



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
Vol. XXXIV September 23, 2007 No. 38

From Where I Sit

Michael D. Greene

As I write this on Tuesday morning while reflecting back on this past Sunday, I must say we had a good day here at Etown. Ray had two fine lessons. Our number was good, especially Sunday evening. We had several visitors, some from out of town,

some from Fort Knox, and some locally.

But what made it good to me is the positive spirit that is manifested by folks here. It is good to see the visiting and friendliness among the congregation. And to see that friendliness extended to our visitors. It is good to see folks getting together for periods of fellowship outside the assembly and sharing life together. That, in my humble opinion, is what fosters a sense of family in a congregation. The more we do that, the more we are like the Christians of the New Testament who are described with these words: "So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. (Acts 2:46-47). May God bless us with more such opportunities.



The folks who live in Etown and Hardin county will get this bulletin just before our meeting with Mel Futrell begins. I pray you will make every effort to be present for the meeting. If you are, I know you will be blessed. I am looking forward to the sound, Biblically based lessons that I know he will present. How about inviting someone to eat dinner with you Saturday evening and then attend the meeting?



The news media is full of stories of the antics of celebrities in our country which have resulted in scrapes with the law and worse. The question I have is why anyone would be interested in the antics of these folks? They have proven themselves to be morally deficient at nearly every turn. But the media keeps us aware of their every move and it seems some cannot get enough of it.

But it makes me want to shout to all parents "Make sure you know who your child's heroes are." As I have grown older I have become more and more aware of how the movies and TV shows I watched and books I read as a child affected and molded my thinking and character. I am grateful that many of my heroes reinforced the positive teaching I received in other places. What about your children and grandchildren? Who are their heroes? What is influencing them? "Do not be deceived: 'Bad company corrupts good morals.'" 1 Corinthians 15:33.

Fall Gospel Meeting

September 21 - 23, 2007

Speaker: Mel Futrell

Minister of Shades Mountain Church of Christ
Birmingham, Alabama

Mel's Lessons

Friday Evening
Are We Wrong?

Saturday Evening
The Effective Christian

Sunday Bible Study
Things to Remember as We Study

Sunday AM Worship
For What Will This Church Be Known

Sunday PM Worship
Why I Want to Go to Heaven

Schedule of Services

Friday Evening 7:00 PM
Saturday Evening 7:00 PM
Sunday Morning Bible Study 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship. 6:00 PM

For more information or directions to our building please
call (270) 765-6446.

Mel will also speak at the monthly Youth Devotional
Saturday night, September 22, after the Gospel Meeting
at the home of Dennis & Peggy Hogan.

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. - *For What Will This Church Be Known*
Romans 1:8 and 2 Corinthians 3:2

P.M. - *Why I Want to Go to Heaven*
1 Peter 3:15

“None of These Things Move Me”

As the Apostle Paul traveled toward Jerusalem at the conclusion of the Third Missionary Journey he came to Miletus, a seaport 37 miles south of Ephesus. It was here that Paul had his emotional exchange with the elders of the church at Ephesus. The account is found in Acts 20.

From Miletus, Paul sent for the elders of the church at Ephesus. When they arrived Paul reminded them with humility, tears, and trials he had kept back nothing from them. He then informed them that he was going to Jerusalem, not knowing what was going to happen. But the Holy Spirit had told him that in every city chains and tribulation awaited him. He gave them an exhortation to faithfulness, and after telling them that they would see his face no more and a tearful goodbye, Paul boarded the ship and sailed away. As he continued to journey toward Jerusalem, he received a warning from the brethren at Tyre not to go to Jerusalem (Acts 21:1-7). At Caesarea, Agabus the prophet warned him he would be bound by the Jews and delivered to the Gentiles. To which Paul proclaimed that he was not only ready to be bound at Jerusalem, but to die for the name of the Lord Jesus (Acts 21:8-14). In spite of all these warnings he traveled on to Jerusalem.

When he got to Jerusalem, he was urged to assist four men who had made a vow to God. When he went lawfully into the Temple, he was falsely accused of defiling the Temple by the Jews and arrested. For his “crime” he spent more than two years in prison in Jerusalem and Caesarea. He eventually ended up in Rome as a prisoner, having appealed to Caesar for justice and protection from the Jews who wanted to take his life.

