

Weatherly Weekly

October 25, 2020

2020 Edition, Number 43

The Betrayer's Friend

Michael W. McLemore

THE night before His crucifixion, Jesus was praying at Gethsemane when Judas Iscariot approached with a band of men. The Lord's betrayer came forward and kissed Jesus. It was Judas' identification of the one whom the soldiers were to arrest. Matthew records Jesus' response – "Friend, do what you came to do," *Matthew 25:50*. Have you ever pondered why Jesus would call His own betrayer "friend"? It is my belief that the answer has implications for every sinner.

Judas had expected Jesus to establish an earthly kingdom and defeat the Romans. After all anyone who could calm the sea with only a word could easily remove an oppressive government. Judas sought to play both ends against the middle. Judas was a thief according to John 12:6. If he could profit from Jesus' opposition, so be it. The Jews were no match for Jesus. Judas' interest in Jesus was more personal than spiritual and

he coined the phrase synonymous with all those who betray another for personal gain — a Judas.

Here is our hopeful point. Judas' own greed, blind ambition, and betrayal never stopped Jesus from loving him. It did not negate Jesus' use of the word "friend" to address the disciple. Jesus does not place conditions on His love for sinners. He does not reject us when we fail to meet his high expectations of us. He loves us and never ceases to desire our salvation.

The love and friendship of Christ is not earned by perfect obedience. It was and remains His gift of grace to "all who will accept it." The Lord's initiative alone made its benefit possible. He did the heavy lifting to draw into fellowship all who are willing. In Christ we find the closest of friendship, *Proverbs 18:24*. Even if you've betrayed Him, Jesus offers you His friendship. Will you accept it in faith? *Mark 16:16*. □

GOD'S WORD Stands Forever

T. DOY MOYER

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever."

The Bible is unique. No other book has been attacked like it, scrutinized like it or criticized like it. Neither has there ever been another book that has stood its ground like the Bible. The critics have passed on through the centuries, but the Bible stands as strong today as ever. It is an amazing book.

Why is there so much hatred against the Bible? Perhaps we can see part of the reason in a statement Jesus made: "And this is the judgment, that the light is come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the light; for their deeds were evil," *John 3:19*. Jesus was referring to Himself as the light coming into the world. The Bible represents the words of Christ. If people hated Him, they also hate His words. Why? Because His word exposes evil and shines light upon the sinful activities of mankind. People who love their sin will despise the Bible.

The Bible still stands. Regardless of all the hatred manifested toward it through the ages, it is still here to be reckoned with. This fact alone ought to make us think about the importance of the Bible.

If a book were to be given to us by God, then we should expect that it endures. This is exactly what God promised about His word:

"A voice says, 'Call out.' Then he answered, 'What shall I call out?' All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The

grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever," *Isaiah 40:6-8*.

Peter repeated this over 700 years later, *1 Peter 1:24-25*. And today, nearly two thousand years after Peter wrote, the word of God still stands. It has not diminished in its power and authority at all. This at least makes the Bible worthy of our investigation.

The word of God has the power to change lives - no, not just like other "self-help" books. Other books might tell you how to treat others better, or feel better about yourself or how to lose weight. But the Bible gives us to the way to forgiveness of sins and eternal life. The Bible not only tells us how to improve life on earth, it tells us how to go to heaven. It gives us what no other book gives.

When we obey God's word, we are "born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God," *1 Peter 1:23*. Being born again of the imperishable word, we are "born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you," *1 Peter 1:3-4*. Because we are born of the word which is imperishable, we receive a reward which is also imperishable. This all comes from the God who will always remain.

Investigate the Bible. It is not a book that we can brush aside with a sweep of the hand. We must come to terms with it. It is the inspired word of God, and it will be with us on the Day of judgment, *John 12:48*. Don't trust your soul to anything less than God's holy word. □

Watch LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



New Henderson Baby

At this printing **Jason & Rosey Henderson** are awaiting the arrival of their new baby. **Silvia** is with them. By the time you read this in print we should have passed the details along.

FAMILY UPDATES

Prayers:

Please remember **Charlotte Hagewood** in prayer as she transitions to her new living arrangement with her daughter and son-in-law, **Melissa & Lavaughn Davis**, in Athens.

Bobby Wright has his appointment with the oncologist tomorrow. He expects to have the results of his recent tests. Pray for **Bobby & Hilda**.

Jackie Brewer, Sue Terry's youngest brother, is gradually improving. He still is moving slow but we are happy to report progress. Your prayers are appreciated.

