

APPEALS OF THE GOSPEL: Complete Wholeness in Christ

By Howell Ferguson

How do you measure success? Most people would probably list things like happiness, financial security, a satisfying career, or good relationships with others as indicators of a successful life. Certainly those are good things, but the Bible sets a different and more compelling standard for our lives than simple material happiness and stability. In his book, *Toward a Psychology of Being*, Abraham Maslow discusses what he calls “the hierarchy of human needs”. They consist of

Physiological needs (food, air etc.)

Safety needs (security).

Love (belongingness) needs.

Self-esteem needs.

Self-actualization needs (realizing one’s highest potential).

The issue, however, is not really happiness, prosperity, or satisfaction, but wholeness. This is the real need of all of us. Paul wrote, “*For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power*” (Col. 2:9, 10). In Christ people find wholeness or completeness. That’s what makes the gospel of Christ so different from all other religions, philosophies, or value systems. Living a surrendered life for Christ places a person in the hands of God our Creator who alone can make us complete. Meeting human needs is only a small part of the complex nature of God’s creation of mankind.

The New Testament is not a religious attempt to satisfy some psychologist’s grocery list. Rather, intelligent people from all ages and walks of life have discovered

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Happy Birthday this week:

Bob Martin August 31

Alan Beavers Sept. 1

Happy Anniversary This Month to:

Wayne & Jackie Dixon Sept. 2

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upon honest appraisal the unique features of Christ's gospel. It is God's desire to call us back home. He wants us to enter into a covenant relationship with Him. What an awesome thought: God wants me on His team! Therefore, every command, every principle, every requirement, and every promise contained within the New Testament is designed to bring a person closer to the wholeness only God can provide. Every other kind of fulfillment is temporary at best.

But if we only want something Jesus can do for us, our relationship with Him will be limited. When we want Jesus Himself, He brings completeness to our lives. Christ wants, first and foremost, to make us whole. Wanting Jesus - not what He can "give" me is what really stirs the heart. His love makes us whole, and out of the overflow of Christ's love within us we can then show love and compassion for those around us. Out of the overflow of His love and acceptance for you, you can show love and caring towards around you. Where is this fullness, this wholeness, this completeness? Only in Christ's body -the church. "And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all" (Eph. 1:22, 23). "Wilt thou be made whole?" (John 5:6).

MILITARY

Ty Stricklin is at Balboa Hospital in San Diego, CA.

Lcpl Harper, Matthew D.; is a Marine from Galax who is now serving in Afghanistan.

West Side Youth

September 16-18—RUSH weekend @ FHU

September 18—TBS @ Teen Center

Upcoming: Bowling (September)

Bonfire at the Edwards (October)

NGM NGM NGM

Nine Good Minutes

Garrett Durham arrived safely in Belgium early Tuesday morning. He will be studying there for the Fall Semester and traveling throughout Europe. Please keep him in your prayers. His address is:

Response:

Shree Lowe came forward requesting prayers.



WHO MADE THE NEWS! Check out **Halle Edwards'** article and photos in the Botetourt View. Congratulations on setting an wonderful example that caused them to choose you to represent the school.

FALL TEACHING QUARTER

BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4.

Primary teachers please go to your class on Wednesday night, August 31, to meet your new students.

Adult classes: Auditorium -Eddy Gilpin (SUN), Don Pettit (WED)

Ladies Class -Charlene Guard;

Sr. High -Danny Guard (SUN)

Lyn Shrader (WED)

Jr. High -Harry Higgs (SUN)

Bob Garby (WED)

Please, please, please be sure to check lights and locks on the doors when you leave.

TUESDAY NIGHT TALENTS

Tuesday Night Talents continues **August 30th**. Bring your dinner at 6:00 PM or come at 6:30 and join us for the work.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT WEST SIDE

September 18—Friends & Family Day

October 8—TTT Ladies' Day at West Side

October 16-19—Gospel Meeting with Steve Hall

November 12—Men's w/s planning breakfast

Wednesday Night Summer Series:

August 31—**Winfred Clark**- "Teachings of Jesus"

SYMPATHY

Rose Shoulders, Tim's mother, passed away on Monday. Also remember **Gary Hampton**, whose mother died and **Greg Edwards**, whose aunt died last week.

Area Events

September 4-7 Pulaski Church of Christ -Gospel Meeting

7:00 PM (M-W). Details posted.

September 18-21 Fort Chiswell Church of Christ –Gospel Meeting

with Mark Bass 7:30 PM (M-W) Details posted

September 24 Rich Creek Church of Christ – Ladies Day

8:30-2:15 Details posted on bulletin board.

AUGUST ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:

Triscuits/*Thin* Original Flavor
Envelopes of Dream Whip
Give these items to Jeanny to be shipped out.

