



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

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Forest Hill Church of Christ

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Elders:

Anthony D. Callahan
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Harold D. Mangrum
Keith B. McAlister

Ministers:

Barry M. Grider,
Pulpit Evangelist

Matthew Jones,
Personal Evangelist

Garrett Olney, Youth

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.

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OF PREACHING
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Missions Supported:

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Free Bible Correspondence Course
Email: fbiblecourse@gmail.com

Can You Recommend Your Religion? (Conclusion)

George W. Bailey

You cannot be a *holy* Christian unless you are *wholly* Christian! Paul was *holy*, and his life was wholly Christian. He lived what he preached. People pay very little attention to *what you say* about your religion — they are too busy watching *what you do* about it! People were greatly inspired, when they watched what Paul did about his religion.

I have often wished that I could preach like Paul, pray like Paul, live like Paul, and have the understanding of Christ that Paul had. He knew Christ better than he knew his own family. “It is no longer I that live,” he said, “but Christ liveth in me:” (Gal. 2:20). He said to the Galatians, “And they glorified God in me” (Gal. 1:24).

How many are “glorifying God through you”? What kind of a recommendation does your life give to your religion?

Can You...by the Way You Support It?

One of the greatest recommendations you can give to your religion is to support it properly. How do you measure up in this respect? Let some lady discover some new detergent, or some other product, on which she is completely sold, and try to keep her quiet about it! She just can’t wait to tell a neighbor lady, “Look what I’ve found; you must try it; it is the best thing I’ve ever seen!”

Why does the lady spread the news about so enthusiastically? Simply because she is thrilled with her discovery, and wants to share it with others. The same things will be true with our religion, when it means what it ought to mean to us!!!

To the Corinthians it was said, “I believed and therefore did I speak” (2 Cor. 4:13). Why did the writer speak? simply because he believed. “Therefore” did I speak! When you see the word *therefore*, stop and see what it is *there for!* the word is there for a purpose; it means “for the above stated reason.” When one really believes, he can’t keep quiet about it. He, like the lady, will spread the news so enthusiastically, because he wants to share it with the world!

What support do you give to your religion? how much time do you devote to it? How much effort? How much of your ability and influence do you use to back the thing in which you profess to believe? Out of the 168 hours during the week, how many of those hours do you give wholly to the Lord?

Christianity doesn’t come in capsule-form to be taken in Sunday doses. It isn’t something to be dished out only a spoonful at a time. Christianity is not some side-line affair; it should become man’s chief thought!

There is a difference between one’s *vocation*, and his *avocation*. A *vocation* is one’s main mean’s of support. An *avocation* might bring in some support, but not the main support. It is a hobby, a side-line in which a man might spend a few hours now and then.

Is Christianity a *vocation*, or an *avocation* ? To some it is nothing more than an avocation, but to so look upon it is to fail miserably. We must “walk worthy of the *vocation wherewith we were called*” (Eph. 4:1). Man’s main object in life should be to serve the Lord. His business must not come before it. Our occupation ought to be just a way of “paying expenses” while we try to serve the Lord!

(continued on page 2)

Are you “zealous of good works” (Tit. 2:14)? Are you “ready unto every good work” (Tit. 3:1)? Are you “full of good works” (Acts 9:36)? Are you “careful to maintain good works” (Tit. 3:8)? Are you “fruitful in every good work” (Col. 1:10)? Are you “a pattern of good works” (Tit. 2:7)? do others “see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matt. 5:16)?

On the streets of New York City a woman once came upon a little girl who was shivering from the cold, but who was standing wistfully looking at the good things to eat in a bakery window. The child didn’t have enough clothes to keep her little body warm. She was undernourished and hungry.

While the woman knew that some other type of food might be better for the child than the cakes, etc., she couldn’t resist taking the child into the shop and purchase for her that which her heart desired. Then she took the child to a clothing store and bought her some clothing.

The child then looked the lady in the face and said, “Are you God’s wife?” What a question? How grateful she was! What kindness had been shown her! When an example of Christian service!

And, that is exactly what the Lord said—we are the wife of Christ. The church is his bride! Are we so supporting the Cause that others might be compelled to ask of us: “Are you Christ’s wife?”

