

# Weatherly Weekly

October 27, 2019

2019 Edition, Number 43

## The Unseen Hand

James W. Adams

Many times the charismatic personality and oratorical and rhetorical abilities of a speaker conceal the pernicious error implicit in that which he says, and multitudes are deceived. Conversely speaking, these same qualities often lessen the transforming influence of the gospel of Jesus Christ as it is taught and preached. Under such preaching, multitudes may "join the church," but few are converted to Christ.

It is said that a person heard a world-famous evangelist and came away saying, "What a marvelous speaker!" Sometime thereafter, he heard a consecrated preacher of little fame preach in simple idiom, but with great conviction and sincerity, the story of the cross and came away saying, "What a wonderful Christ!"

This calls to mind a verse of a poem written by W.G. Elmslie which addresses the point of this article.

He held the lamp of truth that day  
So low that none could miss the way;  
And yet so high to bring in sight  
That picture fair the World's Great Light  
That gazing up the lamp between  
The hand that held it scarce was seen.

We should so teach the Word of God as to emphasize the message which it conveys and Him who is its author that the hearts of the hearers may embrace "the World's Great Light." The less they see of "the hand that holds it up," the more impressive it will be.

However, let us not use these facts as an excuse for poorly prepared and slovenly delivered lessons or sermons. The lamp stand and the hand that holds it should be of such character as to display the Light, whether held "low" or "high," to the best advantage so that its rays of redeeming light may shine clearly and powerfully to all who need it. □

Someone has said that bad habits are like easy chairs - easy to get into, but hard to get out of. Ain't it so? Life sometimes seems unfair, doesn't it? It's so difficult to form good habits while the forming of bad ones is done almost without doing anything. You just sort of let them happen.

## Cowboys, Easy Chairs, and Bad Habits

Dee Bowman

They usually demand very little time, and they are acquired in such subtle ways that they become routine almost without notice.

"For by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into bondage," *2 Peter 2:19*. "Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?" *Romans 6:16*. What does that say to us? Better watch out what we allow to control us. Bad habits control.

Habits - good or bad - depend on repetition for survival. If you do something over and over long enough it will become an almost unnoticeable routine, a habit. Obviously, those things we enjoy doing are more likely to become habits, so it behooves to be careful to like the right things. If we don't like a thing, we respond by staying away from it.

Breaking habits isn't easy. That's why good ones are so good and bad ones are so bad. I don't know why, but it seems that bad habits are harder to break than good ones.

If we're to cease some bad habit we have to begin by stunting its regularity. And if we are to develop a good habit, we have to have such a conviction as regards its usefulness or necessity that it results in our repeating the action often enough that it becomes a beneficial regularity.

The mind is the incubator for the thoughts we choose. We decide when and what information we will allow into our minds. Our thoughts are our own - nobody does our thinking for us. If we allow our minds to constantly dwell on evil, lewd information, like pornographic material, that

type of recurring thinking will soon become habitual. And the people who have studied that kind of mental addiction have concluded that pornography, and things like it, may well be the most difficult of all such mental habits to break. It's easy to start, hard to stop.

We cannot keep bad thoughts from passing through our minds from time to time, but we don't have to invite the evil in and give it a place to stay. We are to "give no place to the devil" (*Ephesians 4:27*). If we give him residency in our minds long enough he will get a foothold. Too many people not only allow him to come in, but give him a place to sit, something to drink, and a comfortable conversation to enjoy.

To expel evil thoughts as soon as possible is one of the best habits a person can develop and maintain. Impurities have no legitimate place in the Christian's heart. Constant clean thinking is a splendid deterrent to evil advances.

One of the best ways to preclude the devil's invasion into our thinking is to acquire the habit of regular Bible reading. Bible reading puts God in our minds, and the habit of rapid and consecutive contact with God's word is no doubt the most effective way to combat evil encroachments. Good information crowds out evil thinking. "With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You." (*Psalm 119:10-11*).

