

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements
Rodney Ellis

Song Leader
Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper
Jon Barry Jerry Schelle
Randy Ellis

Prayers
Mark Davis Randy Ellis

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements
Mark Davis

Song Leader
Clay Morris

Prayers
Bryan Garlock Daniel Allgor

Invitation
Jack Calvert

ABOUT US

Elders
Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Mike Davis
Clay Morris

Evangelist
Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday
Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.

Monday (Zoom)
Bible Study7:00 P.M

Wednesday
Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

Their cause was new -- they were pioneers.

I fear that today we do not appreciate our "spiritual blessings" as they did. It is not our life as it was theirs. We are not spending and being spent for it as they were. To some degree, at least, perhaps we do not "believe what they believed."

"Perhaps if we believed what they believed, we might achieve what they achieved." If we did, I am convinced that God would give us success, too.



Volume XXVI December 5, 2021 Issue 47

Honoring the Older Generations
Bryan Garlock

"You shall stand up before the gray head and honor the face of an old man, and you shall fear your God: I am the Lord." (Le 19.32)

This command finds its foundation in the Ten Commandments. There, Moses wrote, "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you." (Ex 20.12) The nation of Israel would honor the aged and those in authority. It would start in the home with children honoring their parents and would extend to the "gray heads."

In Leviticus 19.32, God outlined three principles for Israel that our society would do well to apply if they desire to be a righteous nation. (Pr 14.34)

Stand up before the gray head. When a bride comes down the aisle, people stand up. When the president walks into a

room, people stand up. And God says, "When a gray head comes in, stand up." It's a matter of respect for who they are, what they represent, and it keeps the younger ones humble. (1 Pe 5.5)

Honor the face of an old man. Paul wrote, "Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father...." (1 Tim 5.1) The sense of the Greek word for "rebuke" here is to "strike at" with words, whereas elsewhere (5.20) a distinction is made between this and the rebuking in the sense of correcting. In other words, don't raise your voice—whether justified or not, and if you do admonish older men, correct them with grace, not bitterness, and remember your place, young man.

You shall fear your God: I am the Lord. Therefore, any deviation from these instructions indicates no fear of God. A society that does not fear God is a society

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins/sometimes shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Maxine Burnham, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan, Pete & Beth Rowland, and Francine Davis.**

The **Brittenhams** left for Kentucky yesterday. Our hearts are saddened, but we wish our dear brother and sister safe travels and success as they dedicate themselves to the work of the Lord in KY. Their new address is posted on the bulletin board.

With **Bill** and **Sherry** gone, I will be taking over the group's news/emergency text messages. If you have any announcements or prayer requests, please text me. 478.256.0325 - **Bryan**

Please continue to pray for **Cathy** and **Sonny**. They are doing okay, but as she said, "We have seen better days." Any care we can extend to them, I know they will appreciate it.

Remember **Nancy** in your prayers. Since the loss of Ann, she has been helping new families and is now with a family that will require her to work on Sundays for a little while. So, pray for her, but also send her an encouraging note!

The **Garlocks** are feeling better!

that does not recognize God-given roles (fathers and mothers, for example) nor their God-given authority. Thus, it is a rejection of God and the wisdom that older generations generally possess; what a fool's errand!

Where's the honor due them? The "grey heads" have laid our foundations we are building on. But, unfortunately, too many believe they are beyond receiving counsel from older generations, which makes them entirely arrogant for unequivocally believing they have more knowledge, wisdom, or experience than those who raised them. They do not fear God! **BG**

If We Believed What They Believed

Gary Kerr

One of the reference works I usually keep close at hand when studying any part of the New Testament is the paraphrase translation of J.B. Phillips, *The New Testament In Modern English*. I don't agree with all of Phillips' suggested wording, but I often find his efforts helpful in clarifying some particular passage or point. The translation was originally produced in sections, with the first, *Letters To Young Churches* (Romans through Colossians), being published in London during World War II (it included a preface and recommendation written by C.S. Lewis).

In his introduction to that book, Phillips writes the following about the New Testament epistles and their authors and recipients:

"Without going into wearisome historical details, we need to remember that these letters were written, and the lives they indicate were led, against a background of paganism ... Slavery, sexual immorality, cruelty, callousness to human suffering, and a low standard of public opinion, were universal; travelling and communications were chancy and perilous; most people were illiterate. Many Christians today talk about the 'difficulties of our times' as though we should have to wait for better ones before the Christian religion can take root. It is heartening to remember that this faith took root and flourished amazingly in conditions that would have killed anything less vital in a matter of weeks. These early Christians were on fire with the conviction that they had become, through Christ, literally sons of God - they were pioneers of a new humanity, founders of a new Kingdom. They still speak to us across the centuries. Perhaps if we believed what they believed, we might achieve what they achieved."

That final sentence is profound and powerful -- "Perhaps if we believed what they believed, we might achieve what they achieved!"

Within a generation of the establishment of the church, the apostle Paul could write of those who carried the gospel message that "their voice has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world" (Romans 10:18). Paul wrote about the gospel that it had been preached "in all the world" and that it had been "proclaimed in all creation under heaven" (Colossians 1:6, 23). This is an

incredible achievement -- to begin with a few comparatively unknown and uneducated people (cf. Acts 4:13), and to have a message did not appeal to the "wise", the "mighty," or the "noble" according to the flesh (1 Corinthians 1:26). But they had strong faith and a zeal born of that faith, that caused them to launch out boldly and sacrificially, to the point of being willing to give up their lives for the cause they had taken up. And God gave them amazing success. They were "on fire" for the kingdom, for the gospel, and for the souls of their fellow human beings, believing with all their hearts in the sacrifice and promises of Jesus, the Son of God and Savior of men. Being a Christian and going to heaven meant everything to them, and they wanted "all creation under heaven" to share with them in these blessings.

Do not be deceived into thinking that their achievements were easily accomplished. Right from the start they were opposed and persecuted. When the first of their number was martyred, such a widespread persecution developed that all except the apostles were driven from their homes and scattered abroad (cf. Acts 8:1). But this did not slow them down or dampen their enthusiasm. Wherever they went, they were found "preaching the word" (Acts 8:4). They preached it as they had opportunity, not depending on others (i.e., preachers, elders, etc.) to do the work for them. Each Christian considered him/herself both privileged and responsible to win souls for Christ.