

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:

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“Faithful are the
wounds of a friend,
but deceitful are the
kisses of an enemy.”

— Proverbs 27:6

**Servants during January:**

Songleader: Larry (1), Peter (8), Stanley (5),
Larry (22), Peter (29)

Reading: Mike M

Announcements: Larry

Table: Stanley, Marty, Mike B, Peter

Wednesday Lesson: Kris (4),

Larry (11), Stanley (18), Kris
(25)

Meetings: South Cullman, Jan

13-15, 3pm, Reagan
McClenny

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road
Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

“Examine everything carefully...” —1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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The Truth Sometimes Hurts

by Jonathan Perz


How much do you appreciate the truth? The truth is easy to hear when it is flattering, encouraging, and uplifting. However, the truth can sometimes hurt. Do you always desire the truth from those around you, regardless of whether it is favorable or not? Do you always demand the truth from those who preach and teach the gospel of Christ?

The truth pleased the rich young ruler until Jesus told him the one thing he lacked, Mk 10:17-22. Some would call such a declaration of truth unloving, but the Spirit called it love (note verse 21). How do we feel when someone courageously and honestly points out our shortcomings, Prov 27:6?

Some of the Jews who heard Peter on Pentecost appreciated the truth, though it indicted them. They chose repentance and baptism, Acts 2:36-40. Whereas those Jews who heard Stephen speak that same truth hated what was spoken. They responded by stoning Stephen to death, Acts 7:54-60. How do we respond to the truth?

The Galatians loved the apostle Paul—so much that at one point they were willing to pluck out their own eyes and give them to Paul. However, in the very next verse, Paul was compelled to ask if he had become their enemy because he told them the truth, Gal 4:14-16. Do we despise those who tell us what we need to hear?

Simply stated, unless we have a love of the truth, we will never appreciate the truths that hurt, 2 Thess 2:10-12. Unless we are willing to accept painful truths, we cannot know the sanctifying power of truth, Jn 17:17. Unless we obey the truth, we will be condemned, Rom. 2:8.

How much do you appreciate truth? The answer is painfully obvious when we are confronted with agonizing truths that require change in our lives. Change hurts, but the truth saves. How will you respond the next time you are confronted with the truth? 

The Christian is led by the Spirit through the scriptures: the word of God, Psa 119:105; 2 Tim 3: 16,17; Eph 3:3,4. He does not have some inner voice, separate from the scriptures, that somehow guides him into infallible conclusions in relation to truth and right. Nor is there anything in the scriptures that suggests that God's providence somehow works through the indwelling of the Spirit. Consequently, one makes a serious mistake if he interprets his feelings or subjective thinking as some kind of message provided by the indwelling Spirit.

and death his recognition of this close relationship sustains him and helps him to become triumphant in Christ. The apostles never felt the need to explain how this indwelling takes place. Pentecostalism and other misconceptions concerning the Holy Spirit force the Christian of this generation to be concerned with this problem. If, however, statements concerning the indwelling of the Spirit become primarily to him a problem to be wrestled with; if his obsession with the "how" of the Spirit's indwelling blinds him to the "fact" of that indwelling, he makes a serious mistake and may fail to find the joy and consolation that should be gained through the Lord's promise.


The Indwelling of the Spirit

by Bill Hall

Few people would question the fact that the Holy Spirit in some way dwells within the Christian. Paul wrote to the saints in Corinth: "...do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you...?" 1 Cor 6:19. He further wrote, "...if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him," Rom 8:9. There is considerable disagreement, however, as to how the Spirit dwells within a Christian. It is not our aim in this short article to deal with that issue, but we do want to suggest three facts that must be remembered as one studies the question.

The age of miracles is past. The only people in the gospel age who ever performed miracles were those who either received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-46; or received spiritual gifts through the laying on of the apostles' hands, Acts 8:5-23; 19:1-7. No one receives either of these today. The purpose of the miracles was to reveal and confirm truth, 1 Cor 2:7-13; Mk 16:19,20. Since all truth has been revealed, Jn 16:13 there is no further need for miracles. One's conclusion, therefore, concerning the indwelling of the Spirit must be compatible with this fact.

Statements concerning the indwelling of the Spirit were not placed in the scriptures as problems to be wrestled with. They were placed there for one's assurance and consolation. A Christian sustains a very close fellowship with deity—so close that it can be said that he dwells in deity and deity dwells in him. In persecution, trials, temptations,

Differences will continue to exist, but a constant remembrance of these three facts should protect any one of us from dangerous conclusions in relation to this question. 

Remember in Prayer

Things are much the same as they have been; **Joyce** continues to wrestle with her cancer. **Hazel's son-in-law, Shane Reed**, is still dealing with Leukemia. The

Beddingfield's and the **Emerson's** are both struggling with various health issues. Please continue to pray for **Carolyn Dennis** and **Dot Hice**. 