

Weatherly Weekly

January 27, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 4

“Plain Path”

Michael W. McLemore

A “plain path” is an infallibly right way. King David’s inspired Psalm begs, “Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path, because of mine enemies” Psalm 27:11, KJV. He acknowledges his desperate need not only for guidance, but for divine footing along the path of life as he lived before his enemies.

The Holy Spirit’s language is actually identified as a level table land, devoid of unevenness. He is asking for a place where spiritual life is not up and down, faithful and unfaithful, or prone to sin. The pleading is for a wide open place in which to live, where equity reigns, and his rivals find no occasion against him.

Those who walk in the way of truth will have many enemies. Men have always “loved darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil.” They have likewise always “hated the light” and do not “come to the light, lest their works should be exposed” John 3:20. The man or woman is “blessed” who faces up to the responsibility that “the way of the Lord” lays upon him. The eyes of enemies are always

upon him who walks in the truth. His responsibility to be circumspect in his conduct is also multiplied. He cannot afford to be careless. His every word and act must be studied. The interests of truth are involved in all that he says or does. He must sacrifice his own “liberty” of action on the altar of truth. He dare no act irresponsibly.

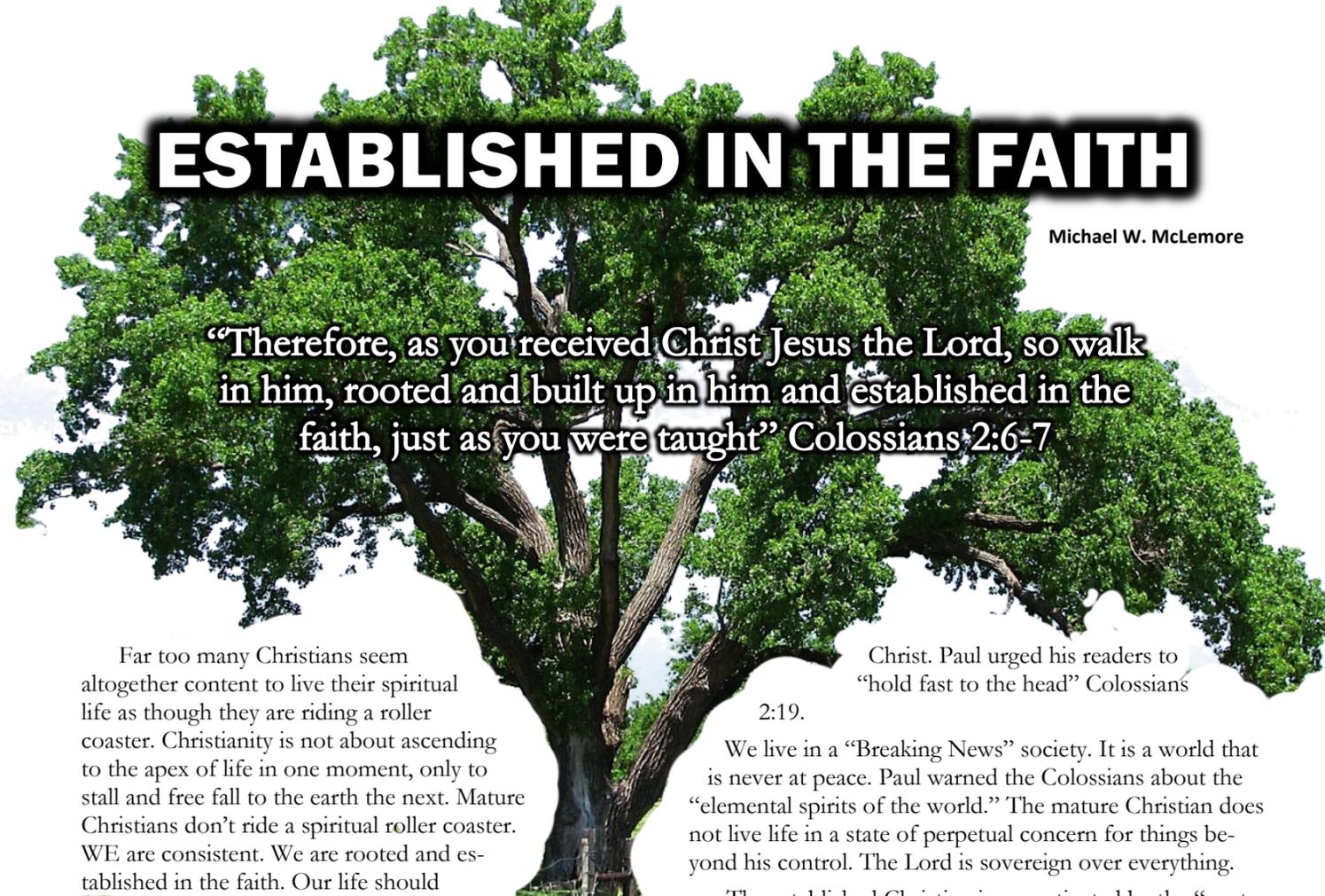
Like King David, we ought to pray, “Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.” We should search out divine directive for every step, every choice, every action and every word. We must walk in accord with the Lord’s Word. We, who are surrounded by our enemies or those who live to critic our lives, dare not walk in a way that is in any point questionable.

