

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

*"Every plant, which My heavenly
 Father has not planted, shall be
 rooted up," Matthew 15:13*



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**Servants during November:**

Songleader: Dwight (3), Stanley (10),
 Larry (17), David (24), Peter (12/1)

Reading: Stanley; Robert (Dec)

Announcements: Larry; Marty (Dec)

Table: Marty, David, Peter, Robert;
 Larry, Mike, Lakin, Stanley (Dec)

Wednesday Lesson: Kris (6), Larry (13),
 Stanley (20), Kris (27), Larry (12/4)

Lawn Mowing (week starting): On
 Break...

Singing: The Hamilton's (24),
 17221 Forest Hill Drive

Area Meetings: Underwood
 Heights, Florence (Singing, 23,
 5:00pm); Tri-Cities (12/8-11)

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road
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The Bible . Examiner

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

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Preparing to Die Well

By Gary Kerr

I love to read. I do a lot of reading of all kinds, including things to help me in my work of preaching. However, I also try to set aside some time every day to do some "recreational" reading on a variety of subjects, usually history-related. Several years ago I enjoyed very much reading Robert V. Remini's three-volume biography of Andrew Jackson, our eighth president. The second volume of that set is entitled *The Course of American Freedom, 1822-1832*, and in it I found the following story.

In June, 1832, a massive cholera epidemic hit the United States, having been transported to this country from Europe. It has been estimated that between June 1st and November 1st, some three-thousand people died from this disease, and one of the

hardest hit cities in the U.S. was Washington D.C. Nearing the end of his first term, President Andrew Jackson, already in poor health at age 65, was warned by his family back in Tennessee to get out of Washington and return to the Hermitage, his plantation home near Nashville, to ride out the epidemic. Jackson eventually did return to Tennessee, but not until July. Prior to his departure (June 21st), Jackson wrote a letter to his beloved daughter-in-law, Sarah, to calm her fears for his health. In that letter, he said, in part:

"My Dear Sarah, Knowing that we have to die we ought to live to be prepared to die well, and then, let death come when it may, we will meet it without alarm, and be ready to say, 'The Lord's will be done.'" (Remini, p. 387).

To be honest, this statement took me by surprise. Jackson spent most of his life a skeptic at best, believing most, if not all, organized religions were out to take money from the masses, and were harmful to society. He did claim to accept Christ, on the urging of his wife Rachel, just prior to her death in 1828, and he “professed” religion from then until his death in 1845. However, even his admiring biographer Remini refers to the above statement as “pious fatalism,” the last hope of an old man who desperately missed his wife and wanted some hope that he might be with her again.

Whatever Jackson’s spiritual condition might have been, I believe he expressed poignantly and accurately a Scriptural truth that we all must accept. The author of the book of Hebrews says, “And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,” Heb 9:27. Jackson was right! We all

have to die, and we will all stand before God in judgment. How much calmer, how much more serene, how much more composed could we be approaching our own deaths than knowing that we had “lived well,” and that we were prepared to face that judgment of God and hear Him say, “Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world,” Mt 25:34.

What about you? Are you striving to “live well” so that you can go to Heaven? If not, then you are, in the words of a wonderful old song, “unprepared to meet your God,” and should face the prospect of your own approaching death with alarm! Why not correct that situation while you have opportunity? When you do, you will know what Jackson was talking about, what Paul called that “peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension,” Phil 4:7. 📖

New Testament picture, Eph 2:8-9; Tit 3:5; etc.

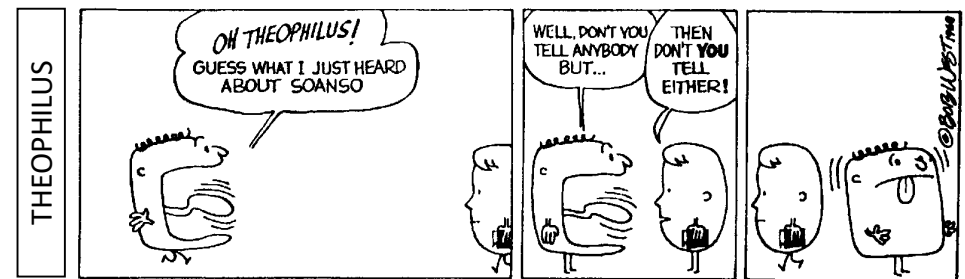
I fear, however, that some folks have an erroneous idea about Jesus saving us **just as we are**. They seem to think that He saves us without any change in our conduct. That is opposite to the New Testament picture.

Jesus’ charge to the apostles was “that repentance for forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all the nations,” Lk 24:47. Forgiveness is extended to those willing to abandon sinful conduct, not to those who insist on continuing in it.

Paul wrote to the Corinthian Christians, “Do not be deceived;

neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor homosexuals, nor thieves, nor the covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers, will inherit the kingdom of God. And such **were** some of you,” 1 Cor 6:9-10. He did not say such are some of you, but such were. They changed their conduct in connection with being washed, sanctified, and justified, v11.

“Just as I am,” if referring to our own helplessness, is a comforting sentiment. But to suggest it means salvation without repentance is to hold out false hope. 📖



Just As I Am

By Frank Himmel

The song “Just As I Am” is perhaps the most commonly used invitation song. The idea in the song is that we cannot make

ourselves right with God on our own; apart from Jesus’ blood we have no hope. That is precisely the

Remember in Prayer

Mike has asked us to pray for Uncle Leo, who is currently in the Athens/Limestone Health Facility.

Remember our sisters, **Ruth Black**

and **Madelene Britnell**, both of which are in nursing homes; and as always, please pray for **Lois Adams, Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, Polly McNatt, and Hazel Teeples**. 📖