

Weatherly Weekly

April 30, 2023

2023 Edition, Number 18

WORDS ARE LIFE

Michael W. McLemore

Words are the medium through which humans communicate. Words are also God's chosen means of communicating with humanity. Jesus said once told frustrated listeners, "The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life," *John 6:63*. The people struggled to understand, but Jesus reminded them God's answers are in My words.

Words are power. Each word has its own particular meaning, which can be found in any dictionary. Most words have several meanings, and can be used in various ways. For instance, the word "pass" has twenty-four different meanings. The word "wind" is used in twenty different ways. Care must both be taken in their use and in their application.

God's chosen means of revealing Himself and His will to us — words — invites vastly greater care in their treatment. Does it not? We must be careful how we use His words, and

we must use them as they are meant to be understood.

Although God has spoken in the past directly to man, and has in the past revealed His will to man through prophets, today He speaks to us only through the words of the Bible. The words of the Bible are more than ink on paper. The Bible book of Hebrews affirms "The word of God is quick [living, *mmm*] and powerful [active, *mmm*], and sharper than any two-edged sword," *Hebrews 4:12*. Paul declared, "all scripture is given by inspiration of God," *2 Timothy 3:16-17*.

What conclusion must be drawn? Every word in the Bible is important. Jesus warned, "The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day," *John 12:48*. Care is essential in understanding God's words. Handling it right will bring life to the soul; wresting it to fit human desire brings damnation. □

THE MEEK WILL PREVAIL

Michael W. McLemore

The Greeks employed the word "praus" for "meekness" to describe "a colt which has been broken and harnessed." When the animal finally relents to wear his master's harness and to work in the harness, he is meek. Hence, the large animal, possessing mighty strength, by submitting to the control of his master might be described as "strength under control."

Those people who accept God's Word as their harness, who have submissive spirits, who are more interested in doing the Lord's will than their own, have the quality of meekness. Jesus chose this word as His own self-description in His pleading for those laden with burden to come to Him, *Matthew 11:29*. In the Bible the quality of meekness is associated with "humility," "gentleness" and "a quiet spirit," *Ephesians 4:2*, *Titus 3:2*, *1 Peter 3:4*.

Inspiration characterized Moses as meek — "very meek, above all the men that were upon the face of the earth," *Numbers 12:3*. Of what did the meekness of this great man consist? Not in the absence of temper, but in the control of it; not in timidity, but in aggressive leadership. It consisted of gentleness and forbearance toward his critics. It consisted of submission, without a murmur, to God's plan though it thwarted his personal ambition.

Though Jesus was the embodiment of every virtue and the perfection of all these graces, meekness and lowliness of heart are the only qualities that he claimed for himself. He harnessed indefatigable energy and power under the yoke of God's redemptive plan and became "obedient unto death." As noted before, He said simply, "I am meek and lowly in heart," *Matthew 11:29*. Toward the sinful he was never harsh, but gentle. He was not cowardly, but a courageous leader. During the

days on the earth He suffered much wrong, but did no wrong. He was not vengeful, but forgiving. He yielded to the will of the Father, though it led to his martyrdom.

The Master reminds us that the meek are richly rewarded. In his mountain message from Galilee he declared, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." His words are true. His promises will be fulfilled. It's not the pushy and self-assertive personalities who succeed with God. It's not the boastful, who violently thrust themselves upon others, who constantly demanded notice. They were rejected in favor of the gentle. The retiring and the unassuming are His people. David was given Divine preference over his more mature and proud brothers by his call from the sheepfold, *1 Samuel 16*. His wise, gentle and unassuming heart was described as "a heart after God's own."

When Jesus said, "The meek shall inherit the earth," he did not mean that they shall necessarily become the actual title holder to the lands, rather in a very real sense they shall come into the real enjoyment of the things of God. The meek have a greater capacity for enjoyment. The man who has in his heart the quality of meekness finds more contentment in an humble cottage and simple meal than the proud man finds in his mansion and fine cuisine. This blessedness depends not so much on what a man has, but on what a man is.

F.W. Boreham in his work, *The Heavenly Octave*, reminded readers to remember, "It is the quiet, submissive, unobtrusive force that triumphs to the end. 'The gentle dawn will master the blackest night; the soft-treading spring will quell the storms of winter.' Modesty triumphs over might; and, as Aesop's fable (see *Weekly Walk to the right*) has shown, the soft sunshine effects what blustering wind failed to accomplish." Truly, the meek will prevail. □

Watch LIVE!

FAMILY MATTERS

News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members



New Directory

Our May 2023 directory has been prepared for your benefit. Great effort has been made to publish your contact information correctly. We freely admit that it is possible that some may not be right in spite of our best effort. Please accept our apology in advance. We will print as many as is necessary, but we would ask that each member only take one today. Once we all have one, then please take one for your cars, office, etc. *Mike M*

Family Updates

Prayers:

Silvia Henderson's follow-up with her surgeon's office last week was discouraging. Unfortunately the recommendation is for a full shoulder replacement. For now Silvia is opting for rehabilitation and exercising care not to further injure the shoulder. Please pray for her as she works through this challenge.

