



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
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On Death and Judgment

*"And as it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment"--
Hebrews 9:27*

Two of the most sobering thoughts in all of the Bible are found in this passage; namely death and the judgment. One day this corruptible body is going to be raised in incorruption, free from all impurity and decay. It will be raised in glory, splendid and majestic.

One day this natural body will be placed in a grave but it will not remain there. It will be raised with power and all human weaknesses will be gone forever (1 Cor. 15:35-57). I care not how heavy the burdens of life become; I care not how long the day may be or how dreary the night becomes because I know that as a child of God I will one day gain the greatest victory imaginable.

One day someone will stand over our earthly bodies and speak words that hopefully will bring a measure of comfort to our families in their hour of grief. It is a foregone conclusion that when this happens, some reference will be made to the date of our birth and the date of our death. These dates will be inscribed on a marker at our gravesite. People will visit that site, read those dates and invariably comment about our age at death. But, you know, the dates are not really important. What really matters is that little span of time that stands between the two dates.

You see, the difference between these represents all the time we spent as living, breathing human beings. How we spent that time is vitally important. It doesn't matter how big our earthly house was, how many or what kind of cars we owned. It doesn't matter how much money we had in the bank or what our station in life was.

What really matters is whether or not we spent that time seeking first the kingdom of God. What really matters is whether or not we spent it pursuing the things of God (Matt. 6:33, Matt. 6:19-21, Col. 3:1-2, 1 John 2:15-17). What really matters is whether or not we have spent our time walking in the truth (2 John 4). Walking in truth means living our lives in a manner approved by God, a life of obedience to him (John 14:15, 1 John 2:4, Heb. 6:7-9, 2 Thess. 1:7-12).

Today, let us trust in God's directions for the right way to walk during the time of our earthly stay. If we will allow him to do so, he will lead us safely through this life (Isaiah 41:10). If we will trust and obey him, he will be with us all the way (Psalms 16:1, Heb. 13:5).

Charles Hicks
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Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Remember Our Sick in Your Prayers

Truth for Today Commentary

The Life of Christ, 1

By David L. Roper

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Our Tuesday morning ladies' class is studying a workbook by Willard Conchin, "Do You Know the Brethren?" The first two chapters is a study of elders and deacons in the church. The book covers many different works in the church, and even mentions backsliders and troublemakers. He gives us ideas on how to improve our spiritual lives through a study of the Scriptures. Some things will be controversial. We may have to set aside some of our personal opinions.

Although there are other scriptures about elders, most of the qualifications are found in Timothy and Titus.

Elders: I Tim. 3:1-7 "An elder should desire the office. He should be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous, one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?), not a novice (a new Christian) lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. Moreover, he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and snare of the devil." NKJV

Looking at the qualifications one might think there is no one qualified. But, aren't most of those qualifications for a Christian? We don't have the rule over the flock, but most of the other things we should be too. We're humans, certainly not perfect, but forgiven when we fail. (*cont'd. in column 3*)

Jamie Churchill – home, improving
Kevin Miller – going back to work, more tests later

Bill Roderick – going home from Rehab on 12/4, improving

Leona Sayer – doing much better -has returned to Rsvl Nsg & Rehab

Jason Leavell – still in Rehab @ Baptist Medical Center

Elliot Crouch – doing much better-has gone to Step Down and is in an open crib – surgery has been postponed

Charlie Tindall- taking chemo w/radiation treatments, very weak

Yolanda Greenway- test results so good she does not need treatments at this time – no appts for 2 months

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: Billie Nichols

Legacy Heights:

Bonnie Vinson

Juanita Whitted

Russellville Nsg & Rehab:

Joe Miller

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Myra Ballenger, Amie Barkley, Juanita Bird, Nubbin Boley, Donna Chambers, Troy/Rachel Curtis, Dennis Drewry, Sarah Ensey, Johnny Estes, Ginger Garren, Mary Grice, Leota Hickey, Jonathan /Sheila Holland, Melba Horton, Braden Lambert, Ronnie Leavell, Rose Lee, Daniel Loper, Bea McDaniel, Linda McDaniel, Leonard Medlin, Jeff/Connie Myers, Becky Miller, Julie Moss, Michael Tindall, Joan/Jon Vance, Justin Vaughn, Joyce Walters, Meredith Whitted, Greg Widner and Patsy Wisbrock.

