

# THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Volume 43

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## Forest Hill

### Church of Christ

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#### Elders:

Anthony D. Callahan  
Warren Davenport  
Gregory D. Mangrum  
Harold D. Mangrum  
Keith B. McAlister

#### Ministers:

Barry M. Grider, Pulpit  
Matthew Jones, Associate  
Haston Handley, Youth  
Jordan Pugh, Youth

#### VISIT US SOON!

#### Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship.... 10:30 A.M.  
Afternoon Worship.... 1:30 P.M.

#### Wednesday:

Bible Study ..... 7:00 P.M.

HOME OF THE  
MEMPHIS SCHOOL  
OF PREACHING  
[www.msop.org](http://www.msop.org)

#### Missions Supported:

Far East/World Evangelism  
Good News Today  
Gospel Broadcasting Network  
House to House, Heart to Heart  
Kakinada, India  
Murmansk, Russia  
Singapore  
Tanzania, East Africa  
Truth for the World

**Free Bible Correspondence Course**  
Email: [fhbiblecourse@gmail.com](mailto:fhbiblecourse@gmail.com)

## *Appreciate Simplicity*

*Simplicity adds quality and contentment to your life.*

*Simplicity comes from learning to say "no."*

*Simplicity is being as satisfied with what you don't have as with what you have.*

*Simplicity involves removing the clutter.*

*Simplicity means never buying something for the purpose of impressing others.*

*Simplicity refuses to get caught in the trap of overspending, overcommitting, and overworking.*

*Simplicity enjoys happiness and treasures joy.*

*Simplicity cherishes tranquility.*

*Simplicity knows how to be content in whatever situation you find yourself.*

*Simplicity celebrates God's creation and sees God in the small stuff.*

*adapted from "God is in the Small Stuff"*

## God's Providence and the Problem of Evil (Part 3)

Kyle Butt, M. Div.

### HOW KNOWLEDGE OF PROVIDENCE HELPS THE SUFFERER

One of the primary reasons to study providence is to assimilate the idea into an overall answer that helps explain how a loving, all-powerful God can allow those He loves to suffer. What does knowledge of providence offer the sufferer? First, an understanding of providence assures us that God will never allow any person to suffer or be tempted beyond his/her ability to deal with the suffering. Paul explained this to the Corinthian church when he wrote, "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make a way of escape, that you may be able to bear it" (1 Corinthians 10:13).

When we suffer, there are times we may feel that we simply cannot endure the pain and sorrow that is crushing us. During such periods of trials and troubles, we must remember that God is still in control of the Universe, and He has solemnly promised us that He will never allow us to suffer or be tempted more than we are able to withstand. While it may seem to us that we cannot hold up under the trials we experience, if God is all-knowing, and if God can providentially arrange the events of human lives to accomplish His ultimate desire, then we can know that He will provide the strength that we need to not only endure, but even to grow through our struggles. The strength He provides may not come in the form or way that we expect. It may come through what others do for us. It may come through something we read in God's Word. It may come through an inspiring story that we read in a book that a friend happened to lend us. Or it may come through a person coming into our lives that is suffering worse than we are and needs our help, channeling our attention from our own pain to constructive ways to help others with theirs.

Second, an understanding of divine providence can help the sufferer understand that God can arrange events so that suffering can have meaning and purpose, even though it is not inherently good. One excellent biblical example is seen in the life of Paul. Paul's life after his conversion to Christianity was eventful to say the least. He took three lengthy missionary journeys, during which he was often in peril. He explained to the church in Corinth that he had been beaten three times, shipwrecked three times, stoned, whipped by the Jews five times, and spent a night and day in the ocean (2 Corinthians 11:22-33). Paul often found himself trying to escape legal authorities that were attempting to imprison or kill him.

On one occasion, Paul was lowered over the city wall of Damascus in a basket to escape being captured by the governor of the city (2 Corinthians 11:32-33). Paul's efforts to avoid capture, however, were not always successful. Once, He was imprisoned and held by the prestigious palace guard. Without an understanding of providence, this situation would seem to the average observer to have a negative effect on Paul and his preaching of the Gospel. Why did Paul have to suffer by being thrown in prison? Why did the church have to suffer through their concern for the apostle? Why did his relatives have to endure the mental anguish of knowing he was imprisoned unjustly? Such questions are legion. Paul

provides us with some insight into his situation in the letter he wrote to the church in Philippi. He told them, "But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which have happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ" (Philippians 1:12-13). Notice Paul's use of the word "actually." The implication is that at first, it would not seem like prison would help the cause of Christ and the furtherance of the Gospel. It turns out, however, that even though Paul had been unjustly imprisoned and punished with evil intent, God providentially arranged the events so that the Gospel message spread.

### CONCLUSION

God created the world and upholds it by the word of His power. He designed the natural laws that He perpetually sustains in a way that He can work through them to bring about His desired goals. Throughout human history, He has worked both providentially and miraculously. The fact that He used miracles in the past, however, does not mean that He still, or must, use them today in order to accomplish His ultimate will. The Bible provides extensive material on how God has providentially worked in the past, and how He has promised to continue this activity in the present and future. An understanding of God's providence provides a vital aspect of the Christian's overall answer to suffering in the world. Furthermore, the concept of providence can help those who suffer find meaning and comfort through their suffering.

### REFERENCES

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- Warren, Thomas B. (1972), *Have Atheists Proved There is No God?* (Jonesboro, AR: National Christian Press).

