

Michael W. McLemore

Circumstances and people disappoint us and cause us pain. Our own inability to change our situation or cope with the person who has disappointed leaves us frustrated. How do we combat the frustrations that are the natural byproduct of hurt and disenchantment? On the night of His betrayal, in the midst of His own devastating distress, Jesus told His disciples, "In the world you will have tribulation," *John 16:33*.

Judas disappointed everyone. Peter lost confidence after the Malchus incident. The disciples scattered when Jesus was arrested. Peter and John, though present for His trial, felt helpless to defend Him. Peter denied Him and let himself down. Judas took his own life. Hopelessness seemed to prevail at every turn that night. The entire weekend was a blur of despair.

It's easy for the child of God to find himself or herself living life with the "Woe is me mentality." The spiral into frustration and disenchantment spreads a wide net and receives with equal opportunity. The Bible is full of stories of disheartened servants. Hannah cried for years because she couldn't conceive. David's loyalty was spurned by a melancholy king bent on his murder. Ezekiel preached to a people who loved to listen but wouldn't change. Jeremiah pled but got the stocks for his trouble. Jesus assured that it is inevitable – "In this world you will have tribulation (oppression, distress).

But, the Lord offered hope for believers. He cut through the fog of despair in the hearts of His disciples — "But take heart; I have overcome the world," *John 16:33*. Jesus directs our attention beyond the pain and disappointment of those three long dark days to the resurrection morning and the glorious victory He secured.

Take heart! Dark nights of hurt, fear and disappointment give way to rejoicing. The Lord is not sometimes sovereign; He is always sovereign. Expect the sorrow the world dishes out. Trust in the Savior who has overcome the world.

Soar Like an Eagle

By W. Frank Walton

"For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope."

Jeremiah 29:11

"Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint," *Isaiah 40:30-31*.

In context, God addresses the remnant who had been languishing in Babylonian captivity for 70 restless years. Isaiah predicted about 150 years in advance that news would finally come that they could go home to restore and rebuild the Jewish nation. They would soar on the heights of joy in anticipation of the long awaited trek homeward.

However, before they could finally arrive home, there would be the long, arduous and perilous journey of over 600 miles. It would be a hard journey that could break the unaided efforts of the strongest "young men" or defeat the most vigorous "youths." Yet God promised them that they could, by patiently trusting in Him alone, rise above the journey's obstacles and soar on the wings of faith. "For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope," *Jeremiah 29:11; cf. 29:10-14.*

The believer in God is likened to an eagle. It is a strong, confident, and majestic bird. I've read that it relies on thermal currents in the air to glide gracefully

through the air, spreading its God-given wings to soar high above the perilous storms. Its God-given instinct uses the updrafts produced by rough terrain to fly with efficient effort. When the eagle rests, it nests in the high, rocky clefts, trusting them for protection.

God made us to soar to great heights in our heavenward journey. However, the long and wearisome journey of life can tire our faith and dim our hope. If we trust mainly in our finite, puny selves, we will grow weary and fail. Our faith must instinctively look up to God and His Word always. "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him," *Hebrews 11:6*. He dwells above the clouds where the sun is always shining, in the calm light of eternity.

Our God can lift us up above the shadows sorrow of this life into the light of His joyous presence. Our faith and study of His faith-building Word is a renewable resource for the journey home, *Romans 10:17*.

"Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion and authority, before all time and now and forever.

Amen, *Jude 24-25*.



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FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

WD Patrick is improving. His kidney numbers are returning to normal and he was removed from the IV antibiotics and pain meds that required close medical care. Our prayers have been heard and we rejoice with prayers of thankfulness. Now it's off to Rehab at the **Cove** in Owens Crossroads. **Leslie's** cousin is one of the managers of the facility. **Ryan** is working to get his phone enabled to receive phone calls. Of course no guests are allowed in or out right now (including Lanelle), but you can write. W.D.'s address is

WD Patrick c/o Rehab at the Cove 213 Wilson Mann Road Owens Crossroads, AL 35763

Steven Guice was able to have his last treatment in this series on Tuesday of last week. He has done very well with these treatments. The Guice family expressed their thankfulness for your continued prayers.

