

Weatherly Weekly

June 2, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 22

Clean Hearts

Michael W. McLemore

Fellowship with God begins with a clean heart. Those who love the Lord desire to obey Him. Still, we fall short. We tend to self gratification. Jeremiah warned, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?" *Jeremiah 17:9* Every child of God wrestles with this.

David pled, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me," *Psalms 51:10*. In His pleading he expressed the need of all human kind after succumbing to sin. "Heart cleansing" is divine work. The Holy Spirit of God caused David to use the "creation word" first employed as the descriptor of God's work — "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." God is willing to do for man what man cannot do for himself "if" man will repent and in faith submit himself to God. Peter said it this way, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins," *Acts 2:38*.

Salvation re-creates our hearts and lives. Jesus' death on the cross paid the penalty for

sin and broke its power over us. We are new creatures. With clean hearts, we can begin to realize the capabilities our Lord has given us. Where do we find those capabilities?

It starts and continues with the Word of God, the Bible. It's the mirror through which we see our true selves. In it, we discover those areas where we have been faithful and also the places where we've strayed from His path. Expressing genuine repentance brings God's forgiveness and cleansing, *1 John 1:9*.

The heart represents the seat of our intellect, will, emotion and conscience. When we endeavor to keep it pure, we will more easily discern the Lord's plan, submit our will to His, and follow Him obediently.

Becoming the person God planned for each of us to be requires an intimate relationship with Him and a desire to obey His Word. Apart from Christ, we cannot achieve anything of lasting value, *John 15:5*. Cooperating with the Spirit's revealed truth — the Bible — will help us win the struggle for clean hearts. □

Sin: A Reproach

"Righteousness exalts a nation,
but sin is a reproach to any people" (Proverbs 14:34).

Cultural acceptance of behavior that is clearly contrary to God's word is nothing new. Christians and non Christians alike are appalled by senseless crime, mass shootings, abortion, or homosexuality. Proverbs 14:34 is on the tip of every tongue and the Amens are all around. But, are we among those calling for tolerance and acceptance for what might be termed "socially acceptable sin?"

Christians at Corinth were touched by culture. Theirs was a permissive society. Common societal philosophies had been allowed to distort their concept of what was sin. It was Christians that Paul asked in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God." He warned, "Do not be deceived!" Earlier in 1 Corinthians 5 Paul identified a brother who was practicing such things, but nothing was being done about it. Paul said it is unacceptable for Christians to engage in this behavior, don't condone it!

This list of sinful practices is similar to those mentioned in other passages (Romans 1:26-32, Galatians 5:19-21). They were common problems then and they are common problems now. Adultery and fornication in the list forbids sex outside of the bonds of marriage. Homosexuality was accepted and practiced openly. The Greco-Roman society of

Paul's day was riddled with immorality. In fact, Nero, emperor at the time Paul wrote 1 Corinthians, was about to and did marry the boy Sporus and also later married his freedman Doryphorus according to *Suetonius', The Twelve Caesars*. Fourteen of the first fifteen Roman emperors practiced some form of homosexuality. Such behaviors were acceptable by cultural standards, but not to God!

Paul does on to identify many more forms of transgressions that affected God's people in his generation. Idolatry: those who participate in the worship of false gods or those who attend the sacrificial feasts. Thieves, the covetous, and extortionists are those who are greedy of gain and do whatever (extort, swindle, and rob) it takes to achieve gain. Drunkards. Revilers: an archaic term that describes slanderers, or those who make uniformed accusations. Paul tells them that those who participate in these things cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

Sin may be socially acceptable to Culture. But it will never be acceptable to God. As Christians we have been "called out" of the dark world. Paul reminded the Corinthians, "such were some of you" (1 Cor. 6:11). But, the faithful put it behind them. Sin was part of their past, not their present. "Do not be deceived" society may accept and even glorify these behaviors, but God said they are barriers to our residence in Heaven and Fellowship with God's people in this life. He considers them a "reproach to any people." □

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Watch
LIVE

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Dot Summers continues her recovery from a stroke. Your prayers for her are appreciated.

Edith Turner is also recovering at home. Continue to remember her to the Lord.

Sharon Dubose is doing well. She has a long road ahead, but she's a trouper.

Wanda Castleman is better and we are thankful. Your continued prayers for her full and complete recovery are solicited.

We are praying for **Mechi Hunt's** father. He received good news in that the tumor has not spread beyond its location. Prayers please.