Through all of this, Paul's determination to serve Jesus is remarkable. There is one statement of Paul that gives us great insight to how he felt and thought about all the warnings and what he might have to go through. When he had told the elders of Ephesus that he was aware that chains and tribulations awaited him in every city, he makes this courageous statement: “But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God” (Acts 20:24).

None of these things move me. What did Paul mean by that? Paul was saying, “I am not dissuaded, or motivated by these things. None of this will motivate me to stay away from Jerusalem.” Was Paul oblivious to pain? Was Paul seeking suffering? Was Paul seeking some kind of martyrdom at Jerusalem? Did Paul have a death wish?

I don't think any of those things could be said of Paul. He had already endured much pain because of his faith in and service to the Christ (see 2 Corinthians 11:23-33). As he had told the Galatians many years before “I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus” (Galatians 6:17). Paul could lay bear his back and expose the marks where the whip and lash had

inflicted excruciating pain on this humble servant of the Lord. No, it wasn't physical pain and suffering that motivated Paul in going or not going to Jerusalem.

We could spend a lot of time to our profit in discussing what did motivate or move Paul. I think we could sum it up by saying it was his love for the One who had saved him, it was the love of Christ that motivated, compelled Paul (1 Corinthians 5:14).

But what I want to consider is what moves us? What motivates us? What stirs us to action? The pain and suffering Paul knew was coming did not dissuade him from going to Jerusalem. He went and indeed he suffered. But what does it take to motivate, to move you, to stir you to action?

Many years ago a man responded to the invitation one Sunday morning and said he wanted to get things right with God. He was a Christian, but he had not been faithful. Many had talked to this man and prayers on his behalf had gone up to the throne of God. His wife had pleaded. Her example had encouraged. But none of these things moved him. What did move him on that particular Sunday morning?

He had been to the doctor that week, and had learned he needed immediate heart surgery. The surgery was risky. He could lose his life on the operating table. We prayed for him. He survived the surgery and has been a faithful worker for the Lord since that time. But why had he not done so before? He had not been moved, stirred up, motivated to action.

The thought of impending death moved this man. I read in a recent church bulletin of a person who was diagnosed with a terminal condition who came to the church to repent of his sins.

Again, the thought of impending death moved this person. Why had he not done so before? I have seen folks who needed to take action and get things right with God listen to powerful sermons, sit in Bible class, hear emotional admonitions from those who love them and yet not be moved by it. One person I am thinking of went to his grave so unmoved.

I heard of another man who went so unmoved until late in life. At an advanced age he was moved to obey the gospel. As he came up out of the water a new creation, he began to weep. The man who had baptized him asked him why he was crying. The new Christian replied that he was weeping, not for joy of becoming a Christian, but because of waiting so long to do so. “All those wasted years...” was all he could say in response to the question.

What is it you need to do for the Lord today? This week? What will it take to move, to motivate you? Let it be the love of Christ, and nothing else, that moves you.

“The love of God compels us...” (1 Corinthians 5:14).

—Michael D. Greene

News and Notes

J MARTIN was released from VA Hospital last Thursday and continues his recuperation at home. **MICHELLE LAWSON**, daughter- in-law of Richard & Betty Lawson, is in Room 522 at Hardin Memorial Hospital.

MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	Roy Johnson
Alyenne Bates	Tom Morgan
Neil Burden	Marie Rose
Elonda Crafton	Terry Showers
W. C. Davis	Grace Speer
Howard & Millie Gardner	Wilma Stull
Bernard Gillim	Barbara Underwood
Faye Guess	Lonnie Underwood

Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers: Dave Fulbright, Scott Allen, Robert E. Wooten, Justin Gardner, Kelly Leverett, George Edwards, Joe Betterton, Myles Brothers, Dale Martin, Terry Turner, Cameron Ponder, Brett Fleming, Mike Chandler, Nathan Blair

Additional Prayer List: Jan Allen, Delsie Axton, Gil Berry, Christa Bradley, Sue Cantrell, Lindsay Corman, Betty Davis, Martha Dillow, Sydney Dover, Ellen Duvall, Kevin Fox, Sadie Gentry, Betty Goheen, Renee Green, Jane Hack, Louie Hodge, Rose Johnson, Michelle Lawson, Lina Lee, Gayle Massey, Erman McClaskey, Lucinda McCune, Terri McDonald, Phil Noltemeyer, Joe Pawley, Ann Peters, Stephen Pitcock, Charles Pottinger, Patsy & Joe Richter, Roge-Ge-Neal Smith, Florence Stull, Reiko Tarasavage, Patsy Taylor, Juanita Tillery, Andrew Verble, Laura Walker, Kevin Weaver

Thank You

We wanted to thank everyone for the wonderful Sunshine Basket that Jacob received. This touched our hearts to know that we belong to a loving Christian family. Thank you.

