

Pioneer Preacher Wisdom

Suppose that tonight every book that has ever been written on religion except the Bible should be destroyed. And that every line and sentence, written or printed anywhere, on religion that is not plainly recorded in the Bible should be erased and destroyed. Suppose, further, that every doctrine, practice and name not recorded in the Bible should be utterly forgotten tonight so that it never could be remembered again. Suppose that all this should happen tonight, what would be the religious condition tomorrow? There would be millions of believers in Christ who would not so much as know the religious names by which they had called themselves. They are not written in the Bible, and would have been destroyed and forgotten. Not a single denomination, from the Catholics down, could carry on its religious work and government. They would be in the utmost confusion. Their creeds by which they direct their work and worship and govern themselves would have been destroyed and forgotten. Much of their worship is not recorded in the Bible, and would be forgotten. Their creeds would be no more than blank pages except a few disjointed, misapplied quotations from the Bible remaining. Every sentence not recorded in the Bible would have faded and left blank pages. As astounding as it may seem, not a single denomination could establish legal title to a single foot of land. The lines in their deeds where their religious names had been, and in which names they formerly held their title, would be blank. And their religious names would have been forgotten. The lines where their religious names as Methodist Church, Baptist Church, Presbyterian Church and all other churches whose names are not recorded in the Bible would be blank, and no legal title could be established.

Destroy every book written on religion except the Bible, erase every sentence wherever found, printed or written, on religion that cannot be read in the Bible, forget every item of teaching and practice not clearly recorded in the Bible — let all this happen as above suggested — and it would not disturb the church of Christ in the least measure. Every item that is taught and practiced by the church of Christ, whether it be how to become a Christian, the kind of church government, the officers and their duties, or how to worship, can be read plainly from the Bible.

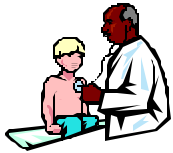
The above is an excerpt from a tract by the late W.W. Otey born in Snowville, Va in 1867. Brother Otey was a well known preacher in Virginia during the last century. Our beloved Lowell Altizer spoke of him often and in his writings. He baptized brother Altizer's mother in 1908. Our own Brother Collin Gregory remembers him.

What a great message he leaves to us to absorb, still the truth, yet a century has passed. We need to read it and heed it!

Your Elders

Sick

Continue to remember in prayer:
**Marguerite Charles, Lyn Anderson,
Martha Keith, Miriam Majors,
Betty Jenkins, WJ Wood, Margaret
Kratz, Dee House, Betty Buckner,
Evelyn Scott, David Wilcox, Cora
Acres, Edna Stricklin, Judy Bow-
man, Beulah Wright.**



Louise Quesenberry had back surgery on Thursday at LGH.

EV Wimmer is in the New River Medical Center

Several are out with the usual illnesses.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Levi Graves who died on Tuesday. His funeral was yesterday.

Happy Birthday this week to:

**Gavin Oldham—3/24
Susan Mountcastle—3/28
Conner Jearls—3/29**



Happy Anniversary this week to:

Esther & Jeff Green—3/25



MARCH ITEMS FOR THE STAFFORDS:

Ink pens (Grip, medium Pilot and fine Zebra) and tic tacs—favorite is lime green. Give your items to Jeanny and she will ship them over!



Directory Updates:
Danny Guard Cell
Please update this number in your directories!

Upcoming Events:

Team 3 (Valentine) will be having an April Fools Dinner on Wednesday, April 1, at 5:45.



Jo's Catering will be providing the meal and the cost will be \$5 at the door and a clean joke! Sign up sheet located on the board—No foolin'.

Teens

March Dates



3/29—Young Men conduct services

Got an idea for this summer—let Luke Guard know at luke.guard@students.fhu.edu

WOW

Next WOW meeting will be on Tuesday, April 14, at 10:30.

Discovery Club

Come find out about our new **Discovery Club** and the Bible's revelation of God's handiwork in the origin and preservation of our earth. The purpose of the club is to help our children think biblically about nature. The club will enable us to share God's world and word with our children.



We will be integrating hands-on learning with biblical truth. The monthly lessons will engage the minds and bodies of children of ages (K-6). They will be fun, informative and spiritually enriching.

The Discovery Club will be packed full of exciting and fun learning activities. Most of all, children will be guided into a biblical way of thinking as they explore God's creation.

Discovery Club Informative Meeting Sunday March 29, 4:30pm. A Sign-up sheet for those interested on the Youth Activity Board. (See Jim Harrington for details) We will be showing a "Digger Doug" Video and doing an activity for the kids and reviewing the club with parents.

For Your Information

PRIMARY TEACHER MEETING

The teachers meeting will be today at 4:30. Song practice will be taking place and toddlers will be in charge of snacks! Change of date for the next one—May 17.

EVENING AT WEST SIDE

There will be a meeting for all hostesses of the Evening at West Side tonight after services. Bring your list of invitees!

LECTURESHIP

The yearly MSOP lectureship starts on March 29. See Eddy for details!

MAKIN' MUSIC WEEKEND @FHU

Makin' Music Weekend at Freed Hardeman will be April 3-5.

EDP MEETING

The bi-monthly EDP meeting will be on April 5 at 4:00.