Elaine Dorris will undergo the second procedure to break up the second kidney stone on Tuesday. Pray for her well being and for the success of the procedure. Remember **Gordon** as he faithfully attends to her every need.

Betty & Bill Reavis remain at the forefront of our prayers. They both appreciate all of your ongoing encouragement.

Pray for both **Forest & Dot Summers**. We are trusting the Lord to continue watching over them both. Remember Forest as he undergoes his treatments every other month and as he cares for Dot.

We have been making a point to mention those in our family who are confined to their

assisted living homes. This is for their own protection from the virus: **Laura Phillips, Louis Garrett, Lane Roberts**, and **Jim Risner**. We miss them one and all. ☐

Daily Prayer List:

Betty Reavis	Laura Phillips
Melvin Godette	Glenda Cavender
Steven Guice	Dot Summers

New Addresses

Jim & Caryl Ehl have a new address in Florida. Please make note of their new address. Jim's cell and their email is unchanged.

26845 Faldo Lane
Englewood, Florida 34223

Home Phone: (941) 999-4135

Aaron & Sandra Gore also have a new address. Please add it to your directory.

13007 Branscomb Road, SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

WEATHERLY UPDATES

This Week at Weatherly:

Sunday Morning Bible Study will begin at 9:00 — Join us for Mike's streamed Bible class on **Recognizing Daily Needs** from James 1.

Sunday morning worship will begin at 10. Mike continues his "Prophetic Living Today" series. Today his lesson is entitled **Facing Crisis**. His text is **1 Samuel 13**.

Sunday Evening "Virtual Devo" will begin on Zoom at 7 pm. We will email a link Sunday.

Wednesday Bible Study — Mike is starting a textual study of 2 Peter. Class streams at 7 pm. No public assembly Wednesday. ☐

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



OCTOBER 25, 2020

10-26	Dwight Ivey	10-27	Jimmy Harbin
10-29	Charlotte Hagewood	11-1	Sandra Gore
11-1	Lane Roberts	11-8	Crystal Robinson
11-8	Julie Singleton	11-17	Brody Besherse
11-18	Samuel Holland	11-20	Riley Monroe

Restored

Michael W. McLemore

Several years ago I read the following story. "An angry man rushed through the Rijks Museum in Amsterdam until he reached Rembrandt's famous painting "Nightwatch." Then he took out a knife and slashed it repeatedly before he could be stopped. A short time later, a distraught, hostile man slipped into St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome with a hammer and began to smash Michelangelo's beautiful sculpture "The Pieta." Two cherished works of art were severely damaged. But what did officials do? Throw them out and forget about them? Absolutely not! Using the best experts, who worked with the utmost care and precision, they made every effort to restore the treasures."

That is what Jesus has done for you and for me. He has made restoration possible. With a few masterful strokes He has set what was broken and repaired what was torn.

Jesus has turned the disfigured life into a great masterpiece that reflects his radiant beauty and leaves a lasting impression upon all who gaze upon that life in the future.

Certainly, we are often amazed by the artistry of men who can make repairs and restore tainted works of art. How much more power do you suppose the God of heaven and earth possess to restore sinners? ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



3



Weatherly Heights
CHURCH OF CHRIST

930 Weatherly Road SE
Huntsville, Alabama 35803

Mailing:

P.O. Box 4619
Huntsville, Alabama 35815

Phone: 256 881-9535

Email: contactus@weatherlychurch.com

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

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, October 25

Welcome: **Mike McLemore**
Song Leader: **Jared Jimison**
Opening Prayer:
Scripture Reading:

1 Samuel 13

Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Facing Crisis

Closing Prayer:

Sunday, November 1

Welcome: **Mike McLemore**
Song Leader: **Jared Jimison**

1 Samuel 16

Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
Following God's Plan

Following God's Plan

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz CANCELLED

Songs Leader:

Opening Prayer: **Virtual Devotion on ZOOM**

Closing Prayer:

CANCELLED

Virtual Devotion on ZOOM

Wednesday, October 28

Songs Leader:
Invitation: **Streamed Bible Study**
Closing Prayer:

None

2020 Weatherly Lectures
April 30th—May 3rd

We regret to announce that our 2020 Lectures have been cancelled.

Wednesday, November 4

Streamed Bible Study

None

Quarterly Adult Classes
July — September 2020

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

Lessons from Joshua
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

Hope in Exile: A Study of 1 Peter
Mike McLemore

Serving in October

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

**

Lord's Supper PM

**

Communion Prep
Building Lockup

