



# THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Volume 45

March 27, 2018

Number 13

## THE THEME OF FIRST PETER

Barry Grider

*[Editor's note: As this bulletin is being published, the Forest Hill Church is hosting the annual Memphis School of Preaching lectureship. The following manuscript is the editor's contribution to this year's bound volume. It is my prayer that the material will be useful in your study of the Bible.]*

### INTRODUCTION

The theme of First Peter is the theme of this lectureship: Faith Under Fire. Our primary passage for this study will be as follows:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time (1 Pet. 1:3-5; KJV).

What is the saddest word in the dictionary? Some may respond it is the word sick. However, the sick could get well. Some may respond it is the word death. However, those who die will be raised again. Some may respond it is the word lost. However, those who are lost could be found. It seems that the saddest word in the dictionary is probably hopelessness. The saddest picture in the world is not the one who is in the process of dying nor is it the one, who, has lost his most valuable possessions. The saddest picture is of the one who no longer maintains any hope in his heart.

This writer has long been a fan of the artistic work of Norman Rockwell. One of his most famous works was his 1942 oil painting originally entitled *Freedom From Want*, later commonly called *Thanksgiving Dinner*. When the painting originally appeared in the *Saturday Evening Post*, concern was expressed that our young men serving in Europe or in the Pacific Theater during World War II, might become depressed upon seeing the picture of family gathered around the table for a Thanksgiving feast. However, the painting had the opposite effect upon our fighting men overseas. The painting gave these soldiers renewed determination and purpose to defeat the enemy. It was reminder of why they were engaged in the war. Hope was instilled in their hearts to keep pressing on.

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### Forest Hill

#### Church of Christ

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#### Elders:

Danny Braddock Jr.  
Anthony D. Callahan  
Warren Davenport  
Gregory D. Mangrum  
Harold D. Mangrum  
Keith B. McAlister  
Eddie F. Ray III

#### Ministers:

Barry M. Grider,  
Pulpit Evangelist  
Matthew Jones,  
Personal Evangelist  
Garrett Olney, Youth  
Hatton Allen, 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.

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  
Panama Mission  
Four Seas Bible College  
Truth for the World

Free Bible Correspondence Course

## BIBLICAL HOPE

God grants His children hope. It is one of His greatest gifts. Man is “saved by hope” (Rom. 8:24). The hope he provides fallen man is recorded shortly after the first sin is committed. Speaking to man’s mortal enemy, God says, “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel” (Gen. 3:15). Let fear and despair be replaced with faith and hope. Hope is knowing that on a dark and gloomy day the sun is still shining and the skies will soon clear. Hope is knowing that in the middle of the harshest winter, spring will return.

Consider this acrostic: H-O-P-E. Because of hope one can HOLD on. Make up your mind never to give up. King David’s life would be threatened by enemies within and without, but he said, “hope thou in God” (Psa. 42:6). What is it that lies within the heart of the Christian that causes him to press on when his faith is under fire? Hope. Hope says tomorrow will be better than today and next year will be better than this year. We know this to be true because the Apostle Paul stated,

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh in us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal. For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens (2 Cor. 4:16-5:1).

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose (Rom. 8:28).

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me (Phil. 4:13).

Now this hope we have in Christ is not wishful thinking. As a child I would rummage through the Sear’s Wish Book catalog and mark the many toys I

wanted for Christmas. While I was always blessed with more presents under the tree than I deserved, I certainly did not get all that I had “hoped” I would receive. Biblical hope is different. Such hope is expectation with anticipation. The Christian knows he is going to heaven and can hardly wait. Hope is holding on by faith. “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Heb. 11:1). Hope says, “I may not like my present situation, but it’s going to get better.”

Because of hope one can give himself as an OFFERING. The person who gives little regard to God and does not hope in Him, will always be consumed with self. Remembering that God already knows our needs (Mat. 6:32) and seeing that he will “freely give us all things” (Rom. 8:32), the Christian can look beyond his needs and help others. Consider the following passage and notice how hope is connected to one living the Christian life:

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed: because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us (Rom. 5:1-5).

Because of hope one can have PEACE. Biblical hope means we know who is ultimately in control. For this reason we pray and have the full realization that God can meet our deepest needs. Even in King David’s darkest moments he was clinging to this hope. When he and Bathsheba’s baby boy died, he said, “But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me (2 Sam. 12:23). The psalmist penned these words,

Deliver me, O my God, out of the hand of the wicked, out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man. For thou art my hope, O Lord God: thou art my trust from my youth (Psa. 71:4,5).

