

The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

Volume XXXII

April 14, 2013

Number 15

SURVIVING THE NIGHTMARE

*"I have had dreams and I have had nightmares. I
overcame the nightmares because of my dreams. (Jonas Salk, MD)*

Dr. Salk is in some very fine company. The dream of the "city of God" enabled Abraham to endure the nightmare of leaving home. The dream of departing and being "with Christ" enabled Paul to endure the nightmare of privation and persecution. And the dream of the "joy that was set before Him" enabled Jesus to endure the nightmare of the cross. And so it is yet today: The dream of tomorrow allows us to overcome the occasional and inevitable nightmare today.

For example many are the congregations who have risen above the nightmare of dissention and division. Congregations who have grown weary of "biting and devouring one another." Congregations who have allowed Christ's dream of peace and productivity to become their dream of peace and productivity. Congregations who work, and work hard, to make the dream a reality; who have learned to "endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bond of peaceful, harmonious relationships. May their tribe increase!

And many are the gospel preachers who have overcome the nightmare of unwarranted ill treatment. Preachers who have fallen victim to the words and actions of fellow preachers who are quick to "pigeon-hole" and ostracize those who do not line up in their camp and become one of their "friends." Preachers who have had to endure the coldness and hurt of being turned away by their brethren when their brethren were most needed - when sick, when struggling, when needing a helping hand. I have never been victim of either, but have wept with those of my acquaintance who have. The impressive thing is that the dreams keep these godly men going. The dream of pleasing God, not men. The dream of contributing to the kingdom. The dream of strengthening their brethren and teaching the lost. The dream of Heaven.

And many are the Christians who have survived and risen above the nightmare of some besetting temptation. Christians who have come to grips with their spiritual "Achilles heel" - perhaps some lust, some passion, some hatred, or some habit. Christians who have determined to allow the dream of a godly life and a sterling influence to become the consuming passion of their lives. Christians who dream of being of greater service to their Lord and to their brethren. Christians who dream of someday "going home."

The examples could be multiplied, with ease, many times over. But the lesson is simple: a valid dream, coupled with meaningful action, will do much to offset the nightmare - any nightmare - your nightmare.

on Truex

BulletinBoard

Sermon
Notes:

AM Lesson - Jack - "Practice of Prayer"
PM Lesson - "Angels"

NEWS AND NOTES: Janet is doing well after her heart attack. Should have a "full" recovery. There is usually some scar tissue, but it shouldn't give her problems. Anna has been out for a couple of weeks with respiratory problems. Others dealing with flu, allergies and an assortment of difficulties. We do have several with serious, long term issues. Laura Claburn, Don Hurd among them. Keep these folks and their families in your prayers and acts of kindness.

We welcome John and Bethany Moon to the church here. They "placed membership" last Sunday, though they have been worshipping with us for a while now. Contact info is: 2016 Main, #1508, Houston, 77002. John: 817-627-5538, moon.john.d@gmail.com; Bethany: 713-443-8710, bethanymoon30@gmail.com Directory update: David Davila new cell: 832-655-5967.

Sad to lose: Kris and Stephanie are moving to Ft. Worth. Probably in a couple of weeks. They will be back a few times dealing with selling their house and other "business" items. It's been a real pleasure having them with us. Hope they come back this way in a couple of years.

Out of town: Robert McDonald in London on business. Barbara in Europe on a trip. Steve and Muffy in Tampa to see their girls. Several others are gone for the weekend.

Assignments for today

Sunday, April 14, 2013

Morning Service

Announcements.....David Gorski
Hymn Director.....Michael Robinson
Scripture Reading.....Heb. 6:1-6
Scripture Reader.....Jim Carithers
Opening Prayer.....Rudy Black
Closing Prayer.....David Gorski

Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Greg Williams
Opening Prayer.....Dan Kimbrough
Closing Prayer.....David Gorski

SILENCE ISN'T ALWAYS GOLDEN

There is an old adage to the effect that "silence is golden." Much has been written - most of it true - concerning the evils of the tongue and the care that should be exercised with reference to our speech. There is probably no subject more frequently discussed in the word of God than this. On the other hand, grievous wrong is often done by saying nothing when something ought to be said.

Another familiar saying is "silence gives consent." Silence is often the refuge of the coward and the compromiser. It is quite often an effective means in perpetuating a vicious lie. Many an individual, who would not think of voicing a vicious falsehood about his neighbor will give consent to and assist in perpetuating such a lie by silence when a word from him could have corrected and stopped the matter. Many permit Satan's lies to triumph over God's truth by their silence at vital moments. Well did Robert Louis Stevenson write: "The cruellest lies are often told in silence."

James Adams

"Every cloud engenders not a storm."

In a cemetery a little white stone marked the grave of a dear little girl. On the stone were chiseled these words: "A child of whom her playmates said, 'It was easier to be good when she was with us.'" It is one of the most beautiful epitaphs ever.

BELLAIRE church of Christ

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Schedule of Services

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible study
5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional
Minister and editor
Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

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