

Weatherly Weekly

January 26, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 4

Why Does Zeal Fade?

Michael W. McLemore

Why does zeal seemingly fade so easily? After one is baptized into Christ hours are often spent thinking of Him, studying His Word, and telling others how much He has meant. Then it happens: a busy schedule slowly dampens the zeal that once consumed the heart of the new believer. The longing to be like the Lord and the desire to fill the heart with His word turns into little more than an occasional glance. Zeal for the Savior begins to evaporate like the summer rain on a hot asphalt street.

The church at Ephesus wrestled with maintaining its zeal. Through the apostle John, Jesus wanted to help them restore and maintain their love and zeal for Him. Although He commended this church for their work, Jesus saw that they had abandoned “the love you had at the first,” *Revelation 2:4*.

Many speculate as to the meaning of the Lords’ charge. The Ephesians had lost the

“love that drove their initial obedience.” That initial spiritual passion for Jesus that drove their devote service waned. Their work became cold and mechanical. What happened? Had the brethren at Ephesus allowed the stealthy culprit of the world and busyness to enter their hearts? *cf. 2 Timothy 4:10*. Something had stolen the affection that had once been reserved for the Lord.

“Have I allowed something to steal my zeal — my spiritual passion?” If so, that passion must be restored. I must rediscover the Lord’s amazing love demonstrated at the cross and reciprocate as I did in the beginning, *John 15:13; Romans 5:6-10*.

Sinful, unloving attitudes that have supplanted “my first love,” must be rejected, and out of a passionate love for Jesus and His cause, I must “do the first works.” I must be obedient to Him as I once was, when I became obedient to His will, *Matthew 7:21; Romans 6:17; Revelation 2:5*. □

A Real Man

Michael W. McLemore

The Bible book of Joshua tells the story of a man who is 85 years old when he receives command of the nation of Israel. At the end of the book he is 110 years old (24:29). For twenty-five years the leads the nation in conquering the inhabitants of the land of Palestine. He was faithful all of his life. He was much more than merely a proficient military leader. He was their spiritual leader. Notice four characteristics that qualified him as a spiritual leader for Israel - qualities needed in “A Real Man.”

HE WAS A MAN OF COURAGE, 1:6

God promised Joshua that no one would be able to stand against him, “I will not leave you or forsake you.” God told Joshua to go to war. He must lead them into enemy territory. Courage was needed by Joshua and the people of Israel. This is the only way to possess the land. It takes courage to face troubles and problems and deal with them, but like Joshua we must understand that the source of our courage is God.

HE WAS A MAN OF OBEDIENCE, 1:7

God promises Joshua that he would succeed and prosper if he would obey. Moses had told Joshua to be firm and strong (*Deuteronomy 31:6*), to rely on God (*Deuteronomy 31:7, 23*), to divide the land right for an inheritance (*Deuteronomy 1:38, 3:28*), and to observe the Law (*Deuteronomy 5:29; 28:14*). If he did these things God would be with him and Israel. This is a powerful lesson for our generation. We too must show ourselves as an example of obedience to those about us. If we obey, God promises to abide with us.

HE WAS A MAN OF THE BOOK, 1:8

Two generations ago this was a common phrase. Today, it is uncommon. What does this statement mean? God told Joshua, “The Word is not to depart from your mouth?” God did not want Joshua to use the Word of God to speculate on some theory, but use it to guide his daily walk. Joshua was to be so familiar with the Word that his speech was to be flavored by the Word of God. He was to know the meaning of the Word

of God and daily apply it to his life. Even though he was a military leader, he was to be so familiar with the Word of God that he could talk to the religious leaders about God’s will. He was to govern the nation of Israel by the kind of government God would approve. Simply, scripture applies to all of life.

We are no longer a “people of the book.” It is unfamiliar. Its precepts escape us. It is imperative that we recapture that insatiable desire to know God’s word. We must become a people that know more than just the words, but what they mean and how to apply them in every aspect of life.

HE WAS A MAN OF FAITH, 1:9

“Have I not commanded you?” This statement is rhetorical in nature. Its answer is understood. It is powerful way for God to remind Joshua that He had commanded him and that Joshua had obeyed. God assured him of His help and presence. When Joshua would ask himself, “Is this God’s will?” he was assured by God that what he was doing was commanded him of God. He would act without fear. Also, this assurance is to let him know that he had no alternative but to obey God’s command.

“Be not afraid” is a familiar phrase in scripture. Adam and Eve were told not to be afraid, but their fear came from their disobedience to God (*Genesis 3:10*). The shepherds were told not to be afraid when the angelic host sang their praise to God and His glory at the birth of Jesus (*Luke 2:9*).

It is natural for man to be afraid, especially in the presence of God. We see our own sinfulness and weaknesses, but when we yield our will to the will of the Father and trust Him, God brings peace to our hearts. Joshua overcame his fears because he knew that God was with him.

When we know that God is in control, we have the assurance of His love and help no matter what the circumstance, we have peace. Joshua had trust and faith in God. It made him a great leader. It made Joshua “A Real Man.” It will make us great men too. □



Watch LIVE

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Megan Caudle is scheduled to be induced tomorrow afternoon if their little one does not come on his own before. Please pray for **Megan, Wes** and **baby Caudle**.

