

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 - Oct. 18

READ SCRIPTURE:

Wayne Hatcher

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Rob Bybee

OFFICIATE:

Sydney Bunnell

SERVE COMMUNION:

Rex Wallace Donnie Edwards
Willie Cyphers John Eastridge

PREACH:

a.m. - Wayne Hatcher
p.m. - Wayne Hatcher

LEAD SINGING:

am - BA Fudge pm - Ken Russell

ANNUAL MAMMOTH CAVE COOKOUT:

We are scheduled to have our annual cookout at Mammoth Cave next Sunday after morning worship. Please bring condiments, chips, drinks, desserts. The meat and bread will be supplied. We hope we will have pretty weather.

INFORMATIONAL DIRECTORY:

If you haven't fill out one of the data sheets for our updated informational directory, you need to do so quickly as we need to wrap this up. Please return it to Becca Napper. She will be taking pictures after services if you would like to have your picture taken for the directory.

YOUTH DEVO & FELLOWSHIP:

Oct. 19 Center Church of Christ with Todd Lockett as guest speaker. 6:30 p.m.



A Weekly Publication of the **Horse Cave CHURCH OF CHRIST**

120 Cave Street
Horse Cave, KY 42749

TIME OF SERVICES: **Sunday:** Bible Study 10 AM;
Worship 11 AM & 6 PM **Wednesday:** Bible Study 7 PM

CHURCH WEB PAGE: www.horsecavecoc.com

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.

Vol. 41

October 18, 2009

Number 41

Becoming Perfect by John M. Davis

Jesus made a shocking statement: "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father Which is in heaven is perfect*" (Matthew 5:48). The way I look at that statement, that sets a high standard. When you think about it, God has continually called for a high standard for the redeemed. He has always wanted His people to become **perfect**. The perfecting of the Body [the Body is Christ's church, and each Christian is a member of His Body (Ephesians 5:23, 29-30; Colossians 1:18, 24)] has been in His plan from the beginning, and throughout history God has been working out that plan.

When we speak of perfecting the Body, what do we mean? The whole point of the Christian life is to move toward perfection. Christians are to grow, to mature, to attain spiritual growth. Consider these biblical expressions: "*For the perfecting of the saints*" (Ephesians 4:12); "*Unto a perfect man*" (Ephesians 4:13); Christians are to "*be no more children*" (Ephesians 4:14); Christians are to "*grow up into Him*" (Ephesians 4:15); the Christian is to attain "*the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ*" (Ephesians 4:13).

The Christian cannot attain sinlessness (Romans 3:23), but he can sin less. A Christian can become a well-rounded Christian. That should be the concern of all Christians. Babes in Christ are to grow up, mature, to be fully equipped for all good works.

The word "perfecting" means "complete within itself, full-grown, filled to capacity." When we think about it, no Christian should settle for anything less than being fully equipped, complete, and grown-up.

Here is the challenge: The whole Body of Christ must be brought to full maturity (1 Corinthians 7:1). How will we do this? "*And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers*" (Ephesians 4:11). The result of their work is that the Body of Christ will be built up in love (Ephesians 4:16).

It is sad, but some members of the Body will remain spiritual babes all of their lives.

Horse Cave Church of Christ

Email:
church@horsecavecoc.com

PHONE:

(270) 786-2550

ELDERS:

Billy Bybee
786-2884
Willie Cyphers
786-1263
Kenny Russell
786-1450
R. T. Turner
786-1477

DEACONS:

Bryan Denison
Beauford Fudge
Mark Hatcher
Phillip Perkins
Rex Wallace

PREACHER:

Wayne Hatcher
108 Doran Drive
Cave City, KY
773-4931
576-0019 Cell

wayne@horsecavecoc.com

PERSONAL NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Doug Edwards; Linda Forbes; James Horton; Parker Bybee; Becca Napper; Chris Burchett; Lindley Hatcher; Pat Bradford (Ruth's son); William E. Estes (Vickie Thompson's dad); Frankie Walters; Buddy Logsdon; Roger Lyons in FL; Larry & Geraldine Glass; Chris Hillard; Faye Guinn (member at Center); Mary Hatcher undergoing treatments; Dennis Hatcher suffering with back & leg pain; Bonnie Turner has been experiencing hip & leg problems.

Judy Petett was in Caverna Memorial Hospital this past week; Robert Brooks, Peggy Fudge, Leon Seaton have been sick but beginning to feel better; there have been lots of flu or flu-like symptoms; Alexis Faith Newman received good news from her Dr. visit last week; R. T. Turner had tests last week with no problems found.

