

The Reminder

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



**SUNDAY
JULY 5, 2015**

BELLAIRE

church of Christ

8001 South Rice Ave

P.O. Box 1029

Bellaire, Texas 77402

www.bellairechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY:

9:30 AM Worship

11:00 AM Bible Study

5:00 PM Worship

WEDNESDAY:

7:30 PM Bible Study

“Each Has His Own Burden, His Own Grief”

“When there is famine in the land, pestilence or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers; when their enemies besiege them in the land of their cities; whatever plague or whatever sickness there is; whatever prayer, whatever supplication is made by anyone, or by all Your people Israel, when each one knows his own burden and his own grief, and spreads out his hands to this temple: then hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive, and give to everyone according to all his ways, whose heart You know . . .” (2 Chronicles 6:28-30).

In his prayer at the dedication of the temple, Solomon prayed that God would hear the prayers of each individual who was in need. “When each one knows his own burden and his own grief, and spreads out his hands to this temple: then hear from heaven Your dwelling place, and forgive.” It is certainly true that each person “knows his own burden and his own grief.” To live in this world is to know the pain of struggle and sorrow — there is no way around it. So we can take it for granted that every person we encounter is struggling. We may not know the particulars, but it’s a safe bet that every person we meet is hurting. Each of us has his own burden and his own grief.

And our burdens and griefs really are unique. Unlike happiness, which is often very similar from person to person, sorrow tends to be a more individual thing. Yes, we know that others have suffered in similar ways (many have suffered more than we), but there is still a distinct and undeniable loneliness that comes with our burdens and our griefs. Since our circumstances vary so greatly, there is rarely another human being who understands exactly what we feel. And the longer we live, the more we realize that the unique burden we have to bear is intended for us. No one else should have to bear it. It is ours. And while we must avoid the self-pity and the self-righteousness of the martyr-spirit, it can’t be denied that our suffering is a burden that we alone must bear. As Sir Thomas Fuller put it, “Every heart has its own ache.”

Yet if each of us has his own burden and his own grief, it is also true that our tears are those that God is able to wipe away. He understands our experience completely, and that knowledge ought to be both humbling and comforting: we are humbled to know that He has suffered far more than we, and we are comforted to know that by His suffering He has defeated our enemy.

“Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal” (Thomas Moore).

Gary Henry – WordPoints.com



“The Forgiveness of God”

Morning Lesson

“The Great Chasm”
Steve Garrett

Evening Lesson

Singing

News and Notes:

Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues. Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn and Don Hurd.

Our sympathy to the Cecil family at the passing of Zara's grandmother. She had been suffering for some time, but the end came quickly. Hope they all draw strength from each other.

Several on our "sick list" Sharon Alexander sprained both ankles, so isn't getting around too well. Keep praying for Kim's cousin. She may be a little better, but the condition is draining. Keep Curby and Harold in your prayers for regaining strength. Hope to see Curby soon.

Many out of town this week, some for extended trips. The Kruegers are in southeast Asia. Gomez family is closer to home, but will be out for two weeks. Anita is in Atlanta with family. Many others gone for the holiday weekend. Pray for safe travels.

The Old Testament tells the story of the wickedest king of the Jews who ever lived: a man named Manasseh. According to 2 Kings 21:1-16, King Manasseh was a murderous idolater guilty of all kinds of sin and evil. The Bible says of God's pleas for them to repent, “But they paid no attention, and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than the nations whom the LORD had destroyed before the nation of Israel” (2 Kings 16:9). He even sacrificed his own son's life to a false god!

But then an amazing thing happened. God allowed the Assyrians to capture and imprison King Manasseh because of his refusal to repent. Then Scripture says, “**12** Now when he was in affliction, he implored the LORD his God, and humbled himself greatly before the God of his fathers, **13** and prayed to Him; and He received his entreaty, heard his supplication, and brought him back to Jerusalem into his kingdom. Then Manasseh knew that the LORD *was* God” (2 Chron. 33:12-13). The king then proved his repentance was genuine by reigning in righteousness the rest of his life.

Isn't it wonderful how God was willing to forgive such an evil man when he truly repented? Sometimes the devil uses our guilt against us and convinces us that we are too bad for God to ever forgive. But the story of Manasseh shows us that God will forgive any sinner who truly repents and obeys His will. Can we help you embrace the forgiveness of God today?

Travis L. Quertermous

ASSIGNMENTS

MORNING SERVICE

Announcements - M. Miles
Hymn Director - M. Robinson
Opening Prayer - J. Knapp
Closing Prayer - M. Miles

EVENING SERVICE

Hymn Director - M. Krueger
Opening Prayer - C. Cecil
Closing Prayer - M. Miles

EVANGELIST

Jack Smith
Steve Garrett

ELDERS

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Matt Miles
Mike Pharris
Jack Smith

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

BIBLE CLASSES

- I & II Corinthians
- Identifying, Tearing Down and Removing Idols from Our Hearts.