Stacey Beshere is recovering well following her Achilles debridement surgery on Monday. She will be off her foot for six weeks. Please remember Stacey to the Lord.

After eight long weeks, **Ron Harmon** is scheduled to be released tomorrow. He will have therapists and a nurse come to the house to continue therapy. "We are very thankful for his progress, and want all of you to know how much we appreciate the love and care shown to us, and all of the prayers said on his behalf. **Phyllis & Ron**"

Silvia Hnederson's mom, **Rosa Castaneira**, was released from Huntsville Hospital and is recovering at Silvia's. Please pray for her.

Cathy Preston's back surgery is set for Friday, January 31st. Pray for Cathy.

Will Starks' hip replacement surgery is on scheduled for February 4th. Pray for Will.

Edith Turner and her family, especially her daughter **Glenda**, remain on our prayer list. Say their names to the Lord.

Steven Guice and mom, **Julie**, are headed back to Alabama where Steven is slated to begin Chemo at UAB. Doctors at MD Anderson want to try this approach before Steven has more surgery. Pray for Steven.

Donna Godette remains out of the country. Please pray for her safety while in that part of the world. Also remember Melvin and the chil-

dren. **The Godettes** are in need of our prayers. Pray for each one.

Ladies Class will be at **Peggy Coward's** on Thursday, February 6th at 10 am. Plan to attend if possible. You'll be encouraged. ☐

Daily Prayer List:

Melvin Godette	Marty Haselden
Betty Reavis	Sarah Jernigan
Dot Summers	Glenda Cavender
Barbara Jean Woodard	Laura Phillips

It's a girl: Elliott Tyler Frazier



Natalie & Henry Frazier are "grandparents again." That means **Becky & Tommy** are "greats again." **Elliott Tyler Frazier** was born in Birmingham Thursday. All of her tests came back fine. She seems to be doing great in spite of coming five weeks early. We are thrilled. ☐

Group Four Meeting

Group Four, led by **Ron Harmon**, will meet following worship this evening in the back classroom. Plan to attend.

JANUARY & FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



1-26	Marissa Hunt	1-29	Jim Risner
1-29	Will Starks	1-30	Jenny Jacks
2-7	Maragem 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

JANUARY 26, 2020

"I Know the Shepherd" Adapted

A Shakespearean actor, known for his one-man recitations from the classics, would always end his performance with the 23rd Psalm. Without exception, as the actor began his recitation, "The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want," the crowd would listen attentively. And then, at the conclusion of the psalm, they would rise in thunderous applause in appreciation of the actor's incredible ability.

One evening as the actor was about to begin his recital of Psalm 23, a young man from the audience spoke up. "Sir, do you mind if tonight I recite Psalm 23?" The actor was taken aback by the request, but allowed the young man to join him center-stage to recite the psalm, supposing that the unskilled youth would be no match for his own talent.

With a soft voice, the young man began to recite the psalm. When he was finished, there was no applause, no standing ovation as on other nights. All that could be heard was the weeping. The audience was moved to tears.

Amazed, the actor said to the youth, "I don't understand. I have been performing Psalm 23 for years. I have a lifetime of experience and training, but I have never been able to move an audience as you. Tell me, what is your secret?" The young man quietly replied, "Well sir, you know the Psalm. I know the Shepherd." ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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**Weatherly Heights
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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	Hill Roberts
Collis Terry	Bobby Wright

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, January 26

Welcome: **Forest Summers**
Song Leader: **David Jacks**
Opening Prayer: **Steve Hagewood**
Scripture Reading: **Wes Caudle**

Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Revelation 22:12-21
I AM the First and the Last
Closing Prayer: **Gene Preston**

Sunday, February 2

Tommy Hill
Charles Hill
Ron Holland
Phil Shaver

Matthew 16:13-20
Mike McLemore
My Church
Bill McCord

Evening Worship

Bible Skills **Jared Jimison**
Songs Leader: **Singing**
Opening Prayer: **Bill Thompson**
Closing Prayer: **Ed Dill**

Evening Worship

Mike McLemore
Charles Hill
Tommy Hill
Charley Skinner

Wednesday, January 29

Songs Leader: **Phil Furlough**
Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
Closing Prayer: **Riley Monroe**

Wednesday, February 5

Collis Terry
Mike McLemore
W.D. Patrick

Group 4

2020 Weatherly Lectures
April 30th—May 3rd

**Tadd Corder, Wilson Adams
& Matt Bassford**

Group 1

Quarterly Adult Classes
January — March 2020

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY
Galatians
Tommy Hill

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY
The Gospel According to John
Mike McLemore

Serving in February

Serving on the Lord's Table AM	Adams Hagewood	Bill Thompson
** Overseer	Nick Holland	W.D. Patrick
	Jimmy Harbin	Wes Caudle
	Steve Hagewood **	Will Patrick

Lord's Supper PM	Ed Dill **	Jim Risner
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Communion Prep Building Lockup	Phyllis Harmon	Ron Harmon
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