Military: Pray for our service men and women

Expectant Mothers:

Beckie Clark

Charles B. Hodge Jr, minister and author, sometimes takes an eighteen-inch ruler into the pulpit. He holds it up, notes its length and says, "This is how far some Christians will miss heaven." Then, holding one end of the ruler by his head and the other end by his chest, he says, "That's the distance from the head to the heart." The "heart" spoken of in the Bible is not in the chest – but the illustration still makes a valid point.

It is possible that many of us know in our heads (intellectually) that we should reach out to others – even to the unlovable- to help them in their needs and to share the gospel with them. At the same time, it is possible that the message has never reached our hearts. Perhaps we have not been motivated to do whatever it takes to reach out: to rearrange our schedules, to overcome our fears, or whatever else has been preventing us from doing what we should do. It is indeed possible that some of us could "miss heaven by eighteen inches."

(continued from column 1)

Paul tells us to recognize those who labor among us and are overseers in the Lord. We are to esteem them more highly in love for their work's sake. (I Thess. 5:12, 13) "Obey those who rule over you and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you." (Heb 3:17)

Do you know your elders? We should, and they should know us.

(Continued next week)

EVENTS

For the Ladies:

Karen Womack has invited us to her home at 21 Foxglove in Russellville on Monday, **December 14th** at **6:30 pm** to hear **Cindy Barber** speak about the essential oils of the Bible. She will tell us how they were used in Biblical times and how people are using them today. All the ladies are invited to attend.

For the Children:

The children's Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 19th. We will meet at 9:00 at the church building. First we will deliver the Christmas baskets to the older members and the shut-ins. After this we will have a hay ride and sing Christmas carols. We will come back to the church building and end with a pizza party. We will plan to finish by 12:00.

Mark Your Calendars

Note: There will be no Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible Class on 12/22 or 12/29.

For Everyone:

To make the Christmas baskets we need cookies, candies, oranges, apples and bananas. We would like to have all of these brought to the church building by 3:00 pm Friday, December 18th. See Amanda Besterfeldt if you would like to help with the assembly of the baskets.

Save this date

Our first chance to see and hear Alaynna in the Harding University Chorus! A performance at the Westside Church of Christ on Saturday, January 2, 2016.



December Birthdays

- 01 Rhonda Horton
Libby Widner
- 02 LeighAnne Forehand
- 06 Presley Williams
- 10 Paige Davis
- 13 Rhonda Lambert
- 14 Presten Nordin
- 16 Billie Nichols
- 21 Jamie Churchill
Doreen Shinn
- 22 Alaynna Williams
- 23 Jamie Statler
- 24 Cara Williams
- 25 Amanda Besterfeldt
- 26 Rachael Robinson
Addie Stamps
Sonia Williams
- 27 Jeanne Mahan
Jessica Walters
- 28 Kinsleigh Collins
- 31 Sierra Murphy

In Search of the Lord's Way

The Search Program can now be accessed any time on their website

@

www.searchtv.org

Phil Sanders
weekly lesson can be heard and seen on LR KASN TV 38
Sunday @ 7:30 am

THOSE TO SERVE

December 13th, 2015

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Michael Robbins
Randall Walters

Communion

Podium: Earl Whitted
Serve: Walt Davis
William Boley
William Robbins
Alan Boatright

Scripture Reading

Brett Cains

Sunday P.M.

Prayers
Sid Womack
Merrell Shoptaw

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Lads & Leaderettes

Communion to Shut-Ins

Brent Hottinger

Greeters

The Elders

Next Business Meeting

December 14th, 2015

Wednesday Night Services

@

6:30 p.m.

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes
9:45 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 P.M.
Ladies Tuesday Bible Class
10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Classes
6:30 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams
Church Office: 479-331-3428
Or Micah Cell: 479-264-9244
Or Secretary Cell: 479-264-6052

Elders:

William Boley 264-1335
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367
Chris Loper 331-3313

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Rex McDaniel
Chris Moss
Michael Robbins

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