

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
Speaker, Robert Emerson
 Study Sunday 10:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
 Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

Preacher / bulletin editor:

Kris Vilander, (256) 472-1065

E-mail: kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org

Website: www.haysmillchurchofchrist.org

*"...and nothing unclean,
 and no one who practices
 abomination and lying,
 shall ever come into it,
 but only those whose
 names are written
 in the Lamb's
 book of life,"*

—Revelation 21:27

**Servants during November/December:**

Songleader: Peter (11/28), Stanley (12/5), Larry (12/12), David (12/19), Peter (12/26)

Reading: Mike M; Larry (Dec)

Announcements: Larry; Stanley (Dec)

Table: Marty, Stanley, Mike B, Peter; David, Marty, Mike B, Mike M (Dec)

Wednesday Lesson: Stanley (11/24), Kris (12/1), Larry (12/8), Stanley (12/15), Kris (12/22), Larry (12/29)

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road
 Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

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

Volume 4

November 28, 2021

Number 30

Plenteous in Mercy

By Bill Hall

In studying the relationship which existed between Jesus and His apostles, we marvel at two facts: (1) the weakness of the apostles, and (2) the patience of Jesus.

The apostles were truly weak and blundering men. Jesus told them again and again of the spiritual nature of His kingdom, but they still looked for an earthly kingdom and childishly argued over which of them would be the greatest. He tried to prepare them for His crucifixion, but they never understood. He performed great miracles before them, but they could still be frightened even when He was in their midst. He often had to say, "O you of little faith."

There was Peter: speaking when he should have been silent, sinking in the sea, asleep when he should have been praying, cutting off Malchus' ear, following afar off,

denying Jesus.

Yet, despite all of Peter's blunders, one can never doubt Peter's love for the Lord, his faith in Him as the Son of God, or his desire to please Him. In response to Jesus' question, "Do you also want to go away?" Peter blurted out, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life," Jn 6:68. Truly words fitly spoken! Peter in his impetuous moments could say the Wrong things, and in his weakness he could sin, but he loved the Lord and was not about to leave Him. He was always willing to accept the Lord's rebukes, and could weep bitterly when he did sin. And so it was with the other apostles.


Lesser men would have despaired, giving up on these weak, frail, stumbling disciples. But not our Lord. He was not so concerned with what they were then as with

what they could become. And through His patience He transformed them into the strongest men this world has ever known. He rebuked and chastened them, but they never questioned His love not doubted that they belonged to Him. They had been given to Him of God, and He had kept every one of them—except Judas, Jn 17:12.

Except Judas! The “son of perdition”! The Lord’s patience had to be cut off toward him, for he had turned his back on the Lord, apostatized, and refused the Lord’s rebuke and chastening. And the Lord gave him up!

Can we not see God’s attitude toward us as we observe Jesus and His apostles? Jesus upon earth was

“God with us,” Mt 1:23, “the image of the invisible God,” Col 1:15, “the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person,” Heb 1:3. The attitude which Jesus demonstrated toward the apostles in their weaknesses is the same attitude which God has toward us in our weaknesses. We must never question His love and patience toward those who live by His teaching, accept His chastening and rebukes, and repenting, constantly seek His forgiveness. And we must never question His ability to transform us (Yes, even me!) into the strong, useful servants He wants us to be. “The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy,” Psa 103:8.

—via **Two Men: Articles on Practical Christian Living**, pp101,102 

precious stones, gates of pearl, a crystal clear river flowing from the throne of God.


Heaven means home—happiness is not found in our material surroundings, but in being with those we love. We experience homesickness, but our homesickness is not for a house or anything material, but for wife and children, for loved ones. Similarly, we speak of the beauty of heaven, and truly its beauty enhances our anticipation, but surely the greatest joy will be found in being with our Lord, the One “whom having not seen [we] love,” and with our God, with the Spirit, with the angels, and with the redeemed of all ages. This will be our eternal homecoming.

Heaven means happiness—there will be nothing there to mar our happiness. There will be no more tears, no more sickness, no more heartache, no more death, “nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away,” Rev 21:4.

Heaven means holiness—never

again will we hear the name of our Lord taken in vain. There will be no more adultery, filth, guilt, murder, crime. Truth will abound. There will be no more lying, deceit, flattery, hypocrisy. Women will no longer have to fear those who would abuse and desecrate them. Love will be pure and unfeigned. The Lord assures us, “But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life,” Rev 21:27.

Heaven means eternity—this blessed state shall never end. “When we’ve been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we first begun” (Joseph Scriven). You can quit if you so choose, for God will not force anyone to serve Him. But, remember, the day you quit is the day you forfeit all hope of eternal happiness and choose in its place eternal damnation. And eternity is a long time.

—via **Two Men: Articles on Practical Christian Living**, pp102,103 

Thinking of Quitting?

By Bill Hall

No doubt, someone will read this article who is discouraged, weary of struggling, disappointed in his brethren, facing severe obstacles in his service to the Lord, and is in danger of quitting. But I would make this appeal: “Before you quit, look anew at the incentives the Lord holds before you; look again at heaven.”

Heaven means victory—victory in the strife with Satan and his allies. The battle is sometimes hard; the foe

is formidable. Our own strength seems so small. We become discouraged. But lift our eyes! On our side is the Lord, the One who has already won the battle, Gen 3:15. With His aid we can be victorious. We can be “more than conquerors through Him who loved us,” Rom 8:37.

Heaven means beauty—unsurpassed beauty—a street of gold, walls of jasper, a foundation of

Remember in Prayer

Cindy’s husband, Dwight, is undergoing tests for pain following his colon surgery, earlier. **Alice and her daughter-in-law, Michelle**, both have Covid, but without major issues at this point. The **Emerson’s niece, Renée**, is at Vanderbilt with multiple health issues. **Becky’s brother-in-law, Travis**,

and **Betty’s Cousin, Sue**, have both passed away. **Robert** is feeling better this week, but **Buddy, Pam, and Dwight** have continuing health issues. **Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis**, and **Tim and Dot Hice**, and **Joyce Smith** all need our prayers and expressions of love as well. 