(from [apologeticspress.org](http://apologeticspress.org))

**LORD'S TABLE**

<b>PRESIDE:</b>	Marion Maund	Ty Phillips
<b>ASSIST:</b>	Cole Bennett	Bob Bergstrom
	Jagger House	Lawayne House
	Evan Manning	Jim Woody

**PRAYERS**

<b>A.M. OPENING:</b>	Danny Braddock
<b>A.M. CLOSING:</b>	Jack Braddock
<b>P.M. OPENING:</b>	Jackson Greer
<b>P.M. CLOSING:</b>	Allan Hart

If you are unable to lead prayer or serve at the Lord's table, please contact Cedric Huff or Paul Connell.

**RECORD, WEEK of July 3, 2016**

BIBLE STUDY:	235
A.M. WORSHIP:	290
P.M. WORSHIP:	215
CONTRIBUTON:	\$13,664

**OUR SICK**

**Grant Bancroft**, grandson of Helen Sharp, Baptist Hospital Memphis room 5385.

**Abby Case**, LeBonheur Children's Hospital.

**Garland Elkins**, St. Francis Hospital, room 1025 Barry Tower.

**Terri Sanders**, daughter of Nancy Price, Methodist Hospital Germantown, ICU.

**ILL AT HOME:** Corinne Elkins.

**HOMEBOUND**

Bessie Berry	Albert & Ruth House
Virginia Ditto	Clarine Justice
Bertha Draughon	Ryan McCullar
Hazel Eskew	Helen Palazola
Tommy & Nell Herndon	Jerry & Betty Robbins
Anita Hopper	

**INFORMATION LINE:** 531-8849

**OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO** the family of former Knight Arnold/Forest Hill member, Mabel White, who passed away last week. A memorial service was held Saturday at the Cordova Church of Christ.

**BAPTIZED:** Olivia Owens, daughter of Mark and Cindy Owens.

**REMEMBER to Check Your Box!**

**CHILDREN'S CLOSET** We received from Hopeworks the names of 17 children from newborn to size 12. Thank you so much for all the contributions of clothing and money. "Thank You" to Becky and Carolyn for making our fleece throws. Thanks to all the hard work of Marsha, Debbie, Halle, and Vada, we will be delivering the clothing next week.

**HEARTS & HANDS**

**TEAM "C" (Danny Braddock)** will receive assignments the week of July 10.

**TEAM "D" (Randy Elliott)** will receive assignments the week of July 17.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**WEDNESDAY EVENING SUMMER SERIES** June 22-August 10, "New Testament Worship" in the auditorium for ages 7<sup>th</sup> grade-adult. Wednesday, July 6 "The Lord's Supper and Worship" taught by Don Walker.

**MID SUMMER BREAKFAST** for Ladies' and Men's class at Cracker Barrel, Tuesday, July 19 at 9:00. Following breakfast there will be a combined class taught by brother Grider in the auditorium.

**YOUNG ADULTS DEVOTIONAL** Saturday, July 23 at the home of Jonathan and Kathleen Beard, 4380 Hargreaves Lane #301, Memphis, TN 38125.



**KIRBY PINES** Retirement Community worship service each fourth Sunday 8:00-8:45 a.m., conducted by Forest Hill. Our next service will be Sunday, July 24.

**LEGACY ESTATES** worship service each Sunday afternoon 3:00 p.m. conducted by Forest Hill.



**Last week's solution:**  
*For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Colossians 1:9-10*

**CORNERSTONE**  
 Replace each letter with a different letter to reveal the scripture.  
 VZWDPT EVUQUUGHQU HJEZDPUF VUAX HG THF, D  
 IHPEDPCU CPEH EVDO FZS, MDEPUOODPT JHEV EH  
 OLZAA ZPF TQUZE, OZSDPT PHPU HEVUQ EVDPTO  
 EVZP EVHOU MVDIV EVU XQH XVUEO ZPF LHOUO FDF  
 OZS OVHCAF IHLU EVZE IVQDOE OVHCAF OCGGUQ,  
 ZPF EVZE VU OVHCAF JU EVU GDQOE EVZE OVHCAF  
 QDOU GQHL EVU FUZF, ZPF OVHCAF OVHM ADTVE  
 CPEH EVU XUHXAU, ZPF EH EVU TUPEDAOU.  
 T = G                      Solution next week                      F = D

## From the Preacher

Our family enjoyed a wonderful few weeks of vacation in the beautiful Sunshine State called Florida. It was a lot of fun visiting Disney World and Universal Studios. I am finding out that I have outgrown some rides. Some of these new roller coasters I just cannot handle but our children enjoy them and making memories with them is what matters the most to my wife and me. I am thankful to our elders who afford us this time to be away and all of your well wishes mean a lot to us, as well. I am grateful to brethren B.J. Clarke and Matthew Jones for filling the pulpit in my absence. While it is great to travel it is good to be home. We missed our Forest Hill family.

As we arrived home the Foundations program was well underway. It was so good to see so many teen boys and girls participating in the wonderful camp founded, designed, and directed by brother B.J. Clarke, who, likewise, directs the Memphis School of Preaching. Over 200 young people attended Foundations and we appreciate the great staff that gave of their time and talents to this endeavor.

Congratulations also to our 2016 graduating class of the Memphis School of Preaching. Commencement exercises took place in the Forest Hill auditorium, Sunday evening, June 19. Longtime evangelist and Christian educator, Gary Hampton, spoke God's word and gave edification and encouragement to those who gathered, particularly to these graduates. We pray God's blessings upon them as they enter the fields of harvest.

These preachers are sorely needed in a world where wickedness seems to have the advantage. We can relate to the old hymn about others living about us who seemingly are never molested tho' in the wrong. Let this verse cheer you, "For the Lord loveth judgment, and forsaketh not his saints; they are preserved forever; but the seed of the wicked shall be cut off" (Psa. 37:28).

Barry

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