

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM

Speaker, Robert Emerson

Study Sunday 10:00 AM

Worship Sunday 11:00 AM

Worship Sunday 5:00 PM

Singing every 2nd Sunday evening

Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

Preacher / bulletin editor: Kris Vilander**Phone:** (256) 472-1065; (256) 472-1042**E-mail:** kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org**Website:** www.haysmillchurchofchrist.orgCome study
with us!**Servants during November:****Songleader:** David (4), Chandler (11),
Dwight (18), Stanley (25), Larry (12/2)**Reading:** Chandler**Announcements:** Larry**Communion:** Robert, Marty, Stanley, David**Wednesday Lesson:** Mike (7), Larry (14), Kris
(21), Stanley (28), Mike (12/5)**Lawn Mowing (week beginning):**

On winter vacation...

Singing: Robert and Betty's (25)**Area Meetings:**

The Bible . Examiner

"Examine everything carefully..." - 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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Quietly Great: Phinehas

By Rusty Miller

Who are the great leaders of the children of Israel? We can list them pretty easily, can't we? Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Samuel, David, Hezekiah, Phinehas, Josiah.

Phinehas?

While the others on that list are all well known to us, Phinehas is not; but it is God who proclaims Phinehas a great leader and deliverer of His people. Whenever God commends someone in Scripture, it is important for us to take note.

So who was Phinehas?

Phinehas was the son of Eleazar and grandson of Aaron. He was therefore in the line of Aaronic priests, but it is not in the performance of his priestly duties that Phinehas shines. In the 24th chapter of Numbers, the people of Israel are camped at Shittim, and Moses tells us that they began "to play the harlot with the daughters of

Moab" (v1). There is a great deal involved in that phrase, as it conveys not just that they committed fornication, but also that they worshipped and sacrificed to the idols of Moab, angering Jehovah, who had rescued them from Egyptian bondage and had brought them through the wilderness and to the edge of the promised land.

God commanded the execution of those who had caused them to go astray, and as those executions were being carried out, the leaders of Israel stood weeping at the tent of meeting (v4-6). As the leadership watched, an Israelite named Zimri brought a princess of Moab into his tent. Seeing such a blatantly defiant act of sin, Phinehas grabbed a spear, ran to the man's tent and pierced both the man and the woman through.

At this point, God speaks,

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“Phinehas the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, has turned away My wrath from the sons of Israel in that he was jealous with My jealousy among them, so that I did not destroy the sons of Israel in My jealousy. Therefore say, ‘Behold I give him My covenant of peace; and it shall be for him and his descendants after him a covenant of a perpetual priesthood, because he was jealous for his God and made atonement for the sons of Israel’” (v11-13).

The number of Israelites who died because of this harlotry was 24,000, but it is clear from Num. 25 that it could have been many more if not for the zealousness of Phinehas, and God remembered Phinehas again when he recounted the rebellious nature of the Israelites in the 106th Psalm. In fact, there the actions of Phinehas are said to have been “reckoned to him for righteousness,” Psa 106:31.

What do we learn from the story of Phinehas? Clearly, the message is not that we should take the law into our hands, acting as some kind of avenger for God, even though the story has been unfortunately interpreted that way by some. First, Phinehas was a priest, with some duty to judge and enforce God’s commandments. Second, Zimri was supposed to be a child of God.

“Unless a grain of wheat...”

By Brent Lewis


“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it

Finally, we live under a different system, one that commands us to obey civil authorities, Rom 13:1-7; 1 Pet 2:13-17. So, God is not calling us to take up spears and run sinners through. What then?

What we should take from Phinehas is the great sorrow caused by sin. Phinehas was wounded by this blatant disregard for God’s word, and because he cared so much for that word, he took action. We too, should be hurt when we see God’s word ignored by His people, and we should not be timid in speaking out against any sin. We cannot allow sin to go unchallenged.

Phinehas went on to lead the warriors of Israel against the Midianites (Num 31), to be a judge in the matter of the altar at Gilead (Josh 22), and served to guard the tent of meeting (1 Chron 9:20), so his care for the things of God was not a singular action but a lifetime endeavor. So should ours be.

You and I may never be mentioned among the great leaders of God’s people, but if we are zealous for God’s word, and act against sin, God will take notice, just as He did with Phinehas. And that notice is what we should be striving for.

—via *Abundant Life*, April 2005. 

dies, it bears much fruit,” Jn 12:24.

Jesus was here describing the sacrificial life. He was first of all

predicting His death, made necessary by man’s sins. God prophesied through Isaiah concerning Christ: “Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, And He will divide the booty with the strong; Because He poured out Himself to death...,” Isa 53:12.

It was thus necessary that the grain of wheat should fall into the earth and die—for much fruit to be borne. The church could not have come into existence had this not been so; our redemption could not have taken place. He was made perfect through His suffering and death—for it was necessary “in bringing many sons to glory,” Heb 2:10.

But, Jesus apparently applies the same principle to His followers, for He continued in Jn 12:25: “He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal.”


We, too, must die to bear much fruit. We must become dead to sin. Paul says, “How shall we who died to sin still live in it? ...knowing this,

that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with... Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus,” Rom 6:2,6,11.

Those who would follow Christ must hate their life in this world. Paul was able to say: “But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course...,” Acts 20:24.

All of those who are Christ’s disciples must be of Christ’s disposition: they must be willing to live the sacrificial life. It will be said in heaven about them: “And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death,” Rev 12:11.

We must die unto the world and lose our lives in the Master’s service. To do so is to spring forth unto life Eternal.

—via *With all Boldness*, May, 1967, Vol 1, No 5. 

Remember in Prayer

Polly is doing some better after having suffered a stroke; Buddy’s foot is still in the process of healing.

Anna has tendonitis in her dominant wrist that has been very painful.

Please don’t forget Lois Adams and her brother, Ted; Ruth Black, Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, and Hazel Teeple; as well as Buddy’s friend, Herbert Sides...