the Weatherly Heights Church of Chris

May 1, 2022

# **GOD HATES PRIDE**

Neek

Michael W. McLemore

The Bible warns us against tripping over our own pride. Demonstrating a prideful spirit is not only embarrassing; it can be downright disastrous in our relationship with God. God hates pride!

In Luke 18:9-14, the Pharisee makes his grand entrance into the temple but stumbles in the presence of God. Considering himself a winner, the Pharisee stands tall and offers a prayer of thanks that he is not like the "losers" of the world. Meanwhile a cheating tax collector slips in by the back door-hoping to be unnoticed. In deep humility, he cries, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner." The clincher is that this man, not the other, goes away justified and forgiven.

Pride is like looking through a telescope the wrong way. It magnifies the self and minimizes God and others. Pride fosters a false sense of self-sufficiency, effectively cutting us off from our divine power source. It shows itself in our sense of superiority.

It's not often in the Bible that God gives His people a list of "Do's and Don'ts." When it comes to what He hates, He makes an exception - "These SIX things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him," NUMBER 1, "A proud look," Proverbs 6:16-17, KIV.

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No wonder God hates a prideful spirit but welcomes a humble one. God opens His heart and His home to the penitent. God is waiting to bless your life, if you will only come before Him with a humble heart. Don't let pride bar you from God's best for your life.

Let our collective prayer be that He will help us realize that swallowing our pride may not be very tasty, but that it's good medicine for us. Put off pride when it rears its ugly head. Let's learn to humble ourselves before God so that He may lift us up in His time.

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# Rest is with God

a nearly universal human experience **C** to feel the need to rest at some point Jin life. Whether in a career, relationship, in identifying the next step, even at church most people will feel the need to rest at some point. All who possess any sense of duty at all will come to the place where they just need rest.

When the girls were little, our Jennie could be found relatively often sitting sideways on the sofa when her mom thought she was supposed to be busy doing chores. When her mom asked, "What are you doing?" her response was always the same, "I'm taking a break!" We all need one. We need rest.

The Hebrew writer reminds both his contemporary readers and the distant students of his letter that God has a promised rest for His people. One of God's most powerful appeals to the people of every age is that God knows you need rest. Life can be debilitating. It's hard. It's laborious. When men and women find themselves exhausted, God's message of a rest to come resonates. The Hebrew writer addresses this critical divine appeal in his fourth chapter.

Hebrews 4 can appear very complicated. It's easy to get lost in all of the writer's rests if one is not thorough in following his painstaking train of thought and his intended point: this life has never been a place of rest. The writer focuses on four points in history to show how God keeps opening his rest for believing people. His ultimate intended point is that, "Rest is with God."

Sabbath Rest, 3-4 — God rested on the seventh day when all of His works were complete, Genesis 2:2. The author anticipates a restful, peaceful, sovereign God who has a rest and a peace and a place of joy where his people can enjoy fellowship







with him. Keep "hearing" with hearts mixed with faith. You will see it.

Canaan Rest, 5-6 — To the unfaithful generation of Israel God swore, "you will not enter my rest." Did God have the rest of Canaan in mind when He speaks of the rest that is to come? No, it's not Canaan. God speaks of another day - another rest to come centuries later. We must "hear" all of God's promises concerning rest.

David's Rest, 7-8 — After so long a time, David was still warning God's people, in his own generation, to beware of being hard-hearted, thus missing God's promised rest. Joshua had long ago led God's people into Canaan, yet David promised "there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God" Psalm 95. But, was this rest exclusive to Israel in David's lifetime? No. There's so much more.

God's Rest, 9-10 — The faithful in every generation strive for rest with God. Critics in the first century argued that rest will be realized in the Jewish life-culture. False! Over and above the sabbatical rest and the rest of Canaan, there was and still remains a rest for every "child of God." This rest is what David foretold. This is what the Christian is striving "to enter."

The faithful since the beginning have entered His promised rest in exactly the same way, "as believing, obedient hearers." Hebrews 4 is a call to persistence, endurance and obedience — "Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience," 11.

Listen to the voice that John, the apostle, heard from heaven, "Blessed are the dead who die in the LORD from now on... they will rest from their labor, for their deeds will follow them." Revelation 14:13. When this life is done, a rest remains.



News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

#### **FAMILY UPDATES**

#### Prayers:

**Peggy Monroe** is much better since last Wednesday's concerning visit to her physician's office. Riley indicated Friday that she is almost back to normal. We are thankful.

Jimmy Harbin's surgery went very well on Monday. The surgeon was able to remove the cancerous tissue. Jimmy shouldn't have any further problems with it. "Thank you for your prayers."