Ron Harmon continues undergoing rehab at Curahealth in Nashville. He had an unfortunate fall last Sunday morning that resulted in a trip to the hospital and a CT scan. Nothing was broken. Please continue to pray for Ron & Phyllis. Here is his address one more time.

Ronald Harmon c/o CuraHealth Nashville 1412 County Hospital Road Nashville, TN 37218

Glenda Cavender was released from Redstone Village rehab Tuesday. We are thrilled that she was able to go home. She had an

evaluation for continued rehab at home late last week. That will be begin this week. Jeff tells me that Glenda is doing better than she has done in the last two years. We are rejoicing in this good report. Remember to pray for Glenda & Ken.

Melvin Godette remains on our prayer list. Remember the entire Godette family.

Forest Summers will begin his antibody treatments for Lymphoma the first week of May. The first round will be one treatment each week for eight consecutive weeks. Pray for Forest, Dot & their family.

Melody Young remains on our prayer list. Remember Matt, Melody & Ray.

Daily Prayer List:

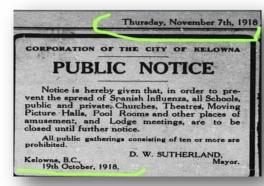
Marty Haselden Laura Phillips

Betty Reavis Barbara Jean Woodard

WEATHERLY UPDATES

Sunday Morning worship will stream at 10 am. Wednesday Bible Study, the Gospel of John, will be streamed at 7 pm. No assemblies are planned at the building.

Thought you might enjoy this...



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Silvia Henderson Carolynn Barr 4-2 4-5 4-6 Jerry Mitchell William Hill 4-8 4-13 **Sherrie Stovall** 4-18 Peggy Monroe 4-20 **Charlie Carter** John Stokes 4-21 4-21 4-21 Dianne Dill Maria Hunt 4-23 **David Jacks** 4-25 Sue Terry

Canceled Worship? Doy Moyer

Brethren, no one has "canceled worship." No one can "cancel worship." I know we often use "worship" as metonymy for assembling as a church, but maybe this situation should cause us to rethink some of how we think about it.

While we worship when we come together, worship is not confined to physical assemblies. The only one who can cancel worship in your life is you. Worship with your family. Worship as a child of God. "Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise" (Jas 5:13). None of this negates the importance of the assemblies, but neither should we think that assemblies are the totality of our worship.

If you aren't worshipping at all outside of assemblies, you may not be worshipping within assemblies either, for you have then confined your Christianity to times of meeting. That will never be acceptable. If you are a dedicated child of God, no circumstance can ever cancel worship for you. If Paul and Silas could worship God while in prison, Acts 16:25, you can worship God if confined in your own home. Praise God!

I appreciated Doy's sage words and thought they might be helpful to our family. MWM







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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

Tommy Hill 256 883-0010 Will Starks 256 883-5273 256 348-2251 **Forest Summers**

Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore 256 698-5941 Email: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

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



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, April 5

Hill Roberts (arrangement)

Acts 9:1-9

Collis Terry

Stream ONLY — Sunday, March 29

Mike McLemore Mike McLemore

Welcome: Hill Roberts (arrangement) Song Leader: Opening Prayer: Steve Hagewood

Scripture Reading:

1 Samuel 17:40-53

Mike McLemore Mike McLemore The Battle Belongs to the Lord

Blinded by the Light **Closing Prayer:** Will Starks Will Starks

Evening Worship Evening Worship

CANCELLED CANCELLED **Study Series**

Songs Leader:

Sermon:

Opening Prayer: CANCELLED CANCELLED **Closing Prayer:**

Wednesday, April 8 Wednesday, April 1

Songs Leader:

Invitation: Streamed Bible Study Streamed Bible Study

Closing Prayer:

None

2020 Weatherly Lectures

April 30th—May 3rd

Tadd Corder, Wilson Adams. Benjamin Lee & Matt Bassford

Ouarterly Adult Classes January - March 2020

None

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Galatians **Tommy Hill**

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

The Gospel According to John Mike McLemore

Serving in April

Serving on the Lord's Table AM ** Overseer

Ken Cavender Jeremy Leshko **Bobby Wright** Phil Furlough **

Ed Dill **Ron Holland** Ryan Patrick Jim Risner

Lord's Supper PM

Collis Terry **

John Stokes

Communion Prep Building Lockup

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