Newsletter of the Weatherly Heights Church of Christ

Weekly

July 21, 2019

Watch

2019 Edition, Number 29

More Than Oblivion

Michael W. McLemore

Horace Greeley was an American author, statesman and congressman during the middle 19th century. He was the founder and editor of the New-York Tribune, one of the great newspapers of its time. Greeley is largely unknown to this generation. To lay him upon the timeline of American history, he failed in an attempt to unseat the incumbent President, Ulysses S. Grant, in 1872. While Greeley is no household name in our time, his philosophy of life remains alive and flourishing. He once wrote,

"Fame is a vapor; popularity an accident; riches take wings; the only earthly certainty is oblivion."

Virtually all forms of humanism and materialism hold this notion as basic. When he said, "Oblivion is the only certainty," he was far from the first to believe it so. This philosophy did not begin with Mr. Greeley. Neither are we surprised that it did not die with him, or the intelligentsia of his age. Almost two thousand years before Mr. Greeley was born, this was a creedal of the Epicurean philosophers, merely couched in different terminology:

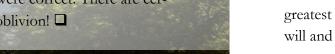
"Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!"

Paul alluded to this doctrine when discussing the certainty of resurrection, *1 Corinthians 15:32*.

A far greater than Horace Greeley more correctly said,

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming, and is now here, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live," *John 5:24-25*.

Paul and Jesus were correct. There are certainties other than oblivion!



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The Cyrus Cylinder

"Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom and also put it in writing: Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and He has charged me to build Him a house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever is among you of all His people, may the Lord his God be with him. Let him go up" (2 Chronicles 36:22-23).

In 1879, British archaeologists uncovered a small clay cylinder covered with cuneiform writing. It is about nine inches long and about four inches in diameter. When the carefully lettered inscription was deciphered it was found to be the proclamation of Cyrus returning peoples to their homelands to live peacefully and worship their gods. It is solid evidence for the kind of proclamation the Bible records in Chronicles (see also Isaiah 44:28-45:1). Now known as the Cyrus Cylinder, it normally resides in the British Museum in London. However, currently it is on a U.S. tour. Several months ago it was displayed in Houston. On my way to a gospel meeting in southeast Texas I detoured a bit through Houston to see it. Contained in a relatively small room, along with a few other Persian relics, one of the greatest archaeological finds of all time was there for all to see.

I spent some time gawking at it from every angle, asking a guide if I could take a cell phone picture (no), and thinking about how to sneak a cell phone photo when she wasn't looking (decided against it). It was an impressive exhibition, and again I was reminded of how even the greatest kings are simply water in God's hands to do His will and bidding (Proverbs 21:1).



What Really Lasts? By Mark Roberts

As I left the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, I noticed something: most of the advertising in the museum and most of the fuss going on was for an exhibit upstairs. What was so important that the Cyrus Cylinder exhibition wasn't getting much publicity and seemed to be going on almost unnoticed? I went upstairs to find... a Picasso exhibition. While I had seen the Cylinder for free the Museum wanted \$20 to see Mr. Picasso's works. The decision to pass on Picasso wasn't a hard one.

As I drove on to southeast Texas, all this made me think: what really lasts? The Cylinder is over 2000 years old and yet it still is a focal point of study and interest. Picasso's works are barely even a century old. Without denying Picasso's role in the development of art, or his importance in art history, I must wonder if in 2000 years anyone will even know his name. More than likely, he will be little more than an obscure footnote in some art history text, as unknown then as any famous painter in Rome of New Testament times is today. But Cyrus? He will still be known. Not because he is important or wonderful or even because he was such a great ruler. He will be known because his name is in God's Word. That is what lasts: the Word of the Lord.

Remembering that a little more often might just make for a direction change in how I live life and what I value. Someday, what everyone else values so much will be worth nothing. But someday, what everyone else may value as worthless, will be worth everything. A trip to the museum reminded me "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21).



News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

FAMILY UPDATES

Pravers:

Peggy Coward remains on our prayer list following her foot procedure. Say her name to the Lord as you pray this week. We have missed her.

Ed Dill underwent eye surgery on Thursday. All went as expected and he is recovering. Unfortunately he is required to keep his head facing downward for six consecutive days to facilitate proper healing in the back of his eye. That couldn't possibly be comfortable.

Remember **Debbie Harbin's** surgery has been set for August 19th. She is still suffering with severe pain. Pray for her and for Jimmy.