Also, please continue to pray for Jimmy's

#### **Our 2022 High School Graduates**

Weatherly has been blessed to watch three of our young men achieve the very impressive milestone in life by graduating from High School. Keion Godette, John Patrick and Brenden Sanchez have worked diligently to prepare themselves for the next step in life. We are very

brother, Raymond Harbin. He remains in

naturally concerned for Raymond.

ful for the relief that she is feeling.

Huntsville Hospital. His condition is poor. Keep

sister Maragem Harbin in your prayers. She is

After several rough days, Collis & Sue Ter-

Please remember Ciera Elledge, Will & Sa-

Pray for these — Laura Phillips, Jim Risner,

rah Starks' granddaughter, as she undergoes

Chemo. Too, we are praying for Zoila Herring,

Lane Roberts, Glenda Cavender, Edith Turner,

Mechi Hunt's sister, as she fights cancer.

Melvin Godette & Charlotte Hagewood.

ry's daughter, Sharon, is better. We are thank-



#### MAY BIRTHDAYS



11 18	5-11	Gail Franklin
18 25	5-14	Sarah Starks
	5-20	Becky Shaw

5-2

5-8

5-7	Bill Reavis
5-9	Ruth Mitchell
5-12	Betty Dubose
5-17	Megan Caudle

# Mastering Civility Michael W. McLemore

I'm unsure when I came to Lacknowledge that winning religious arguments is not the same as helping the lost come to a knowledge of the truth. Quarreling over anything subject is rarely productive. Very few people, probably none, have lost a quarrel and found themselves converted. Lashing out in an effort to show ourselves right is no way to effectively engage the unbeliever. How then? Three things...

#### Take your cue from the NT!

If we genuinely are willing to observe then apply the Holy Spirit language of NT writers we might be surprised to find the way the apostles would have us to engage with our society. Kindness, patience, and gentle correction are premier in Paul's letters, i.e. 2 Timothy 2:24-26.

#### Honor Christ, and be ready!

Peter lays our the way of gentleness, respect and compelling hope in our answers, 1 Peter 3:15. Would any thinking person ask about our hope if our rhetoric is full of fear and at fever pitch? No never! Honoring Christ in all daily interactions with people is key.

#### Show perfect courtesy toward ALL!

Learning to turn NT words into a state of mind as we daily interact with the lost is to model the NT's evangelistic mindset. Again, listen to Paul — "speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people," Titus 3:2.

Even if the whole of society becomes uncivil, we must not descend to that level, instead we must project ourselves as forgiven people submitting to the lordship of Christ.  $\Box$ 





#### Weatherly Heights CHURCH OF CHRIST

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#### **TIMES OF SERVICES**

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 am
Sunday AM Assembly	10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly	6: <b>00</b> pm
Wednesday Classes	7:00 pm

Stay informed and engaged online at www.weatherlvchurch.com

### WATCH:

LIVE

Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services

f You (Tube)

#### Weatherly's Shepherds

Tommy Hill Will Starks 256 883-0010 256 883-5273

#### **Evangelist**

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

#### Weatherly's Deacons

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



May 1, 2022

Cathy Preston

**Hill Roberts** 



These are asked to assist in our labor.

#### Sunday, May 1

Welcome: Song Leader: **Opening Prayer:** Lord's Table Lead:

Tommy Hill Hill Roberts Tommy Hill Will Starks

Acts 2:40-47 Mike McLemore **Cultivating Culture** Searcy Hall

**Closing Prayer:** 

Sermon:

#### **Evening Worship**

#### **Bible Skillz**

Mike McLemore

Songs Leader: **Opening Prayer: Closing Prayer:** 

Hill Roberts Will Starks David Jacks

#### Wednesday, May 4

Songs Leader: Invitation: **Closing Prayer:** 

Phil Furlouah Mike McLemore Wes Caudle

#### 2022 Lectures TBA

#### Sunday, May 8

Will Starks Mel Ambrose Phil Shaver Marty Hunt 1 Corinthians 3:1-11 Mike McLemore **Cultivating Partnership** Will Patrick

#### **Evening Worship**

Mike McLemore

Mel Ambrose Ed Dill **Bobby Wright** 

#### Wednesday, May 11

Bill Thompson Mike McLemore Will Starks

#### Quarterly Adult Classes March – June 2022

#### **AUDITORIUM SUNDAY** Fulfill Your Ministry

Mike McLemore

#### **AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY**

Second Timothy Mike McLemore

#### Serving in May

Serving on the Lord's Table AM & PM \*\* Overseer

\*\* Will Starks (5-1), Marty Hunt (5-8), Steve Hagewood (5-15), Ed Dill (5-22), Tommy Hill (5-29)

**Communion Prep Building Lockup** 

Mike McLemore