Edith Turner is to be released from Encompass Health late this morning. Evaluations took place last week to make sure that she was able to return to Thrive. Right now her greatest motivation is to be able to attend her grandson's wedding Saturday, May 6th. Pray that she will be able to achieve her goal!

Becky Shaw remains at Encompass Health, 1490 Highway 72 East, Huntsville. Keep her in your prayers as she works to regain her strength.

Peggy Childress continues to need our prayers. She is very weak. Tests are being run to determine why her weakness prevails. **Terry** remains very concerned about her.

Gwyn McLemore's maternal aunt, **Juanita "Nita" Ann Laiche**, 86, passed away on Thursday in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Funeral services are scheduled for 11 am tomorrow in Poplarville, Mississippi. Please remember her husband of 64 years, **Sam**, and children, **Lynette** and **Eric**. **Mike & Gwyn** plan to travel to Mississippi this afternoon.

Susan Watson's mother, **Janie Cheatham**, remains on our prayer list.

Louise Caudle, has completed her Chemo. We are praying for positive results.

Ciera Elledge also remains in our prayers.

Zoila Herring, Mechi Hunt's sister continues to have an interest in our prayers

Pray for these. Each has their own particular health challenge. — **Peggy Monroe, Bill McCord, Jim Risner, Lane Roberts, Glenda Cavender, Edith Turner, Melvin Godette, Maragern Harbin & Betty Dubose.**

This Week at Weatherly

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE class meets at 9:30. **Mike McLemore** will continue to lead our study titled "Powerful Prayer." Today we will be looking at the Lord's prayer in the upper room.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP follows at 10. **Mike's** is continuing his series titled "Remember ME!" our closer look at the Lord's Supper. Today's sermon: "Authority in Our Worship" Our text is **Matthew 21:23-27.**

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP begins at 6. The elders have planned a singing for the evening.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY begins at 7. **Mike** will continue his verse by verse study of the **Gospel of Mark.** Come be a part. ☐

MAY BIRTHDAYS



APRIL 30, 2023

5-2	Cathy Preston	4-7	Bill Reavis
5-8	Hill Roberts	5-9	Ruth Mitchell
5-11	Gail Franklin	5-12	Betty Dubose
5-14	Sarah Starks	5-17	Megan Caudle
5-20	Becky Shaw	5-23	Terry Childress
5-23	Melvin Godette	5-24	Lynn Franklin

Aesop's Wisdom

Michael W. McLemore

The North Wind and the Sun

Aesop's Fable

The North Wind boasted of great strength. The Sun argued that there was great power in gentleness. "We shall have a contest," said the Sun. Far below, a man traveled a winding road. He was wearing a warm winter coat. "As a test of strength," said the Sun, "Let us see which of us can take the coat off of that man." "It will be quite simple for me to force him to remove his coat," bragged the Wind.

The Wind blew so hard, the birds clung to the trees. The world was filled with dust and leaves. But the harder the wind blew down the road, the tighter the shivering man clung to his coat. Then, the Sun came out from behind a cloud. Sun warmed the air and the frosty ground. The man on the road unbuttoned his coat. The sun grew slowly brighter and brighter. Soon the man felt so hot, he took off his coat and sat down in a shady spot.

"How did you do that?" said the Wind. "It was easy," said the Sun, "I lit the day. Through gentleness I got my way."

Could it be that persuasion is better than force? Jesus forces none to follow Him. His harnessed strength on a Roman cross wooed sinful man with the promise of redemption and release from guilt. ☐

WEEKLY WALK

Weatherly Weekly



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TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 am
Sunday AM Assembly	10:00 am
Sunday PM Assembly	6:00 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
Kirk Hatcher	David Jacks
Hill Roberts	Collis Terry
Bobby Wright	

Weatherly at Work

These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, April 30th

Welcome: **Will Starks**
 Song Leader: **Mel Ambrose**
 Opening Prayer: **Steve Hagewood**
 Lord's Table Lead: **Collis Terry**
 Matthew 21:23-27
 Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
 Authority in Our Worship
 Closing Prayer: **Will Patrick**

Sunday, May 7th

Welcome: **Tommy Hill**
 Song Leader: **David Jacks**
 Opening Prayer: **Marty Hunt**
 Lord's Table Lead: **Ed Dill**
 Hebrews 9:11-28
 Sermon: **Mike McLemore**
 A New Covenant
 Closing Prayer: **Searcy Hall**

Evening Worship

Bible Skillz **Mike McLemore**
 Songs Leader: **Mel Ambrose**
 Opening Prayer: **WD Patrick**
 Closing Prayer: **David Jacks**

Evening Worship

Mike McLemore
 David Jacks
 Will Starks
 Wes Caudle

Wednesday, May 3rd

Songs Leader: **Hill Roberts**
 Invitation: **Mike McLemore**
 Closing Prayer: **John Patrick**

Wednesday, May 10th

Mel Ambrose
Mike McLemore
Collis Terry

Quarterly Adult Classes April – June 2023

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY
 Powerful Prayer
Mike McLemore

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY
 The Gospel of Mark
Mike McLemore

Serving in May

Serving on the Lord's Table AM & PM
**** Ed Dill (5-7), Phil Shaver (5-14), Steve Hagewood (5-21), Tommy Hill (5-28) ****
**** Overseer**

Communion Prep
 Building Lockup

TBA