(continued next week)

**PRESIDE:** Dan Dawson Paul Davenport  
**ASSIST:** Jack Braddock Wade Braddock  
 Bob Gitter Jagger House  
 John Pope Steve Ulrich

**A.M. OPENING:** Paul Connell  
**A.M. CLOSING:** Robert Jeter  
**P.M. OPENING:** Irwin Thomas  
**P.M. CLOSING:** Jerry Manning

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

**RECORD, WEEK of March 25, 2018**

BIBLE STUDY: 425  
 A.M. WORSHIP: 540  
 P.M. WORSHIP: 725  
 CONTRIBUTION: \$17,642.00

**OUR SICK**

**LINDA HILL**, daughter of Sue Glass and sister of Pat Morris, recovering from a heart attack, Germantown CICU.

**ILL AT HOME:** Bob Bergstrom, Doris Jean Cole, Allan Hart, Carolyn Hayes, and Pearl and Rufus Washington.

**HOMEBOUND**

Bessie Berry Albert & Ruth House  
 Virginia Ditto Clarine Justice  
 Hazel Eskew Jerry & Betty Robbins  
 Tommy & Nell Herndon Velton & Dorothy Trimm  
 Anita Hopper

**OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO** the family of W.T. Hardwick, elder at Getwell Church of Christ.

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOX!**

**HEARTS AND HANDS**

**TEAM "H" (KALON BROWN)** will receive assignment cards April 1.

**TEAM "A" (ROBERT BERCH)** will receive assignment cards April 8.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**LADIES AND MEN'S CLASSES** meet each Tuesday at 10:00. There will be a combined class April 3. We will meet at Cracker Barrel for breakfast at 8:45.

**2018 MSOP Lectureship, Faith Under Fire**, March 25-29.

**EGG HUNT** Sunday, April 1 after morning service for toddlers through 6th grade. Please bring sack lunches for your family and baskets for egg hunters. All members are invited to watch the egg hunt.

**NEW CLASS TO BEGIN** Wednesday, April 4 in the fellowship hall. Matthew Jones will be teaching "Taking Sin Seriously."

**YOUNG ADULT DEVOTIONAL** Saturday, April 14 at 6 p.m. at the home of Danny and Melinda Braddock.

**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, April 22.

**2018 VBS JUNE 4-6.** Theme: Deep Divin' (Exploring Our Relationship With God).

**2018 SUMMER SERIES** Wednesdays, June 20-Aug 8. Theme: *Add to Your Faith...(A Study of the Christian Graces)*. Various speakers.

**Last week's solution:**  
*He that hath knowledge spareth his words: and a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit. Even a fool, when he holdeth his peace, is counted wise: and he that shutteth his lips is esteemed a man of understanding. Proverbs 17:27-28*

**CORNERSTONE**

**Scryptogram:** Each letter in the passage is replaced with another.  
 ECKAV LHU, FLK MV OZFII LHU GV ECKAVK  
 WHLKVQL LHU, FLK MV OZFII LHU GV WHLKVQLVK  
 JHYAPSV, FLK MV OZFII GV JHYAPSVL APSV, FLK PU OZFII  
 GV APSVL CLUH MHC; AHHK QVFOCYV, DYVOOVK KHRL,  
 FLK OZFXVL UHAVUZVY, FLK YCLLPLA HSVY, OZFII QVL  
 APSV PLUH MHCY GHOHQ. JHY RPUZ UZV OFQV QVFOCYV  
 UZFU MV QVUV RPUZFI PU OZFII GV QVFOCYVK UH MHC  
 FAFPL.

J=F Solution next week R=W

**April 2018**  
Coordinating Elder-Gregory Mangrum

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Bayleigh Albritton Dean Pipkin	3 Nate Steward	4	5 Danielle Moore	6 Luao Soli Jr.	7 Robert Jeter
8 Kalon Brown Mary Lee Sanders	9	10 Leah White	11 Rufus Washington	12 Danny Braddock	13 Katharyn Greer Andrew Knipple	14 April Tomlin
15 Michaela House Jim Woody	16	17	18 Marion Maund	19 Kiernon Brown Dan Dawson Sean Ellis Kenny Kennedy Cecil Sowell Nikki Summitt	20 Daniel Fairley Ava Jones	21 Bessie Berry Andrew Reece
22	23	24	25 John Manning	26 Christine Hart	27 Daniel Webster	28 Dianne Huff Betty Jones
29	30 Toreda Earls					

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