

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING MAN

God's Grace - Ephesians 2:8
 God's Love and Mercy - Ephesians 2:4
 Christ's Blood Shed – Romans 5:9-11
 The Gospel – Romans 1:16
 Sinner's Faith - Acts 16:31; Mark 16:15-16
 Sinner's Repentance – Luke 13:3
 Sinner's Confession – Romans 10:10
 Sinner's Baptism – 1 Peter 3:21; Acts 2:38
 Christian's Hope – Romans 8:24-25
 Christian's Faithfulness and Endurance – Revelation 2:10; 1 John 1:7-10

HORSE CAVE CHURCH OF CHRIST
 120 Cave Street
 Horse Cave, KY 42749

LORD'S DAY ASSIGNMENTS

for today - Feb. 1

READ SCRIPTURE:

Bryan Denison

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Willie Cyphers

OFFICIATE:

Phillip Carter

SERVE COMMUNION:

Phillip Perkins David Houk
Bobby Bybee Sydney Bunnell

CANS FOR POTTER CHILDREN'S HOME:

We still have a few cans if you would like to take one and help save your change. You have until July 5 before they pick them up.

ICE STORM OF 2009:

This week has presented us with some of the worst winter weather for Hart and surrounding counties in many years. The freezing rain and ice started late Monday night and continued throughout the day on Tuesday and into Wednesday. Early that morning the freezing rain finally turned into snow. However, the ice caused the worst damage as trees broke and fell on the lines. Our water pumping station was without electricity so our water supply soon was in jeopardy. Restaurants, industry and schools had to close. Services here were cancelled for Wed. night which was a prudent decision. Everyone with the utility companies, emergency personal and local governments have worked extremely hard to get things going again. As I type this on Friday morning, things are improving, but we are still under a boil water advisory and electricity is still being restored. Neighbors are helping neighbors as it should be. A lot of clean-up remains to be done. Still, God is good, and He has blessed us. WH



A Weekly Publication of the
Horse Cave
CHURCH OF CHRIST
 120 Cave Street
 Horse Cave, KY 42749

We gladly welcome you to our congregation, trusting that – if you are *seeking Christ* you will find Him here, if *sorrowing* you will receive comfort and strength here, if *troubled in spirit* you will gain the blessing of peace here, if *discouraged* you will rejoice in encouragement and hope here, if *friendless* you will find companionship and Christian love here. That these and other blessings may be yours is our prayer.

TIME OF SERVICES: **Sunday:** Bible Study 10 AM;
 Worship 11 AM & 6 PM **Wednesday:** Bible Study 7 PM
CHURCH WEB PAGE: www.horsecavecoc.com

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Old and Gray-Headed by Wayne Hatcher

The Psalmist in Psalm 71:17-18 said: *“O God, thou hast taught me from my youth; And hitherto have I declared thy wondrous works. Yea, even when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not, Until I have declared thy strength unto the next generation, Thy might to every one that is to come.”*

Solomon also said in Ecclesiastes 12:1: *“Remember also thy Creator in the days of thy youth, before the evil days come, and the years draw night, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;”* He spoke of the difficult days when the affliction and sadness burdened life; the arms and hands tremble; the legs bow down; teeth are few and the eyes grow dim; hearing is lost and the voice is softer. Death is described as the loosing of a silver cord or the golden bowl that is broken and the pitcher broken at the fountain (vss. 3,4,6). For many people, old age is often looked upon as a time of great difficulty and sometimes despair does set in. The thought is that life for all its good is over and there is nothing left to do.

Let's return to Psalm 71. The writer of this Psalm has the spirit of someone who has found that old age is not the end but a continuation of what he had sought to do all his life. It is a declaration of **trust, praise and hope** in the Lord – not an end of things. Trust is stated in vs. 1 with hope the surety of faith (vss. 5,14). The author does not express giving up but rather there is much work to be done. His faith in the Lord is as secure as a “fortress” and a “rock” and a “strong refuge”. He is oppressed by the wicked but will not allow them to destroy his faith in the blessings of Almighty God (vs. 4). The love of His Lord has guided him from his youth (vss. 5,6), and his life is a testimony of the Lord's grace. His enemies marvel at his faith and the longevity of his trust in Jehovah. He begs that God not forsake him “in the time of old age” (vs. 9).

May we never stop living for the Lord and doing what we can. We thank God for those who are older and gray headed for your wisdom and trust you show us in the Lord. Psalm 71 is worth being read again and again.

PERSONAL NEWS & NOTES...

NEWS ABOUT THE SICK:

(We need to especially remember the following people in our prayers and render what service we can to them in their time of need).

REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Doug Edwards; James Horton; Parker Bybee; R.T. Turner; Betty Brunt; Becca Napper; Blake Morris; Gerald Watt; Dennis Hatcher; Frankie Walters; Jill Petett; Bill McElwain; Hugh Edwards; Tim & Mary Piercy; Harold Underwood; Lucy Byrd Every (in hospital at T.J.); we have several who are or will be traveling this week. Remember Scott Huff asked for our prayers last Sunday morning.

