

Weatherly Weekly

September 22, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 38

What Price?

Adapted

While not the most famous words of his inaugural address, this statement by President Kennedy was significant. "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

In January of 1961 it was understood that anything worthwhile had cost. It was understood that in life there are burdens to bear. It was understood that a man or woman seeking only their own comfort in life was an existence without significance, meaning, or purpose.

At that point in our history, the worth of pain and the might of self-sacrifice were understood. The mindset of our culture at that time was still heavily influenced by the word of God. We were not really a "Christian nation," but we were a nation strongly influenced by the faith that had a cross at its center. It is no longer such a nation.

Today the question is not "what can I do for my country?" but "what is the government going to do for me?" That shift in atti-

tude may be the most destructive force in our national life. But what of our spiritual fiber and the life that results?

Is it any different with Christians? Has our faith and focus also drifted? Do we gather to sing our favorite songs and to see our friends? Or do we gather to honor the Lord? Do we live as consumers, trying to get the best bargain we can from the local merchants, on the Internet, and from the Lord? Or do we live as those who "have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised," *2 Corinthians 5:14-15*?

I am sorry to ask such challenging questions. But somehow I don't think the church was built by means of positive thinking pep talks, and I don't think that is what will restore it to its original purity and purpose. What price are we willing to pay, what burden are we willing to bear for the cause of Christ? Admittedly, it is a challenging question. But, then, are not most worthwhile questions? □



Curse and Effect

Colossians 3:8

Stan Cox

IN A 2009 EDITION OF THE FT. WORTH STAR TELEGRAM, an article on the subject of Cursing appeared in the Life & Arts section. The article was a good example of unbiased reporting, as it just reported the societal trend of increased cursing and swearing, while not commenting on the appropriateness of the trend. I do not intend to be unbiased however, in commenting on the trend. The use of obscenity is condemned in scripture, and unworthy behavior for one who would please God.

One individual quoted in the article is a psychologist in Ft. Worth by the name of Richard Citrin. He said, "Clearly, the permissiveness of today's culture allows this. It's undeniable that things never said in public even a generation ago have become part of our language. I don't say that common usage makes these terms appropriate, but they are in large part accepted." He is right on in this. Common usage does not make cursing right! Common usage is characteristic of the world, not the child of God. The Bible clearly states that we are to "... have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them" (Ephesians 5:11). Christians are to "... walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16).

But, why has cursing increased? Why is culture more permissive of such obscenity? According to the article Richard Tallingen, a Media scholar in New York, said, "... it became clear that younger people, as they began to have more money to spend, liked to spend it on things that would shock their parents and teachers and ministers. So media, music, books, all those things that help shape our culture, got racier and racier. It hasn't really stopped since." Furthermore, Toni Taylor, a fourth grade teacher in Arlington, believes that even very young children are learning to curse at home. She said, "I've had parents come to school and start swearing during conferences."

It seems that these things are cyclical in nature. No doubt the pagans of the first century were every bit as corrupt as a people as our society seems to be today. Paul spoke of them as "being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud,

boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them" (Romans 1:29-32). American society today is very much characterized by the same ungodliness. In fact, if I were not aware of the date of Paul's writing, I would think this scripture to be directly pointed to our day. Paul warned Timothy of this cycle of ungodliness, and instructed him as to how to deal with it. He said in 2 Timothy 3:13-14, "But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of ..."

An example of these "evil men" is found in the Telegram article. A Fort Worth "poet/essayist" by the name of William Bryan Massey III is said to frequently use profanity in his writing. In fact, the article stated, "Few of Massey's poems or essays could be even partially reprinted in a family newspaper, but he thinks this is a mark of distinction, not dishonor." Notice his rationale for using such obscenity, "I choose the words that best express the idea or feeling I'm trying to get across to the reader. Some people say that poems or whatever could be just as good without [obscenities]. But when I'm using the language, I want to take advantage of every word." Such absurd drivel would be laughable if it were not such a sad commentary on our times.

Educated people have always considered obscenity the haven of the coarse, uneducated and immoral man. It is the language of the drunken sailor, not the poet; of the tramp, not the businessman; of the law breaker, not the law maker. If that is now changing, we are saddened. However, we as Christians must refuse to be influenced by this ungodliness. We are called to a higher standard. Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, "Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ," *2 Thessalonians 1:11-12*. □

Watch
LIVE

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Dot Summers is getting along ok. Thankfully her fall left just a bad facial bruise and no more. Please pray for **Dot** and **Forest**. Forest is in close consultation with her doctors about the best course to pursue going forward following Dot's recent surgery. Pray for the Lord's wisdom as they wrestle with these difficult decisions.

