



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
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Paradise

Jerrie Parker, a friend of mine, recently suggested we study the book of Genesis, and I am so thankful she did! What a personal joy it has been to unravel many truths buried in this book that I have basically overlooked through the years.

What a beautiful contrast God's word presents of the original Paradise in Eden and the future, eternal Paradise in heaven. "Eden" (which means "delight") suggests that the original Garden was a Paradise from the hand of God. All Christians look forward to heaven as 'Paradise Restored'. In comparing these two Paradises, Eden had its own river which fed all the trees, plants and flowers "trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food" (Gen. 2:9) that adorned the garden. Earthly property today is

valuable when located by a body of water, especially if the water is lined with numerous beautiful, blooming, fruit-bearing trees and flowers. Unlike many modern rivers, Eden's river was unpolluted and not subject to flooding. It was a calm, beautiful non-threatening river. In heaven, "a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeds from the throne of God and of the Lamb" (Rev. 22:1). Eden also had a "tree of life" which imparted eternal life to those who ate (Gen. 3:22). "In the middle of heaven's street and on either side of the river is the tree of life, which bears 12 fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves are for the healing of the nations" (Rev. 22:2).

'Paradise' suggests the riches of gold. This is true of Eden and God's Paradise in heaven. With gold, Gen. 2:12 also mentions bdellium (Eaton's Bible Dictionary says some think denotes pearls or some other

precious stone). The onyx stone was also in Eden (Septuagint translation 'emerald'). Heaven is likewise described as a "city of pure gold, like clear glass . . . adorned with all kinds of precious stones" including the emerald and sardonyx. "The 12 gates (of God's city) were 12 pearls: each individual gate . . . of one pearl" (Rev. 21:18-21).

Bible history begins with a beautiful and perfect garden which became marred by man's sin. The story ends with a beautiful (beyond our imagination) "Garden City" in which there is no sin. Such great change was brought about by a third garden, Gethsemane, where Jesus surrendered to the Father's will and willingly went to die on a cross for the sins of the world. Let us forever give thanksgiving and praise to Him!

Ralph Weinhold
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Lines for Ladies by Patty McAlister

Remember Our Sick in Your Prayers

Peter's Prescription

For Eternal Life

II Peter 1:5-11

“But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city had no need of the sun or the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light. And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there)” (Rev. 21:22-25).

Today is a cold, winter day, but the sun is shining. Does sunshine renew your energy as it does mine? I can get so much more accomplished on a sunny day. The sunshine gives me a boost.

Much is said in the Scripture about light and darkness. Light is good and the dark is evil. We are to let our light shine so others can see Christ working in our lives. If the light becomes hidden, it brings darkness.

As humans we need both light and darkness. Our bodies need rest so we usually do this at night, during the darkness. It renews our energy for the light of day. The sun gives us this light. The Bible tells us we will no longer need the sun or moon in heaven. Both of these will be destroyed. God and the Lamb will be our light. There will be no night, no darkness. Heaven is also mentioned as our Rest. Loving God and obeying His word will give us this promise. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life” (John 8:12).

God is our light, and in Him is no darkness. So, unless we follow Him, we will walk in darkness, and the promise is not ours. The blood of Jesus Christ cleansed us of our sins when we were baptized (Acts 22:16). To keep this Light we must continue to follow Him, being His light in this world (I John 1: 5-7).

Jan Loveless – is at home recuperating from additional surgery on her leg

Melinda Robbins – is back in Houston for more treatments for her cancer – needs our prayers

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Legacy Heights:

Bonnie Vinson – Room #34

Juanita Whitted – Room #62

Russellville Nsg & Rehab:

Joe Miller –Room #317

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Carl Adkisson, Amie Barkley, Jesse/Jennie Branch, Donna Chambers, Chris Chance, Jamie Churchill, Charli Collins, Rachel Curtis, Randy Ellis, Charles Ensey, Johnny Estes, Mary Grice, Leota Hickey, Kathryn Lee, Rose Lee, Letson family, Daniel Loper, Jan Loveless, Jeff/Connie Myers, Becky Miller, Shirley Miller, Julie Moss, Glen/Paulette Oakes, Aris Ortiz, Jr, Jackson Pierce, Cathy Pittman, Jerry Pruitt, Mike Rinke, Pat Robertson, KaLee Robbins, Bob Sims, Greg Standridge, Michael Tindall, Joan/Jon Vance, Joey Vaughn, Justin Vaughn, Joyce Walters, Jay Winters & Patsy Wisbrock.