FRIENDS FROM OUR COMMUNITY:

Susanne Wintsch; Penny Stinson; Oscar Crain; Leslie Witty; Sarah Lou Wilson; Joyce Robinson; Brian Wise & Tony Bush in Iraq; Phyllis Wilson Middleton; Jim Reed; L. N. Deweese; Jerry Greer; Billy Ross; Mary McGavic; Erica Norman; Odell Martin

SHUT-INS AT HOME:

Alma Reynolds Sally Marshall Johnalene Lancaster

HART COUNTY HEALTH CARE:

Hallie Davidson 403; Mary Edwards 502; Helen Stanley 707; Alma Stilts 501

HIGHLAND RIDGE ASSISTED LIVING:

Ford Smith 164 Lucy Byrd Every 106
Golda Livesay 121 (Rex' Wallace's sister)

NHC HEALTHCARE in Glasgow:

Robert Allen Edwards

MISSION WORKS WE SUPPORT:

Al Horne in South Africa
Mike Brooks in Bangladesh/Nepal
Patinya Thitathan in Thailand
Sammy Flanary – work in Europe
Danny McCain - Green Co. KY

Doka Obadiah in Nigeria, Africa
Jason Freed family going to France
Mid-South Bible Institute in Glasgow, KY
Jerry Carmichael — Grant Co. KY
Dhan Ramkelawan – E. TN School of Preaching International Gospel Hour – Fayetteville, TN
Gospel Broadcasting Network – Dalton, GA
HTH/HTH ministry here in Horse Cave
Local Radio programs over WLOC-1150 AM

FREED-HARDEMAN LECTURESHIP:

The 73rd Annual Bible Lectureship starts today in Henderson, TN: Feb. 1-6 "Crying Out to God: Prayer and Praise in the Psalms"

This year the Lectureship will be dedicated to Parker & Donna Henderson for their many years of service in the Lord's Kingdom. A dinner on Tues. night will be in their honor.

MID-SOUTH BIBLE INSTITUTE:

New classes have just resumed on Thurs. nights with *Galatians* taught by Ed Wharton and *Romans* taught by Richard Rogers. Time: 6:30—8:30 Location: 413 Samson St. Glasgow, Ky

CONGRATULATIONS:

Spencer & Katie Jensen are proud to announce the arrival of [Rane Simms Jensen](#) on Jan. 9th. Also a proud great-grandmother is our Jenny Thompson.

ELDERS & DEACONS MEETING TODAY:

From last month's meeting, the time has been changed (on a trial basis) to the first Sunday of each month at 4:00.

TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ:

In what town did Paul raise up Eutychus, who had fallen to his death from a third story building?

The answer to last week's question was: Solomon, I Kings 3:16-28

Ditches Dug By Faith

by Tim Hall

"Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead" (James 2:17, NKJV).

You might call it an unholy alliance. Of the three kings standing before the prophet Elisha, two were well known for their love of idols. Had it not been for the good king Jehoshaphat, Elisha would not even have considered their request (2 Kings 3:14).

The three kings had set out to wage war with Moab, but were stymied by a lack of water. Seven days had passed with nothing to drink. How could one hope to retreat, much less fight, in such a dehydrated condition?

After consulting with the Lord, a solution was proposed: "Make this valley full of ditches," Elisha commanded (2 Kings 3:16). The next morning the ditches they dug would be filled with water, though they would not see rain nor wind. The ditches would not be filled by natural means.

God, as always, was true to his word. The next morning water filled all the ditches that had been dug. The water proved to be more than vital refreshment to the armies of Judah, Israel and Edom. As the sun rose upon the valley, the Moabites concluded the pools before them were of blood, shed among the three loosely-allied armies. Thinking the fight was over, the Moabites walked into a death trap.

A miracle took place that day. God filled every ditch with water. But why didn't God also carve out the ditches? Would that not have added to the impressiveness of the miracle?

Faith and obedience are commonly found together in God's word. Jesus called Lazarus to miraculously come forth from the tomb in which he had reposed for four days (John 11:43,44). Just before that astonishing event, Jesus commanded bystanders to "Take away the stone" (John 11:39). Why? Did Jesus have only enough power to raise a dead man, but not to also roll away a stone?

Many religious people argue that salvation is "by faith only". To tell people that they must do anything before they can be saved is to detract from the power of God, they say.

This is why baptism is so commonly ignored in discussions of salvation. We who stress the importance of baptism are dismissed as "water dogs" (or worse), as if we had invented the command on our own.

The phrase "by faith only" can be found only one time in the Scriptures: "You see then that a man is justified by his works, and not by faith only" (James 2:24). The one time that popular catch-phrase can be found, it is modified by the word "not". Our faith must be accompanied by obedience, James wrote.

What if Elisha's command long ago had been ignored, and no ditches had been dug? Would God have provided water? What if we ignore our Lord's command today (e.g. Mark 16:15,16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; et.al.)?

Will we be saved?

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