Many have asked about writing to **Jenny Jacks'** mom, **Laura Phillips**. We have included her address:

1616 29th Avenue, Hueytown, AL 35023

Directory Change

Please make the follow change to **David Jacks'** email address in your directory.

djacks5555@aol.com

Daily Prayer List:

Please remember these in your daily petitions to the Father:

Barbara Woodard	Melonie Power
Melvin Godette	Glenda Cavender
Ken Cavender	Jeff Harbin
Aladean Jacks	Marty Haselden
Shirley Davis	

Thelma Poole

Our sincere sympathy to **Kathy, Rick** and the entire **Decker family** in the loss of their dear mother, **Thelma Poole** on Thursday. Thelma was a bright light to all who she touched. We were blessed to have known her.



Thelma began attending Weatherly with the Deckers in early 2009. I loved the many visits we shared over these last years. She had a dry personality and loved to tease. For a long time she rode to worship with **Margaret Sands**. Margaret called her "Little Bit." She was little, but mighty. They shared a beautiful friendship until Margaret's passing.

We were all sad when health considerations forced Thelma to sell her home and move to Regency Retirement Village. We have missed her presence in our assemblies. Now she has left this world and we long to be reunited in eternity. Our desire for heaven is made sweeter because of her presence there.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow at Spry Funeral Home. Visitation will begin at noon, and the service is at 1 pm. ☐

Group One Meeting

Group One, led by **W.D. Patrick**, is scheduled to meet after worship tonight. You will be dismissed from the assembly immediately after the Lord's Supper. Plan to attend.

Wilderness Moments

Michael W. McLemore

By definition a wilderness is a lonely place. The vast deserts of the earth are trackless expanses that seem to go on forever. Walk for a mile in any direction and the terrain looks the same. Climb over a hill and all you see is more of the same. Even though you may actually be surrounded by people, in the wilderness you feel all alone.

Many are living in what they perceive as a wilderness — Abandoned, forgotten, discarded. We have all been there — Waiting for a call back after a long anticipated interview. Needing good news from medical tests. Watching as the savings is depleted. Worrying over children. Wondering if I can even make it through another month. These are common wilderness experiences.

It's easy during tense, taut, fearful moments to think, "God has forgotten me." But, in reality it's the other way around. During those times I'm the one who has forgotten God.

The apostle Paul found himself living the wilderness experience in 2 Timothy 4:16, "At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me." He was literally suffering alone at the hands of his Roman captors. It was in that experience that Paul showed us the secret. Listen to his hopefulness, "But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me..." 17. He was not alone in his desert, and neither are we! ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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Weatherly Heights
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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:



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	



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, June 2

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
Song Leader: **Charles Hill**
Opening Prayer: **Phil Furlough**
Scripture Reading: **Jim Ehl**
Philippians 3:17—4:1
Sermon: **Michael McLemore**
"Fellow Citizens"
Closing Prayer: **Nick Holland**

Sunday, June 9

Tommy Hill
Hill Roberts
David Jacks
Wes Caudle
Matthew 22:34-46
Michael McLemore
"With All Your Heart"
Kirk Hatcher

Evening Worship

Bible Skills	Mike McLemore	Mike McLemore
Songs Leader:	Charles Hill	Hill Roberts
Opening Prayer:	Jared Jimison	Ed Dill
Closing Prayer:	Hill Roberts	Phil Shaver

Evening Worship

Wednesday, June 5

Songs Leader: **Phil Furlough**
Invitation: **Louis Garrett**
Closing Prayer: **Jimmy Harbin**

Wednesday, June 12

Terry Childress
Mike McLemore
Terry Barnett

Group 1

2019 Weatherly Singing
August 9th

Tim Stevens, John Kilgore
& Jack Bradford

Group 2

Quarterly Adult Classes
April — June 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Living Responsibly
Tommy Hill

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Lessons from Isaiah
Mike McLemore

Serving in June

Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Dwight Ivey	Gene Preston
** Overseer	Bobby Wright	Ron Holland
	Charley Skinner	John Beshorse
	Ben Little **	Jerry Mitchell
Lord's Supper PM	Collis Terry **	Terry Childress
Communion Prep Building Lockup		Julie Singleton
		Jared Jimison

MAY & JUNE BIRTHDAYS



6-4	Ellie Pellegrini	6-7	Shelia Hagewood
6-12	Erin Riggs	6-13	Adam Hagewood
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