

Family Matters

Illness

- Ronnie Ramsey was admitted to Memorial Herman Southwest on Friday. He has been treated for the last month for an infection which has not been defeated. He is now on an IV antibiotic. He said yesterday he hopes to come home on Monday, but doctors are telling him he needs a 30 day treatment. He is unsure if that will all be in the hospital. Keep him in your prayers.
- Verlan Wilson was admitted to the Kingwood hospital ICU on Monday. He came home yesterday. Doctors have not yet determined what caused his problem.
- Bobby Crain's granddaughter Georgia Walter has started medication for her optic nerve swelling and she got good news from doctors.
- The young grandson of the Galvans remains in the hospital, and is doing well.
- Jim Wallis met with a cardiologist on Monday and is moving forward with plans for a pacemaker.
- Billy Scherry continues to recover at home after a heart bypass surgery.
- Todd McAdams is ill.
- Brad Smith and Ronnie Lightfoot are being treated for Leukemia.
- Continue to pray for J.R. Rose-Graham, Barbara Wall, and Victor Studdard as they struggle with health concerns.
- Homebound: Barbara Green, Nelda Clifton, Connie Pagan, Stephen Cooper. Marilyn Willis, Donald Hejl, Doris Smith, and Joyce Burke continue in hospice care facilities.

Today 4PM Worship

Two of our men will preach today. Harper Flores (10:30AM), and Casey Thomas (4PM).

New Caney Church of Christ

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Assembly Times

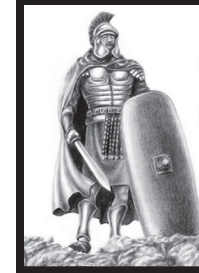
Sundays
 Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays
 Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Retaining The Standard Of Sound Doctrine

Evangelist: Charles Willis
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Know Your Bible: Answers

1. Daniel (7:9)
2. Stephen (Acts 7:55)
3. The train of God's robe (Is. 6:1)
4. Aaron, Nadab, Abihu, and 70 elders (Exodus 24:9-10)



Standing Firm

“Take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm”
 Ephesians 6:13

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Not Worth The Worry

My Two-year-old daughter loves The Lion King, especially the song “Hakuna Matata,” which means “no worries.” Even though that song was at one time very popular, we still live in what is called the “Age of Anxiety.” Apparently, the problem of worry is not unique to our generation or Jesus never would have devoted a large section to this issue in His Sermon on the Mount (Matt. 6:25- 34). And in the Parable of the Sower, He identified “*the worries of the world*” (Mk. 4:19) as thorns that choke out the life of the Word of God.

That’s where we get our word worry. It comes from an Old English term that means “to strangle.” The Greek word paints a picture of a mind torn in two directions, one that is divided and distracted. It seems logical that Jesus would address His concerns for worry after saying that “*no man can serve two masters*” (Matt. 6:24). If you’re occupied with worrying, how can you be working for the Master? Before we are too quick to sympathize with Jesus’ audience, notice that the things we worry about are completely different than what they were worrying about. “*Do not worry, then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’*” These people were anxious about whether they would be able to put food on their tables or clothes on their backs. In other words, what they worried about make our concerns pale into insignificance. And if Jesus had to get on them for worrying about the necessities of life, what do you think He would say to us about the things that distract, and divide our minds?

I offer these suggestions as to why worry is, in fact, not worth the worry:

Worry Sets Our Minds On The World, Not On The Kingdom.

That’s why so much attention is given to the subject in Scripture Jesus introduces this topic in a section on materialism -- serving God vs. serving mammon. This makes an easy transition to talk about worry, because the devil doesn’t care whether your heart is carried away by riches or by anxiety, just so long as it is carried away from God. When Martha was upset about Mary’s listening to Jesus instead of helping her serve, Jesus told her, “*you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary*” (Lk. 10:38-42). Worry distracts us from the one thing we ought to be doing. In all the opinions that seem to be available in life, there are actually only two. Which will you choose?

