>	<b>Jim Ehl</b>
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	<b>Tommy Hill</b>	<b>Wes Caudle</b>

### Wednesday, September 6th

### Wednesday, September 13th

<b>Songs Leader:</b>	<b>David Jacks</b>	<b>Collis Terry</b>
<b>Invitation:</b>	<b>Mike McLemore</b>	<b>Mike McLemore</b>
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	<b>Dwight Ivey</b>	<b>Bobby Wright</b>

## Weatherly Heights Singing 2024 Lectures

**May 2-5, 2024**  
Speakers TBA

## Quarterly Adult Classes July – September 2023

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

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

## Serving in September

Serving on the Lord's Table AM & PM  
\*\* **Ed Dill (9-3), Steve Hagewood (9-10), Tommy Hill (9-17), Bill Thompson (9-24)**  
\*\* **Overseer**

Communion Prep  
Building Lockup

**Lynn Franklin**