All who lead in today’s conflict against sin, carnality and apostasy must be sensitive to the grave responsibility to walk in the Lord’s “plain path.” We must be aware that the world is watching; our critics are waiting to pounce upon any misstep in our service to the Lord. □

ESTABLISHED IN THE FAITH

Michael W. McLemore

“Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught” Colossians 2:6-7



Far too many Christians seem altogether content to live their spiritual life as though they are riding a roller coaster. Christianity is not about ascending to the apex of life in one moment, only to stall and free fall to the earth the next. Mature Christians don’t ride a spiritual roller coaster. WE are consistent. We are rooted and established in the faith. Our life should more nearly be reflected by the mighty, aged oak, deeply rooted in earth. Consider other aspects of the life of a mature Christian, deeply rooted in Christ.

Our culture is enamored with comparisons. Coveting position, influence, body image is a way of life for many, but not the mature child of God. The spiritual self image of the mature child of God comes from above, not for the world. Note what Paul said to the Colossians in the verse that follows our text, “See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit” Colossians 2:8. Be on guard for any attempt to lure you captive by human device.

We live in a world of religious sophistication that believes the Divine pattern is too narrow and unsympathetic. The established Christian is prepared to sift the conflicting messages of our time and view them through the prism of divine truth. Paul further warned about being lead astray by “human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ” Colossians 2:8.

The deeply rooted child of God does not allow the authority of Christ, or the disciplines of the Christian life to take a back seat. Worship, prayer, observing the Lord’s Supper, contributing to the common treasury, attending Bible study and accepting responsibility as a member of a local fellowship is non-negotiable for those rooted in

Christ. Paul urged his readers to “hold fast to the head” Colossians

2:19.

We live in a “Breaking News” society. It is a world that is never at peace. Paul warned the Colossians about the “elemental spirits of the world.” The mature Christian does not live life in a state of perpetual concern for things beyond his control. The Lord is sovereign over everything.

The established Christian is unmotivated by the “next new thing.” The iphone civilization needs constant update to stay connected. When nothing “awesome is happening” many leave in search for something better. Our root is in Christ. Our encouragement, our assurance, our understanding, our knowledge is fixated in His hidden treasures, Colossians 2:1-3. Maturity always demonstrates “firmness of faith in Christ,” 5.

The fast paced, out of control world we live in is largely unconcerned for others. But, the mature Christian bears the unique character trait of Christ - compassion. Listen to Paul, “For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you,” Colossians 2:1. Many are only concerned for those who can help them. Not the mature child of God. His heart mirrors God’s heart.

Finally, hot and cold living has no place in the life of the established. It’s not a Sunday/Wednesday affair. Rather it is a long slow, methodical series of steps upward toward maturity in Christ. Paul describes it as a life that “grows with a growth that is from God,” Colossians 2:19.

Paul challenged Christians, asking “If you’ve died with Christ to this world, why would you ever live as though you were still in the world?” Colossians 2:20. If we would live a life “established in the faith,” we will not. □



FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Glenda & Ken Cavender need our prayers. Both are undergoing tests to determine the proper course of treatment. Your prayers for them are appreciated.

Sharon Dubose's break was not as severe as first feared. We are thankful. She is still pretty banged up from the fall, but is recovering quickly.

Betty Reavis had her second Chemo treatment in as many weeks. Her markers are all encouraging. This is cause for prayers of thanksgiving. She will have fluids etc. this week. Your prayers for both **Bill & Betty** are requested.

Mike Gore's most recent tests have indicated that the Chemo does not seem to be working. The outlook is not encouraging. They plan to talk to the doctor Wednesday about calling in hospice to take over his care. Sad news indeed. Your prayers for **Sandra, Mike & Aaron** during this very dark hour are solicited.

It was great to see **Peggy & Mike Coward** Wednesday. They have both been a bit slower than they would like. Pray for their improvement please.

Edith Turner was back with us on Sunday. She is doing much better. Your prayers for her have meant so much.