Another thing - It's easy to fall into the habit of speaking what you hear around you every day. The world routinely uses foul language and ungodly speech. It is becoming commonplace to hear dirty language in the media, in music and entertainment, sports events, even on the school ground. Language which would not have been tolerated just a few years ago has become routine - habitual - in today's age. It's fashionable, even, to say certain words and phrases of impiety, especially among the young.

Clean speech is another good habit to acquire. We don't need filthy words or inordinate vows with which to express ourselves and we should speak in such a way that it becomes obvious that we are not with the "in crowd" when it comes to dirty talking. We should habitually use words and phrases that are clean, devoid of putridness or impiety.

It's hard to break bad habits. But just as the West Texas cowboy had to "break" the horses to show them who's boss, even so we must "break" bad habits by showing them that we are greater than they are. □

Watch LIVE



# FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



## FAMILY UPDATES

### Prayers:

**Ron Harmon** will have a right and left heart catheterization on Wednesday. Ron's cardiologist has been watching a narrowing of the aortic valve during annual checkups. It has reached the point where it is now restricting blood flow and must be repaired. The plan is to do this through the cath. Please remember **Ron, Phyllis & family** in prayer.

**Steven Guice** is recovering well from the surgery. He has a follow up at UAB on Thursday and an appointment with his oncologist at MD Anderson the following Thursday, November 7th. "We appreciate your continued prayers on Steven's behalf! **Julie.**"

**Will Starks'** sister, **Sarah Jernigan**, who suffered multiple mini strokes, is very weak and barely able to speak. She has to be assisted in walking, as her balance is unsteady. She is facing a long period of physical therapy. Understandably she is discouraged. Your prayers for her are requested.

**Gordon Dorris'** sister, **Brenda Dorris**, continues to suffer with pain in both hips and has difficulty walking. A recent CT scan was negative and showed no recurrence of the kidney cancer. Say Brenda's name in prayer. Also, remember **Gordon & Elaine** in their frequent trips to Franklin, Kentucky to attend to Brenda's needs.

Thanks to all of those who helped assist with **Bobby Ferguson** while his daughter, **Tammy Woodard**, was away in Florida.

**Laura Phillips, Jenny Jacks'** mom, remains on our prayer list. She is regaining sufficient

strength to receive guests. Her address is...

The Cottages Assisted Living  
4200 Chris Drive, #210 (Oakleaf building)  
Huntsville, Alabama 35802

To check with Jenny before dropping in would probably be advisable. ☐

### Daily Prayer List:

<b>Travis Barnett</b>	<b>Glenda Cavender</b>
<b>Melvin Godette</b>	<b>Marty Haselden</b>
<b>Betty Reavis</b>	<b>Debbie Harbin</b>
<b>Barbara Jean Woodard</b>	

## Sunday Night Study Series

The fall edition of Sunday Night Study Series continues with week #3. Our theme this Fall is **God Works Through His People: "I Want to Be a Worker."** We hope every member of our Weatherly family will participate heartily in these evening assemblies.

Tonight the auditorium class will be led by **Bill Thompson**. We will be studying from Nehemiah— "Welcome More to the Work."

## Lowell Sallee, December 15

**Lowell Sallee** will be with us **Sunday evening, December 15th**, to tell us about his role and work in preaching among the saints in Zimbabwe. Mark your calendar. ☐

## Group Four Meets Today

Group Four, led by **Ron Harmon**, will meet immediately following morning worship at the home of Ron & Phyllis for a covered dish and group meeting. Please plan to attend.

## OCTOBER & NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



OCTOBER 27, 2019

10-27	Jimmy Harbin	10-29	Charlotte Hagewood
11-1	Sandra Gore	11-1	Lane Roberts
11-7	Brody Besherse	11-8	Crystal Robinson
11-8	Julie Singleton	11-18	Samuel Holland
11-20	Riley Monroe	11-21	Mile Hagewood
11-22	Ina Carter	11-24	Carolyn Holland
		11-25	Debbie Harbin

## Integrity

Michael W. McLemore

The Hebrew word *tōm* means "whole, complete, free of duplicity." It occurs some 25 times in the Hebrew text. Its first use refers to the Philistine king Abimelech, speaking of his attempt to take Sarah, Abraham's wife, to be his own wife — "In the integrity of my heart and the innocence of my hands I have done this," *Genesis 20:4-6*. Here is a sad delineation of more integrity in a pagan than in a believer.

