

News & Notes

Sunday, May 11, 2008

Remember in Prayer: Daryl Alberson; Tommy Alberson; Venetta Alberson; Mary Bailey; Melvin Bennett; Vikie Cobb; Melba Cox; Mary Ann Duke; Lettie Mae Hunt; Charles Johnson; Faith Johnson; Shirley Judge; Dot Ketchum; Sam Kidd; Wayne Kidd; James Luna; John and Deliah Mann; Diane Mize; Willie Mae Needham; Kaylee Northrop; Ann Ray; Jerry Ray; Jonell Rutledge; Katherine Shaw; Chris Spence; Jamie Spence; Calvin Ursery; Alvie Williford;

Pantry item for the month of May is pasta.

We are in need of the **cardboard cylinders** from paper towel rolls and **boxes** for Vacation Bible School projects.

Ashland Events: Today: Elder's meeting at 4:00 PM; Send-off dinner for Tyler Roberson after evening services; May 16: Young adults gathering at 7:00 PM in the dining hall; June 8-11: Vacation Bible School;

Sermon in Preview:

AM: "I Must Be About My Father's Business" (Luke 2:41-50)

PM: Whose Work Are We Doing? (Matthew 12:30)

For the Record (May 4, 2008):

Attendance: 62 Contribution: \$1371.00 Budget: \$1452.00

The Ashland Church of Christ

P. O. Box 25
Ashland, MS 38603-0025
www.ashlandcoc.org
acoc@ashlandcoc.org

Sunday:

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 5:00 PM

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Shepherds:

Barney King
Carrol Street

Romans 11:33

ASHLAND ANNOUNCER

Increasing in the Knowledge of God



It Cannot be Done?

Edgar Guest

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't" but he would be the one
Who wouldn't say no till he tried
So he buckled right in with a trace of a grin —
On his face. If he worried he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done and he did it.
Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;
At least no one has ever done it":
But he took off his hat and he took off his coat,
And the first thing he knew he had begun it.
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,
Without any doubting or quiddit.
He started to sing as he tackled that thing
That couldn't be done and he did it ...

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophesy failure;
There are thousands to point out to, one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin.
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start to sing as you tackle that thing
That "cannot be done" and you will do it.

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

Jay Yeager

Those who undertake the responsibility to publicly proclaim the gospel of Christ are under certain obligations. They are obligated to preach the word in such a way as to meet the approval of God (I Corinthians 4:1-2). That simply means that preachers must proclaim all of God's message without subtraction, addition or modification (Acts 20:26-27; Galatians 1:8-9; II John 9:11; Revelation 22:18-19). They are to preach the word in love (Ephesians 4:15), even when the message may be unwanted and unappreciated (II Timothy 4:3-4). To do less is to abuse the privilege of preaching (I Corinthians 9:16).

The serious challenge facing so many is being in close association with those who refuse to declare the whole counsel of God under the disguise of being too loving. With soft voices and winning smiles these preachers deliberately withhold all that is necessary to reach heaven. Such cowardly actions are the most despicable form of cruelty that one person can inflict upon another, for hell is the final destination of those who remain caught in their web of deceit (II Thessalonians 2:10-12).

Beloved, those who are preaching the whole counsel of God out of genuine love for the souls of men would never be guilty of withholding the truth, for it is truth that will set us free from sin and death (John 8:32). That doors will be closed and friends lost is a sad but accepted part of standing for the truth (John 17:14), and faithful men will not hesitate or be intimidated into anything less (II Corinthians 13:8).

Therefore, faithful preachers who consider it a glorious privilege to preach on the love of God (John 3:16; Romans 5:6-10; I John 4:7-8), will not hesitate to issue a clear warning concerning the wrath of God (Romans 1:18; II Corinthians 5:11; Revelation 19:12-16). For preaching one side of God necessitates preaching the other (Romans 11:22).

To open the Bible and deliver a message about the God-given institution of marriage (Genesis 2:18-24), and the beauty that Godly institution provides for both the husband and the wife (Hebrews 13:4) also enjoins the responsibility to preach the consequences of entering an unscriptural marriage (Matthew 19:9). For as sure as the blessings of God accompany the former (Matthew 19:6), they are withdrawn from the latter (Malachi 2:16).

To preach on the theme of salvation is to begin by showing man's unworthiness (Romans 3:23), then to turn and see the Father of mercies (II Corinthians 1:3) bestow His marvelous grace (Ephesians 2:8) in the person of His Son. ***“But God commended His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us”*** (Romans 5:8). To stop there, however, would be telling only half the story – God's part. There is a part for man to play in the scheme of redemption as well – that of obedience (Hebrews 5:9; Luke 6:46-49; Matthew 7:21-23). Void of which, man forfeits the grandeur of heaven (II Thessalonians 1:8-9). What is man's part?

1. One must hear the word of God (Romans 10:17).
2. Believe the gospel of Jesus Christ (Mark 16:15-16; Romans 1:16).
3. Repent of past sins (Acts 17:30-31).
4. Confess Christ before men (Matthew 10:32-33).
5. Be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).
6. Remain faithful until our time here is no more (Revelation 2:10).

To preach on the church purchased by the blood of Him who is the head over all things to the church which is His body (Acts 20:28; Ephesians 1:22-23; Colossians 1:18), is to preach its exclusiveness (Ephesians 4:4). To preach on the church is to exalt Christ and His authority (Matthew 28:18; Colossians 3:17; James 4:12). Such preaching must then stand opposed to any and all institutions built by man, for their end is one of destruction (Matthew 15:13).

Preaching on the blessings of Christianity stresses the new life (II Corinthians 5:17), a life that looks beyond the present and the material, to ***“that day”*** (I Thessalonians 5:4) and the place prepared for the redeemed (I Corinthians 2:9). However, the danger we face while striving to finish the course cannot remain unspoken, lest we become easy prey for the wicked (Ephesians 6:10-18; I Peter 5:8).

Presenting a lesson on heaven is refreshing and inspiring. It causes the soul to long for the city four-square where all the difficulties experienced in this life will vanish as we rejoice in the presence of God (Revelation 21:1-7; 22:1-5). Yet, there is another lesson on a different place where anguish and despair await (Matthew 25:46). Preaching on one eternal abode is no more necessary than preaching on the other to those who will settle for nothing less than preaching the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:26-27).