Betty Reavis had a PET Scan last week. The result were good. She will still undergo Chemo as a maintenance about once a month. Pray for **Betty** and family.

Dwight Ivey's mother, Neida Ivey, has been moved to rehab following surgery. Your prayers for her are appreciated.

Remember the Jacks' family in the loss of Aladean Jacks. Your prayers are greatly appreciated by her entire family.

Many in our family have taken advantage of the summer break to travel. Some have returned, others are still away. Pray for their safe travel to and from. \Box

Daily Prayer List:

Barbara Woodard Glenda Cavender **Betty Reavis** Pam Davis **Brenda Dorris**

Melvin Godette Ken Cavender Marty Haselden Laura Phillips **Melonie Power**

JULY & AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



7-27	Donna Godette
7-31	Phillip Dill
8-2	Wanda Castleman
8-10	Natalie Frazier
8-14	Anna Holland
8-23	Janice Schrimsher



Mike & Gwyn McLemore will be away next Lord's Day. Mike is scheduled to speak in a week long meeting in north Mississippi. In his absence the elders have invited Gary Patton from Decatur, Alabama to speak. He is no stranger to our Weatherly family. Please welcome Gary & Billie. It will be good to have them. 🗖

Summer Study Series

Tonight is week #5 of our Summer edition of Sunday Night Study Series. We are trilled with the participation in the effort. Make your plans to be here tonight.

Tonight we will be studying "Fiery Serpent: The Day a Serpent Saved Sinners."

Group Two Meeting

Group Two, led by Phil Furlough, will meet today immediately after morning worship at the home of Phil & June Furlough for a covered dish and group meeting.

Group Three Meeting

Mike McLemore

Forest Summers

Phyllis Harmon **Peggy Childress**

Thomas Little

The Ultimate Irony Michael W. McLemore

The Gospel is the ultimate irony. One must be last to be first. One must give to get. And, one must die to live. What is more remarkable than all, Jesus secured that life with His own death and by it illustrated the ultimate irony.

Matthew 20 contains the record of a mother asking for a future for her sons. Every mother wants her sons to be secure in life. She asked Jesus, "Say that these sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom," 21. Jesus answered her and her sons, "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant," 26.

Jesus' disciples sought advantage, and it angered their colleagues. But, Jesus assured them all that their future would exact anguish. He said, "But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many," 26-28.

Man has been under a death sentence from the beginning. It is a future from which no one can escape. Jesus purchased our release. In the ultimate irony, He died that we could live, and called us to die that we might life.





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.weatherlvchurch.com

WATCH:

Sermon archive or LIVE live stream during all Weatherly services

Weatherly's Shepherds

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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: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

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



Group Three, led by Murray Castleman, will be meeting immediately after worship tonight. You will be released early from the assembly. Plan to attend please.

7-29

8-1 8-6

8-11

8-19



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, July 21

Will Starks

Welcome: Song Leader: **Opening Prayer:** Scripture Reading:

David Jacks Ron Harmon Wes Caudle 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Michael McLemore "The Problem of Pride" **Gene Preston**

Sermon:

Closing Prayer:

Evening Worship

Summer Series

Mike McLemore

Songs Leader: **Opening Prayer: Closing Prayer:**

David Jacks Phil Furlough Ben Little

Wednesday, July 24

Songs Leader: Invitation: **Closing Prayer:**

Bill Thompson Mike McLemore **Bobby Wright**

Group 3

2019 Weatherly Singing August 9th

Tim Stevens, John Kilgore & Jack Bradford

Sunday, July 28

Will Starks Jared Jimison Marty Hunt Jim Ehl To Be Announced Gary Patton **Guest Speaker** Steve Hagewood

Evening Worship

ТВА

Jared Jimison WD Patrick **Bill Thompson**

Wednesday, July 31

Terrv Childress Jared Jimison **Riley Monroe**

Group 4

Quarterly Adult Classes July – September 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY More Lessons from Isaiah

Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Philippians: "God Gave You to Me" Mike McLemore

Serving in July

Serving on the Lord's Table AM ** Overseer

Adam Hagewood Nick Holland Jim Ehl Tommv Hill **

Steve Hagewood W.D. Patrick **Clark Boles** John Patrick

Lord's Supper PM

Communion Prep Building Lockup

Ed Dill **

Kirk Hatcher

Jenny Jacks & Wanda Castleman David Jacks