The Good Samaritan recommended his religion by the way he supported it. What about the priest and the Levite? They were reputed to be very religious — more so than the Samaritan — yet, they didn’t have much to show for their religion! Read the story in Luke 10. “Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the the thieves?” (Lk 10:36).

“But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelt the love of God in him” (1 John 3:17)? The next verse reads: “My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth (verse 18).

What financial support do you give to that in which you believe? “He that soweth sparingly, shall reap also sparingly; he that soweth bountifully, shall reap bountifully” (2 Cor. 9:7). Is your religion worth liberal, cheerful financial support?

Can You...by the Way it Works for You?

Here is a good test: Can you recommend your religion by the way it works for you? Does it give you something to hold on to? When a crisis comes, can you recommend it? What about when you lose a job, or a fortune? Incidentally, when you *miss a fortune*, it might not be a *misfortune*; it might be blessing, as in David’s case (Ps. 119:71).

When death reaches its ugly fingers in to steal a loved one, can you still recommend your religion? When you are down and out, then what? When you are sad, lonely, discouraged, or when you lose your direction? Does your religion always work for you?

The religion of Christ can be recommended for and during any crisis or catastrophe! If your religion doesn’t work for you all along, then you don’t have the one Christ offers! We need not be afraid, for Christ furnished a spirit of power (2 Tim. 1:7).

What man needs is a religion that can be used on Monday, and what will not have evaporated by Saturday! Christ’s religion fills that need. The religion that makes a man look sick won’t cure the world. Christ’s is not such a religion; rather, “As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing” (2 Cor. 6:10) is the spirit that characterizes his religion!

When the world is at its worst, the Christian must be at his best. Christ’s gospel helps him be his best! As David said, “Thou art a shield for me” (Ps. 3:3), you and I ought to feel the same toward Christ!

“No good thing will be withheld from them that walk uprightly” (Ps. 84:11). “We know that all things work together for good to them that love the Lord, even to them that have been called according to his purpose” (Rom. 8:28). God will never leave us nor forsake us, if we do His will (Heb. 13:5).

One writer expressed it this way: “I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread” (Ps. 37:25). Let all say, “In the shadow of thy wings will I take refuge, until these calamities be overcast: (Ps. 57:1).

We can be more than conquerors through Christ who loved us (Rom. 8:37). When the Lord is a man’s helper, he can joyfully say, “I will not fear what man shall do unto me” (Heb. 13:6).

A man and his God constitute a majority. They will be able to do whatever is within keeping with God’s will. “Our God is able” (Dan 3:17). God “is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think: (Eph. 3:20). What more could we want?

But is this your religion? Examine yours; if it is lacking in any of the four areas we have discussed, you need to make a change! Can you recommend your religion? Can you live by it? Will it do to die by? Does it furnish you something to tie to? Will it provide a refuge in every tempest? Can you safely anchor there during any storm?

It is not enough to have a *creed you uphold*; you must have a *creed that upholds you*! Only Christ’s gospel can furnish such a creed, and I beg of you to turn to it and adopt it as your religion, regardless of the course others might pursue!

(from *Great Preachers of Today*)

PRESIDE: Danny Braddock
ASSIST: Kalon Brown
 Cason Grider
 John Pope

Isaac McLaurin
 Bob Gitter
 Daniel Manning
 Jonathan Rickles

A.M. OPENING: Raymond Pipkin
A.M. CLOSING: Daniel Fairley
P.M. OPENING: Mike Reed
P.M. CLOSING: Andy Ammons

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

RECORD, WEEK of December 3, 2017

BIBLE STUDY:	N/A
A.M. WORSHIP:	N/A
P.M. WORSHIP:	N/A
CONTRIBUTON:	\$17,482.00

OUR SICK

Joe Baxter, Room 104, Methodist Hospice Residence, 6416 Quince Rd.

Bobby Gitter, father of Bob Gitter, blood sugar problems, Batesville, MS.

Helen Palazola, Room 127-2, Highlands of Memphis Rehab.

ILL AT HOME: Marsha Beliew (recovering from a fall), Sherry Brown, Karen Fairley, Walt Safronoff (suffering with shingles), and Avis Terry.