Military: Pray for our service men and women:

Eric Richardson

D J Bandy

Expecting Mothers:

Emma Walters

CONGRATULATIONS!

On Sunday, February 5th, Chase Chance was baptized into Christ with most of his physical family and his spiritual family sharing the moment with him. What a wonderful moment for all of us!

“And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

“For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

“Wherefore the rather, brethren, **give diligence to make your calling and election sure; for if you do thee things, ye shall never fall. For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**”

Our Wednesday night class has begun a study on this passage and is planning to memorize it. This morning as I was studying it I realized that one of us did just that yesterday.

On Tuesday, February 14th, our brother, William “Nubbin” Boley, took a step forward and made his “entrance... into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.” Nubbin has served this congregation as an elder for many years. He loved the Word and took every chance to tell others about the value of the Gospel story in his life and in theirs. He will be sorely missed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

A big

*Thank You to Julie Moss
and Cyndie Loper for
preparing and serving
breakfast last Sunday! It
was very well attended
and enjoyed by all.*

Announcement!

Registration is now open for all of Camp Caudle summer camp sessions. If you already know that you will be signing up your children/grandchildren for one or more sessions, now is the time to do that. If you sign up during the month of February you can get an Early Bird Discount. And if registering 3 or more children, you qualify for another discount. Please check out the website for more information or email them at info@campcaudle.org.

Please bring fruit cups, Pop Tarts and Little Debbie's for the Russ Bus ministry.

AREA EVENTS

*CHRISTeens will be
February 24 – 26.*

This year's program will be held at The Center for the Arts at the Russellville High School. All teens are encouraged to attend. See Brent Hottinger or Chris Moss

Invitation

You are invited to come and help celebrate Patty McAlister's 80th birthday on Sunday, Feb. 26th at the fellowship hall. Come and go from 2–4 pm. It will be hosted by her three daughters, Cyndie, Julie, and Amie. No gifts please, but she does love cards.

Bro. Phil Sanders will be holding a gospel meeting at the Downtown congregation in Morrilton from March 5-8. Services will be each evening at 7 pm.

February Birthdays

04 Lewis Lambert
08 Mary McAlister
09 Juanita Whitted
11 Keri Letson
Kristen Nordin
15 Zachary Shelton
16 Rachel Curtis
17 Larry Mahan
19 Carolyn Bennett
20 Kaci Rood
21 Julie Moss
Ethan Collins
22 Eugene Davis
Lealah Robinson
23 Pat McAlister
24 Earl Kennedy
25 Bobbi Robbins
Angela Widner
27 Caleb Chance
28 Theresa Motley

*Lads to Leaders and
Leaderettes
Convention Dates:
April 14-16, 2017*

Theme:

*"All that you say to me I
will do" Ruth 3:5
Bible Bowl Books:
Ruth, Esther, Job
If you have any
questions contact
Chris Moss.*

THOSE TO SERVE

February 26th, 2017

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Blake Walters
Brett Walters

Communion

Podium: Allen Veasman
Serve: Marion Helton
Larry Mahan
Kevin Nordin
Matthew Moss

Scripture Reading

Shawn Price

Sunday P.M.

Prayers

Chris Moss
Dan Cloud

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.

Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.

Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Lads & Leaderettes

Communion to Shut-Ins

Allen Veasman

Greeters

The Elders

Next Business Meeting

March 13th, 2017

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

Office Hours: M-F 8:30a-12:30p

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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Dover Church of Christ
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