Weekly Reminders

Prayer list:

Lyn Anderson
Marguerite Charles
Dee House
Betty Jenkins
Martha Keith
Margaret Kratz
Miriam Majors
David Wilcox
Cora Akers
Edna Stricklin
Judy Bowman
Evelyn Scott
EV Wimmer
Louise Quesenberry
Family of Martha Keplinger
Family of Levi Graves

Activities:

Red Envelopes

Be a voice for the voiceless—the unborn!!! March 31

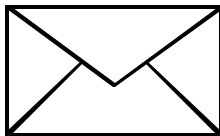
Address a red envelope to: President Barak Obama, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500.

On the back write the following message: This envelope represents one child who died because of an abortion. It is empty because the life that was taken is now unable to be a part of our world.

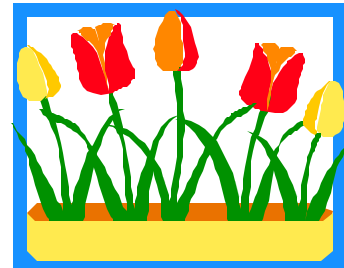
Mail the envelopes on March 31, 2009

“Evil can only triumph if good men do nothing!” Pass it on—hopefully we can send 50 million red envelopes—maybe that will send the message.

Red envelopes are available in the foyer!!



Primary Teachers—3/22
E@WS Meeting—3/22
Youth conduct services—3/29
Discovery Club Meeting—3/29



The phrase “if any man” appears 62 times in the New Testament. Like all such phrases that appear numerous times, a study of this phrase will give us greater insight into living the Christian life. Let’s continue our examination of this phrase.

“*If any man* will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself” (Jn. 7:17). The American Standard reads, “If any man willeth to do his will, he shall know of the teaching, whether it is of God, or whether I speak from myself.” One who desires (“wills”) to do the will of God will be able to determine His doctrine. His sincere study of the word (II Tim. 2:15) will lead him to the knowledge of what God desires of him. He will not neglect what the doctrine calls upon him to do (cf. II Jn. 9). He will not refuse what God requires. Many claim to belong to Christ, yet neglect His will. The one who truly desires to be obedient has all he needs to be a faithful follower.

At the week-long Jewish Feast of Tabernacles it was the Jewish custom for the priest to take a golden pitcher each day to the Pool of Siloam and fill it with water. He would take it back to the court of the temple, followed by a multitude of people, and pour it upon the altar. This was the dry season and a time when water was at a premium. The people would chant the Hallel (consisting of Psalms 113-118) and rejoice greatly. At the close of the Hallel there was a pause in the activities.¹ It was evidently at this pause that Jesus cried out “...*If any man* thirst, let him come unto me, and drink” (Jn. 7:37; note 7:2). Jesus had earlier informed the Samaritan woman that “...whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life” (Jn. 4:14). He is indeed that fountain of living water (Jn. 4:10). Any man can quench his spiritual thirst by coming to Him.

-Eddy

¹Guy N. Woods, GA Commentary- John, p. 155

Those to Serve in March

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Announcements: Roger Mays | Song Leader: David Brown |
| Preside at Communion: Jason Oldham | Serve Table: Fred Altizer, Greg Edwards
Jim Harrington, Cameron Brown |
| Opening Prayer: Barry White
Next Week: Collin Gregory | Closing Prayer: Josh Whitlow
Next Week: Adam House |
| PM Song Leader: Sam Valentine | Scripture Reader: Caleb Reed |
| Opening Prayer: Jerry Anderson
Next Week: Paul Mays | Closing Prayer: Jeremy White
Next Week: Marc Laplante |
| Serve Communion: Nathan Pelfrey, Tanner Reed | |
| Wednesday Song Leader: Garrett Durham | Prayer: EV Wimmer |
| Open/Close Bldg: Mike Durham | Prepare Communion: Lowe/L. Maness |
| Ushers: Danny Guard, Curtis Oakes | Cards/Pencils: S. Durham/O. Valentine |
| Greeters: Hartman/Laplante | Nursery Attend: M. Halling/K. Jearls |

Last weeks attendance (3/15& 18/09)
 Bible Class: 159 Worship Service: 169 Sunday Evening: 142 Wednesday: 146
 Contribution: \$4743

March 22, 2009

Number 3012

Mar. 22 (Acts 25)

- Read Acts 25 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 25—Paul appeals to Caesar
 - Paul before Agrippa
 - Write a note or card this week
 - *Increase your contribution by \$1 today

Mar. 23 (Acts 26)

- Read Acts 26 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 26—Paul relates his conversion to Agrippa

Mar. 24 (Acts 27)

- Read Acts 27 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 27—Sea voyage to Rome begins
 - Euroclydon (storm) & shipwreck

Mar. 25 (Acts 28)

- Read Acts 28 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 28—Paul snake bit while gathering wood
 - Arrival in Rome
 - Paul meets with Jews at Rome

Mar. 26 (Acts 1)

- Read Acts 1 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 1—Ascension of Christ
 - Matthias appointed in Judas’ place

Mar. 27 (Acts 2)

- Read Acts 2 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 2—Apostles receive Holy Spirit
 - Sermon on Pentecost

Mar. 28 (Acts 3)

- Read Acts 3 three times today
- Pray today
- Memorize contents of Acts 3—Peter & John heal lame man at Beautiful Gate