“*Do not be anxious...but seek first the kingdom of God*” (Matt. 6:25,33,34). If you want assurance of provision, you don’t seek things, you seek God. And upon securing your relationship with Him, making spiritual sustenance your priority, He will provide the daily bread. Upon making the decision to improve

This Week's Assignments & Events

Sunday Worship

Greeter: Ronnie Lightfoot
 Announcements: Brad Smith
 Encouragement Talk: John Van Baale
 Opening Prayer: Josh Emerson
 Scripture Reading: Corwin Richardson
 1 Thessalonians 5:12-15
 Song Leader: Charles Willis
 Table Talk: Jacob McAdams
 Contribution: Eddie Bowen
 Helper: Kyle Crain
 Fruit of Vine: Tyler Blazek
 Helper: Sandon Spyker
 Helper: Joel Jordan
 Closing Prayer: Ryan Haarmann

Sunday Afternoons

Dec 3 4PM Worship
 Dec 10 Parent Planned Youth Devotional
 Dec 17 Nothing
 Dec 24 Nothing

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader: Corwin Richardson
 Speaker: Arturo Orozco

that area of your life, to make the righteousness of God your own, improvement in every area of life is the inevitable result. Don't get that backwards.

Worry Demonstrates A Lack Of Faith In God.

Worrying about food, drink, and clothing are things that the *"Gentiles eagerly seek"* (Matt. 6:32). Jesus calls them *"men of little faith,"* because they were acting like the Lord didn't know or care that they were hungry, thirsty, and in need of clothes. They were in covenant relationship with God but were demonstrating less faith than those who didn't know Him at all.

Consider the sparrows, five of which were sold for two cents. *"And yet not one of them is forgotten before God"* (Lk. 12:6). If the smallest and humblest of God's creatures are given such rich provision, what then, for the pinnacle of His creation, for those who have been made in His image and have become His children through the blood of His Son? And what about the lilies of the field, generally used for kindling? If the God of heaven has tended to the flowers whose life is but a breath and a sigh, will He not clothe with righteousness those whose destiny is eternal life? Surely a God who has given Jesus to satisfy our spiritual needs has sought out ways to provide for our physical ones as well. If He can solve our most basic problem, salvation from sin, we ought to trust Him with any other difficulty that comes our way.

Worry Is Worthless.

Having worried and worried and worried about something, what good does it accomplish? What does it change? It is a useless endeavor. *"Who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life"* (Matt. 6:27)? In fact, worry doesn't lengthen life, it tends to shorten it. Not just in the sense of "worrying yourself sick." But all too often, life is what happens while we're worrying that something else will happen. Our time here is short enough as it is, a *"vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away"* (Jas. 4:14). How much more is that vapor abbreviated when what little time we do have is wasted away with fretful, anxious care?

These passages on worry do not promote idleness, a spirit that says we can just sit back in the recliner and let God take care of everything for us. Other scriptures tell us that we must *"labor, performing with our hands that which is good"* (Eph. 4:28) and that we ought to provide for our own and for our household (1 Tim. 5:8). We need to do what we can. But we do so with the understanding that "God will take care of what we cannot" (Paul Earnhart).

Worrying about tomorrow gives no respect for the troubles of today. And even those really aren't worth the worry.

By Bubba Garner

Know Your Bible

Visions of God

1. Who had a vision of the Ancient of Days seated upon a throne?
2. What did Isaiah see filling the temple when he beheld God sitting on His throne?
3. Who saw a heavenly ladder with the Lord standing above it?
4. Who, along with Moses, saw God during the wilderness wandersing?

Answers On Back

Sunday Sermon

Point your phone camera at the square below, then click on the link to hear the sermon. Recordings will change mid-week.



Consequences Of Sin

by Charles Willis

"The person who sins will die" (Ezekiel 18:20). *"When sin is accomplished, it brings forth death"* (James 1:14–15). Sin can result in physical death, but these passages are speaking of spiritual death, eternal condemnation as a judgment from God. *"You were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, even as the rest"* (Ephesians 1:2–3). If we choose to sin and do not repent and serve God, He has promised eternal death. We are "dead" now because we are choosing eternal death. *"The sins of some men are quite evident, going before them to judgment"* (1 Timothy 5:24). *"Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap"* (Galatians 6:7).

There are also consequences of sin in this life. *"Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves. For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same; for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil"* (Romans 13:1–4). The sin of adultery brings consequences of harming the family. The sins of the tongue are abusive and harmful to others (James 2:9). Drugs and alcohol bring addictions that master us, when we are to master them. *"Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts... sin shall not be master over you"* (Romans 6:12, 14).

"For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:14). Nothing will be left out. There are no secret sins. *"Where can I flee from Your presence"* (Psalm 139:7).

God is called *"the righteous Judge"* (1 Timothy 4:8). There will be no mistakes made at the final judgment. He will condemn the wicked, and save the righteous.

*"For the wages of sin is death,
but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"*
(Romans 6:23).