HOMEBOUND

Joe Baxter	Anita Hopper
Bessie Berry	Albert & Ruth House
Ann Castleman	Clarine Justice
Virginia Ditto	Helen Palazola
Hazel Eskew	Jerry & Betty Robbins
Tommy & Nell Herndon	

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO:

Sherry Brown and family in the passing of her brother-in-law, Bill Doll.

Irwin Thomas and family in the passing of his aunt, Mae Beasley, who died from injuries in an automobile accident.

CONGRATULATIONS TO the 1st and 2nd grade class who learned all the required cards for the fall quarter. Students: Cole Frederick, Genesis Hanna, Aneesa McLaurin, Anna Ulrich, Stephen Ulrich and Aspen White.

REQUESTED PRAYERS: Jim Woody

HEARTS AND HANDS

TEAM "E" (JIM WOODY) TEAM "F" (STEVE ALLMOND) will have a covered dish luncheon in the fellowship hall after morning service Sunday, December 10.

UPCOMING EVENTS

LADIES AND MEN'S CLASSES meet each Tuesday at 10:00. Tuesday, December 12 will be the final class of the year.

Annual Christmas Party at the home of Eddie and Diane Ray on Friday, December 8. Dinner will be \$4 per person. Please bring a \$5 gift to exchange per person or couple. Please sign sheet on bulletin board.

Ladies Christmas Party at the home of Connie Streiber on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. Please bring your favorite dish.

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, December 24.

To: Forest Hill Church of Christ

Thank you for all the prayers and cards of encouragement for my mother. She is doing well and able to attend worship at Southaven Church of Christ.

In Christian Love, Lanell Bowers

Dear family, our new sisters in Christ at the Shelby County Corrections Center were so delighted to receive the kind notes of encouragement that you sent to them when they obeyed the gospel. Please remember them in prayer as they begin their walk as they truly are babes in Him.

Thank you so much, Marlene Latimore

NEW MEN'S CLASS

Brother Grider will begin a leadership training class for men, beginning Sunday, January 7 at 9:30. We will be studying *Down Front and Ready* by Gary Colley. Class will meet in Room 201 of the Education Building.

Last week's solution:

For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments. Ezra 7:10

CORNERSTONE

Unscramble the letters in each word to discover the passage.
 SRHECA EHT UTSSRRPIEC; ROF NI TMHE EY TNKIH EY
 VHEA TRNLEEA EFIL; NDA YTHE REA YTHE WIHHC YTTSIFE
 FO EM. NDA EY WLLI TON OMEC OT EM, TTHA EY TMIHG
 VHEA EFIL.

Adult Classes

Winter Quarter, 2017-2018 (Dec.-Feb.)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Topic</u>
<u>Sunday Morning</u>		
Auditorium (A)	Greg Mangrum	Who Is The Lord?
Chapel Hall (E)	Keith Mosher	Providence
Break Room (E) (Young Adults)	Matt Jones	<i>Evangelism Made Simple</i>
Room 201 (E) (Men)	Barry Grider	<i>Down Front and Ready</i>
<u>Wednesday Night</u>		
Auditorium (A)	Barry Grider	A Glorious Church
Room 201 (E)	B.J. Clarke	If They Say That, Show Them This
<u>Tuesday Morning</u>		
Ladies Class (A)	Celicia Grider	<i>Successful Christian Living In Today's World</i>
Men's Class (A)	Barry Grider	<i>Renewing Your Spiritual Life</i>

A-Auditorium Building
E-Education Building

Notes from the Pollards

Dear Sisters,

Thank you for inviting me to be a part of your special day. You all did a wonderful job! Thank you too, for the thoughtful card and gift card. I loved being with you and pray God will bless each of you!

Love, Kathy

Phil 1:3

To the saints at Forest Hill-

Many thanks for the invitation to preach in a meeting there, to be encouraged by your kind words, to enjoy several delicious meals with you, to have such gracious accommodations and to fellowship with you. We will long remember the several great days among you. Thanks for your generosity. God bless you richly as you dare to keep doing big, great things for him.

In brotherly love,

Neal

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