Betty Reavis went for her preliminary visit with the radiation oncologist. They are preparing for radiation. She also underwent chemo on Friday. It was a five hour marathon. She starts her first of twelve radiations treatments on Monday. Her blood count is low but so far it hasn't impacted her treatments. Pray for **Betty & Bill** as they meet this great challenge.

Edith Turner is better. It has been a struggle, but her plan is to be with us today. Her smile will be a very welcomed addition to our assembly. Pray for her.

Debbie Harbin's progress is incremental at best. Pray for her. She does have nerve discomfort in one of her legs which is both nagging and concerning to her. Rehab is ongoing. The main thing she needs is our prayers. Please ask the Lord to help her get better!

Continue to say **Glenda Cavender's** name every day. We are thankful for the Lord's watchful care of her. Also, remember **Ken** to the Lord as you pray.

Kim & Terry Barnett are visiting with their son, **Travis**, today. Pray for him as he faces up to the great challenge before him. Ask for the Lord to watch over our precious Kim & Terry.

Laura Phillips, Jenny Jacks' mom, has been moved to rehab. The last couple of days have been a bit more encouraging for the family. We are continuing to pray for sister Phillips. ☐

Daily Prayer List:

Barbara Woodard **Melvin Godette**
Pam (West) Davis **Marty Haselden**

Fall Study Series, October 13th

Sunday, October 13th through **November 24th** at **5:00 p.m.** is slated for the next Fall edition of Sunday Night Study Series. Our theme this year is **God Works Through His People: "I Want to Be a Worker."**

We hope each and every family here at Weatherly will plan to participate in these importance **lessons on purpose, passion, persistence, purity, prayer, and praise!**

In connection with the upcoming series the members are encouraged to participate in a very encouraging effort to help our students know that their role in building the Lord's kingdom is critical to it's progress. Your group leaders will be telling your more about that in upcoming group meetings. ☐

Group Four Meeting

Group Four, led by **Ron Harmon** will meet today immediately after morning worship at the Harmon's for covered dish and group meeting. Please make plans to be present.

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



9-23	Dylan Craig	9-25	LaNelle Patrick
9-28	Doris DeCelles	9-30	Rebecca Pellegrini
10-6	Henry Frazier	10-10	Karen Thompson
10-11	Caryl Ehl	10-14	Janeth Hagewood

"Resting"

Michael W. McLemore

On the walls of a large university is written: "On the plains of hesitation lies the blackened bones of the countless millions who, at the dawn of victory, sat down to rest, and resting died."

It has ever been the scenario of mankind to begin resting just before victory is gained. Talented but immature athletes tend to assume victory is secure only to be overtaken by a lesser team who competes to the end. When the final whistle sounds players are dejected and can't believe victory slipped through their grasps.

Christians are not immune. The new child of the King begins with zeal and joy that a merciful God of grace has forgiven and made him acceptable in His son. He is filled with promise and vitality. Growth is a daily part of life. Involvement and service are the pursuit. Failure is both disquieting and a motivator to be better. Prayers are laced with pleadings for wisdom and opportunities to faithfully serve. But, with victory nearer than when he first believed, the child of God sits to rest, and resting dies!

Never is it time to rest on one's past accomplishments. Paul admonished, "always abound in the work of the Lord," *1 Cor. 15:57*. Labor to the finish. Grow daily. Participate fully. Press on the end; then rest with God! ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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:

LIVE Sermon archive or
live stream during
all Weatherly services



Weatherly's Shepherds

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, September 22

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
Song Leader: **David Jacks**
Opening Prayer: **Tommy Hill**
Scripture Reading: **Wes Caudle**

Ephesians 4:17-32

Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
In My Heart, Lord Be Glorified
Closing Prayer: **Ken Cavender**

Sunday, September 29

Tommy Hill
Jared Jimison
Phil Furlough
Bobby Wright

Ephesians 5:15-33

Mike McLemore
In My Home, Lord Be Glorified
Ron Holland

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz **Hill Roberts**

Songs Leader: **Bill Thompson**
Opening Prayer: **Forest Summers**
Closing Prayer: **Kirk Hatcher**

Jared Jimison

SINGING
David Jacks
Jim Ehl

Wednesday, September 25

Songs Leader: **Collis Terry**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Jimmy Harbin**

Wednesday, October 2

Mike McLemore

Group 4

2020 Weatherly Lectures
April 30th—May 3rd

Quarterly Adult Classes
July — September 2019

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

More Lessons from Isaiah
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Philippians: "God Blessed Me With You"
Mike McLemore

Serving in September

Serving on the Lord's Table AM
**** Overseer**

Ken Cavender
Dwight Ivey
Kirk Hatcher
Collis Terry **

Phil Furlough
John Besherse
Ryan Patrick
Jerry Mitchell

Lord's Supper PM

Gene Preston **

Terry Childress

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

Petra Carter
John Stokes