FRIENDS FROM OUR COMMUNITY:

Jim Reed; Leslie Witty; Billy Ross; Roger Lile; Mary Bush; Evelyn Smith and John Branstetter are now in Hart Co. Health Care; sympathy to the family of Calanthe F. Branstetter

SHUT-INS AT HOME:

Alma Reynolds Sally Marshall Johnalene Lancaster

HART COUNTY HEALTH CARE:

Hallie Davidson 403; Mary Edwards 207; Helen Stanley 707; Berdine Hogan 405 Alma Stilts 501

HIGHLAND RIDGE ASSISTED LIVING:

Ford Smith 164

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
Jason Freed family going to France
Mid-South Bible Institute in Glasgow, KY
Jerry Carmichael — Grant Co. KY
Dhan Ramkelawan – Suriname, South America
International Gospel Hour – Fayetteville, TN
Gospel Broadcasting Network – Dalton, GA
HTH/HTH ministry here in Horse Cave
Local Radio programs over WLOC-1150 AM
Darrell Wallace Southeast Satellite Schools

GOSPEL MEETINGS:

Oct. 16-18 Elizabethtown Church of Christ with Dave Miller Fri., Sat. 7 p.m. Sun. 9:30, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. (bulletin board has details)
Nov. 1-4 Broadway Church of Christ Campbellsville, KY with Andy Baker 7 p.m.
*Nov. 6-8 Our Meeting with Mel Futrell of Birmingham, AL

THIS PAST WEDNESDAY NIGHT:

We were richly blessed to hear Dhan Ramkelawan on Wed. night express his appreciation for our support and encouragement given to him during his two years at East TN School of Preaching & Missions. Bro. Dhan did a fabulous job. He is requesting us to continue supporting him when he returns to his homeland in Suriname to preach the gospel.

THANK YOU NOTES:

I want to thank each one who sent a card or brought food or called during the last few weeks while I've been at home with a broken ankle. Your thoughtfulness and prayers have meant so much and I appreciate each of you very much.
In Christian love, Renee`

TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ:

Who came to Mary to foretell details about his birth and mission?

The answer to last week's question was:

Nicodemus, John 3

Bad Things and Good People

by Jeff S. Smith

Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people? That question has fanned the flames of skepticism for most of history. If God is so good, why does he not prevent every evil and destroy every evildoer, instead of permitting wickedness to continue?

Habakkuk asked a similar question, but without a hint of skepticism in his heart. When God foretold the Babylonian invasion of Judah, the prophet wondered aloud how he could suffer something bad to happen to his good people. Then he said, *"I will stand my watch and set myself on the rampart, and watch to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer when I am corrected"* (Habakkuk 2:1).

God was disciplining his children in Judah as a loving father spans his wayward offspring and while *"no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it"* (Hebrews 12:11). God still chastens his people today, *"for what son is there whom a father does not chasten?"* (Hebrews 12:7; cf. I John 3:1)

What some people seem to want is a planet in which no suffering or disease or injustice or even tear ever befalls mankind. They want the wicked punished and the "good" to prevail permanently. They never want to see another plane crash or a drunk driver plow into a minivan.

Trouble is, God created a place like that and man was ultimately dissatisfied. The Garden of Eden was pure until Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit and the enticing knowledge of sin began to spread to humanity (James 1:14-15). Now, the only way to

change this planet into what people claim they want would be to take away free will, but we do not even like that in the abstract. People in prison experience a partial removal of free will and they hate it. They cannot go where they like and do what they like and we call it punishment.

Moreover, God has instituted the kind of place people are describing when they lament the presence of injustice and human suffering. As the wilderness wanderings of the Exodus produced a people fit to dwell in Canaan, so this earthly pilgrimage is purifying a population for heaven, where *"God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away"* (Revelation 21:4).

THE BIBLE LIVES

Generation follows generation – yet it lives.
Nations rise and fall – yet it lives.
Doubted, suspected, criticized – yet it lives.
Condemned by atheists – yet it lives.
Scoffed at by scorners – yet it lives.
Betrayed by fanatics – yet it lives.
Wrongfully accused, misquoted – yet it lives.
Yet it lives – as a lamp to our feet.
Yet it lives – as a light to our path.
Yet it lives – as the guide to heaven.
Yet it lives – as a comfort to the aged.
Yet it lives – as food to the hungry.
Yet it lives – as drink to the thirsty.
Yet it lives – as rest for the weary.
Yet it lives – as a light for the ignorant.
Yet it lives – as salvation for the sinner.
Yet it lives – as grace for the believer.
To know it is to love it.
To love it is to accept it.
To accept it is eternal life.

- copied