The essence of integrity is allegiance. It implies standing firm for what is right without duplicity, double-mindedness or divided allegiance. Joshua enjoined the nation of Israel, "Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him with sincerity," *Joshua 24:14*. He used the Hebrew *tamiym*, from the root *tōm*. Jesus would later warn His own disciples, "No man can serve two masters," *Matthew 6:24*.

Integrity is a critical word for ALL time! God's people are called to integrity today just as in the past. God's promises to Solomon were conditioned upon it: "If you walk before me, as David your father walked, with integrity of heart... then I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever," *1 Kings 9:4-5*. God's promises remain conditional. Walk with integrity; God will walk with you. ☐

## WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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**Weatherly Heights CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
930 Weatherly Road SE  
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

### Mailing:

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Phone: 256 881-9535

Email: [contactus@weatherlychurch.com](mailto:contactus@weatherlychurch.com)

## TIMES OF SERVICES

<b>Sunday Bible Classes</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>
<b>Sunday AM Assembly</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>Sunday PM Assembly</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday Classes</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>

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
<b>Forest Summers</b>	256 348-2251

## Evangelist

**Michael W. McLemore** 256 698-5941  
Email: [mmclmore@weatherlychurch.com](mailto:mmclmore@weatherlychurch.com)

## Weatherly's Deacons

<b>Phil Furlough</b>	<b>Steve Hagewood</b>
<b>Ron Harmon</b>	<b>Kirk Hatcher</b>
<b>David Jacks</b>	<b>Ben Little</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, October 27

**Welcome:** Will Starks  
**Song Leader:** Jared Jimison  
**Opening Prayer:** Phil Furlough  
**Scripture Reading:** Wes Caudle  
*1 John 5:1-12*  
**Sermon:** Mike McLemore  
*Other World Living*  
**Closing Prayer:** Steve Hagewood

### Sunday, November 3

**Welcome:** Forest Summers  
**Song Leader:** Charles Hill  
**Opening Prayer:** Bill Thompson  
**Scripture Reading:** Gene Preston  
*Colossians 1:9-14*  
**Sermon:** Mike McLemore  
*Origin of a Grateful Heart*  
**Closing Prayer:** W.D. Patrick

### Evening Worship

**Study Series** Bill Thompson  
**Songs Leader:** Jared Jimison  
**Opening Prayer:** Tommy Hill  
**Closing Prayer:** Bobby Wright

### Evening Worship

**Study Series** Phil Shaver  
**Songs Leader:** Charles Hill  
**Opening Prayer:** Ed Dill  
**Closing Prayer:** Riley Monroe

### Wednesday, October 30

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

### Wednesday, November 6

**Songs Leader:** Phil Furlough  
**Invitation:** Mike McLemore  
**Closing Prayer:** Jim Risner

### Group 3

**2020 Weatherly Lectures**  
April 30th—May 3rd

### Group 4

**Quarterly Adult Classes**  
October – December 2019

**AUDITORIUM SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY**

The Gospel According to John  
**Mike McLemore**

## Serving in November

<b>Serving on the Lord's Table AM</b>	<b>Adam Hagewood</b>	<b>Steve Hagewood</b>
<b>** Overseer</b>	<b>Nick Holland</b>	<b>W.D. Patrick</b>
	<b>Jimmy Harbin</b>	<b>Wes Caudle</b>
	<b>Tommy Hill **</b>	<b>John Patrick</b>

<b>Lord's Supper PM</b>	<b>Phil Furlough **</b>	<b>Kirk Hatcher</b>
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<b>Communion Prep</b>	<b>Cathy Preston &amp; Susan Hand, Ellie Pellegrini</b>
<b>Building Lockup</b>	<b>Charley Skinner</b>