Please pray for **Travis Barnett**. He is a very special part of our family. His struggles in recent months have been extraordinary. **Travis** and his family needs our prayers.

Jeff Harbin, Mary's son and **Jimmy's** brother, underwent extensive surgery last week to

remove cancer. **Jeff** will begin radiation right away. Please pray for him and his family.

Daily Prayer List:

Please remember these in your daily petitions to the Father:

Barbara Woodard **Melonie Power**
Godette family

Pray for Our Nation

A dreadful new abortion law passed in New York last week. Please pray for our nation. Remember, "An unborn baby was the first to rejoice at the news of Jesus!"

SINGING:

Monthly Singing Tonight:

The last Sunday night of the month is traditionally spent in song worship. If you would like to participate in leading a song, or if you have a special request, please see **Jared Jimison** and he will work with you to arrange it.

Please plan to be here for this very encouraging period of worship. ☐

Group Four Meeting Tonight

Leader: Ron Harmon

Will meet immediately following the evening worship service. See you there...

JANUARY—FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



JANUARY 27, 2019

1-29	James Risner	1-29	Will Starks
1-30	Jenny Jacks	2-7	Mary Harbin
2-8	Travis Barnett	2-11	Aaron Gore
2-13	Julie Guice	2-14	Brennan Ivey
2-15	Glenda Cavender	2-15	Hilda Wright
2-17	Olivia Holland	2-27	Penny Hill
2-28	Virginia Skinner		

Malicious Slander

Michael W. McLemore

The motives of some in the history of man befuddle, begging for rational explanation; there is often no sane accounting for the actions of the insane. Names like Booth, Oswald, Ray, or Roof are synonymous with evil.

It is said that Philip of Macedonia, father of Alexander the Great, a virtuous and worthy monarch, was killed by his own bodyguard laboring under the delusion that "the killing of an illustrious person would result in the transfer of that person's glory to himself." It is true that, by killing King Phillip, Pausanias immortalized his name, yet not in the hall of fame of great men as he supposed, but in the gallery of the evil. Some people had rather be infamous than unknown. Such seek importance and notoriety and insanely are willing to do anything to attain it.

It seems that such persons whose only claim to fame was their zeal in seeking to destroy, by malevolent murder, have much in common with those who resort to malicious slander. Willing to undermine the influence of good and reputable men, their evil heart and venomous tongue are exposed. Slander is therefore, not only an indication of an evil heart and a venomous tongue, but a confession of conscious inferiority. It is a small wonder that Solomon said, "A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot" *Proverbs 14:30*. ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



Weatherly Heights
CHURCH OF CHRIST

930 Weatherly Road SE
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Email: contactus@weatherlychurch.com

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:00 am
Sunday AM Assembly	10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly	5:00 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

Louis Garrett	256 883-7785
Tommy Hill	256 883-0010
Will Starks	256 883-5273
Forest Summers	256 348-2251

Evangelist

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

Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough	Steve Hagewood
Ron Harmon	Kirk Hatcher
David Jacks	Ben Little
Hill Roberts	Collis Terry
Bobby Wright	

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, January 27

Welcome: Will Starks
Song Leader: Jared Jimison
Opening Prayer: Ron Holland
Scripture Reading: Jim Ehl
Hebrews 5:12-6:8
Sermon: Michael McLemore
"Let Us Go On to Maturity"
Closing Prayer: Ken Cavender

Sunday, February 3

Forest Summers
Charles Hill
David Jacks
Adam Hagewood
Romans 10:1-11
Michael McLemore
"Matters of the Heart"
Bill Thompson

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz Mike McLemore
Songs Leader: Singing
Opening Prayer: Forest Summers
Closing Prayer: Phil Shaver

Evening Worship

Mike McLemore
Charles Hill
Ed Dill
Terry Childress

Wednesday, January 30

Songs Leader: Collis Terry
Invitation: Terry Childress
Closing Prayer: Marty Hunt

Wednesday, February 6

Phil Furlough
Louis Garrett
Ron Harmon

Group 1

2019 Weatherly Lectures

May 2-5

"Living in Christ"

Jason Moore, Gary Patton
& **Eric Reynolds**

Group 2

Quarterly Adult Classes

January – March 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Fulfilled Prophecy
Steve Hagewood

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Hebrews: Don't Go Back!
Mike McLemore

Serving in February

Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Dwight Ivey	Marty Hunt
** Overseer	Wes Caudle	Ron Holland
	Gene Preston	Phil Shaver
	Tommy Hill **	Jerry Mitchell

Lord's Supper PM	Kirk Hatcher **	Jim Risner
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Communion Prep	Phyllis Harmon, Susan Hand & Ellie
Building Lockup	Ron Harmon