*In Christian Love,
Gary & Amanda Gringle*

Area Gospel Meetings, Lectures, Workshops, Ladies Days

Please check the bulletin board for congregations in our area who will be holding special activities in the coming weeks.

Pantry Item of the Week

Week of 9/23/07

Pkgs/Boxes of rice

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **FALL GOSPEL MEETING, September 21-23**, with Mel Futrell, minister of the Shades Mountain Church of Christ in Birmingham, Alabama. *All adult classes, the Jr. High and the Sr. High Bible classes will meet in the auditorium for Sunday morning Bible study this Sunday.*
- **SUPER SAINTS BREAKFAST**, Saturday morning, **September 22**, at 8:00 a.m. at Ryan's. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.
- **YOUTH DEVO**, Saturday night, **September 22**, at the home of Dennis & Peggy Hogan. *(NOTE: This is a change from previous announcements.)*
- **CONGREGATIONAL POTLUCK**, Sunday morning, **September 23**, in the South Wing. CSG #3 will be in charge of set up and CSG #1 will clean up following the meal.
- **SINGING AT ATRIA**, Sunday afternoon, **September 23**, at 3:00 p.m.
- **TEACHER TRAINING SERIES, September 24-25**, at South Green Church of Christ, in Glasgow. Information is posted on the bulletin board. Mike Greene will be one of the speakers.
- **5TH SUNDAY NIGHT SINGING, September 30.**
- **FALL GET-TOGETHER**, Saturday night, **October 27**, at the Muncy home in Bardstown, 6:00 p.m. Bring finger foods and games.
- **LADIES RETREAT, November 9-10**, at White Mills Camp.

OUR RECORD FOR September 16, 2007

Sunday Bible Study	144
Sunday Morning Assembly	201
Sunday Evening Assembly	151
Tuesday Ladies Bible Class	12
Wednesday Bible Study	126
Contribution (Budget -- \$5,885)	\$6,182

**Elder/Coordinator for September
Rick Whobrey**

Bible Question

This Week's Bible Question: Who ran into the tabernacle and grasped the altar in a vain attempt to avoid execution?

Last Week's Bible Question: Whose "habitation" will be a dry, "uninhabited" land that is salty? (Two possible answers) The correct answer could be the man that trusts in man, Jeremiah 17:1 or disobedient Israel, Deuteronomy 29:21-29. Edna Ashlock, Joyce Pack, Bloria Taylor, Mary Greene, Kay Thomason, Mary Walker, Betty Bray, Kay Pack, and Martha Cato correctly answered the question.

Please write down your answer and give it to Ray, put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to rpack119@bbtel.com by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Classes	9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class	10:30 A.M.
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Wednesday

Evening Bible Class	7:00 P.M.
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Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
1211 N. Dixie Ave.
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Church Office: 765-6446
Fax # 737-0491

Elders:

Ron Carter	358-5792
Dennis Hogan	234-0705
Henry McAlister	765-7386
Mike Pence	737-8123
Rick Whobrey	769-9267

Ministers:

Michael D. Greene	862-9971
	cell # 735-6908
Ray Pack	982-3460
	cell # 723-7564

Secretary:

Kim Whobrey	769-9267
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Email: churchofchrist@kvnet.org

Visit us on the World Wide Web:
www.ETOWNCOFC.ORG

Are You Part of the PARTICIPATION

Sept. 21-23 — Fall Gospel Meeting
Sept. 22 — Super Saints Breakfast, Ryan's
Sept. 22 — Youth Devotional, Hogans
Sept. 23 — Congregational Potluck
Sept. 23 — Singing at Atria
Sept. 24-25 — Teacher Training Series
Oct. 27 — Fall Get-together, Muncys
Nov. 9-10 — Ladies Retreat

Week 35
Daily Bible Reading Schedule

1. Job 40-42; 1 Cor. 8
2. Psalms 1-6; 1 Cor. 9:1-23
3. Psalms 7-10; 1 Cor. 9:24-10:13
4. Psalms 11-16; 1 Cor. 10:14-11:1
5. Psalms 17-18:29; 1 Cor. 11:2-34

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
Elizabethtown, KY 42702

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