Friends and Family Day

Simply Invite

Sunday, September 18

Fellowship meal afterwards
Team duties will be assigned



Senior Servants

Lynn Anderson Norma Biller
Betty Buckner Jim Dorsett
Martha Keith Margaret Kratz
Miriam Majors Jo Musgrove
Evelyn Scott Elsie Smith
Ruth Stanton Evelyn White
WJ Wood Grace Myers
Al Furrow



- ◆ Kevin & Doli Barnard –He is battling cancer. Please join **Marc & Jennifer Laplante** in praying for Kevin's recovery and for that they may be able to reach the Barnard's with the gospel.
- ◆ Family of **Sue and Jerry Wood** who are experiencing multiple health problems.
- ◆ Angelo Duran(4), grandson of **Bob and Sandy Garby**, was bitten in the face by his dog will have reconstructive surgery. Please pray for him and mom and dad.
- ◆ Deena Maio, **Justin Maio's mom**, (Kentucky) went to hospital with chest pains on Thursday night.

Continue in Prayer:

Ruth & Glenn Hartman, Sr.

Sandra Speir

Dale Janosik

Corey Ryan

Linda Richards

David Hayes

Mary Valentine

Ron White

Willard Campbell

Susan Stinett –surgery 9/22

Naola McCormick

Mary Halling

Edwine Covington

Ann Ford

Martha Harris

Mickie Janney

August 2011

“The Lord is Able to Give Thee Much More than This”

Announcements: Jeff Durham

Song Leader (AM): Charlie Gwaltney

Opening Prayer (AM)

8/7 Tom Rogers

8/14 Bob Martin

8/21 Charles Maness

8/28 Don Pettit

Preside at Communion: Bob Garby

Serve Table

Jeff Williams Sam Valentine
Mark Brooks; Herb Baker

Closing Prayer (AM):

8/7 Garrett Durham

8/14 Glenn Gabbard

8/21 Gene Benefield

8/28 Squeaky Valentine

Song Leader (PM): Josh Whitlow

Opening Prayer (PM)

8/7 Barry White

8/14 Herman Lowe

8/21 Mike Durham

8/28 Danny Guard

Scripture Reader: Andrew Gibson

Closing Prayer (PM)

8/7 Wayne Dixon

8/14 Ethan Rogers

8/21 Greg Edwards

8/28 Mitch Jearls

Serve Table (PM)

Dylan Tyler; Jimmy Harrington

Song Leader (Wed): Paul Mays

Prayer (Wed)

8/3 Harry Higgs

8/10 Jeff Durham

8/17 Eddy Gilpin

8/24 Jim Bush

8/31 Mark Brooks

Open/Close Building: Jim Harrington

Greeters: LaPlantes/Garbys

Nursery Attend: Velda Gearhart (am)

Alecia White (pm)

Ushers: Curtis Oakes; Herman Lowe

Handouts: Noah ; Chandler

Prepare communion: Jessica White

Hazel McFalls

Baptismal Garments: Shirley Baker

Cards/Pencils: Connor, Harrison

Last week's attendance 8/21/11 & 8/24/11

Bible Class-143 Worship Service-159

Sunday PM-127 Wednesday PM-132

Contribution- \$5459

Amaziah was the 9th king of Judah. He was given limited commendation by the Lord for doing “that which was right,” but “not with a perfect heart” (I Chron. 25:2). One of his first actions as king was to slay those who had killed his father, the former king Joash (II Chron. 25:3); but he did not kill their descendants, in keeping the Mosaic precept (II Chron. 25:4).

A warring king, Amaziah pitted his army of 300,000 against the children of Seir (the Edomites- II Chron. 25:5, 14). Concerned that he would need more men in his forces, he hired 100,000 mercenaries out of Israel for 100 talents of silver (II Chron. 25:6). However, an unnamed prophet came to Amaziah and told him not to allow the men of Israel to go to battle with them. He stated that God was not with Israel and certain defeat awaited Amaziah's forces if he chose to join hands with those of Israel, since God had the power to work either for or against him (II Chron. 25:7, 8). Amaziah then asked the prophet, “But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I have given to the army of Israel?” (II Chron. 25:9). At this point it appears he was more concerned about his money than anything else. The prophet answered him, “*The Lord is able to give thee much more than this*” (II Chron. 25:9). Amaziah chose to fight without the aid of Israel (which breaking of this ‘league with the devil’ soon cost him dearly- II Chron. 25:10, 13), and won the battle (II Chron. 25:11, 12).

Although Amaziah had many faults and ended up worshiping the very gods of the people he had just conquered (II Chron. 25:14, 15), on this occasion he followed the advice of God's spokesman. The foundation of that advice is that God is able to give you much more than you can imagine. The 100 talents of silver was nothing in comparison with what God could do for him. The lesson for us: Don't dream too little; don't make your God too small. “He is able to give thee much more than this.”

-Eddy