### **Schedule of Meeting Times:**

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM Study Sunday 10:00 AM

Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM Singing every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday evening

Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

### Preacher / bulletin editor:

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"...Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you,"

—1 Peter 5:6,7

#### Servants during April:

Songleader: Dwight (6), Stanley (13), Larry (20), Dwight (27)

Reading: Stanley; Mike
Announcements: Stanley
Table: Larry, Marty, Mike M

Wednesday Lesson: Kris (2), Larry (9), Stanley (16), Kris (23), Larry (30) Lawn Mowing (week starting): Larry (6), Kris (13), Marty (20), Stanley (27)

Area Meetings:

Market Street, 6-9, Don Miller; Eastside (Russellville), 13-16, Joe Greer; New Georgia, 20-23, David Maxson

### **Hays Mill church of Christ**

21705 Hays Mill Road Elkmont, AL 35620

# The Bible o "Examine everything carefully..." 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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## God Knows, Not I

By Robert F. Turner

- ★ God knows, not I, the devious ways wherein my faltering feet may tread; Before, into the light of day, my steps from out this gloom are led. But since my Lord the path doth see, What matter if 'tis hid from me?
- God knows, not I, how sweet accord shall grow at length from out this clash of earthly discord, that jar on soul and sense. I hear the crash, But feel I know that on His ear fall harmony, full, deep, and clear.
- His perfect plan I may not grasp, but I can trust love infinite, and with my feeble fingers clasp the hand that leads me into light. My soul upon His errand goes—the end I know not, But God knows.

The above, author unknown, was sent to me as part of a wonderful letter of encouragement, and expression of faith in God's eternal purposes.

We do not hold to a fatalistic concept of destiny; and certainly not to individual predestination, that would deny and destroy free will and initiative. But we believe our Creator had ultimate ends in mind when He brought us into existence; and the eternal purposes of God, revealed in His Son, and the Word of His power, are given us as guide lines and "light to our path."

For a happy and useful life here, and to be partakers in the glory that shall be; we must recognize our dependence upon God, and seek to live in keeping with His instructions. He alone sees the end of what often seems purposeless to us. "We walk by faith, not by sight," 2 Cor 5:7.

How essential then that we learn God's will; that we prayerfully study His word, and obey His commandments. And when we have done this, and continue to do this, should we not walk with confidence?

If we are sincerely striving to know God's way, and follow it, to question or doubt the outcome is to show a lack of faith in our Guide. We must "be not anxious" for the morrow, Mt 6:24-34. Oh, ye of little faith!

God rules in the affairs of men; God knows our needs; God cares; God gives, Mt 7:7ff. So live that when thy summons comes—you may quit the walks of men with a genuine and wellfounded hope for heaven.

—via Plain Talk, v5n3, May 1968 🕮

## Two Dads are Just Fine?

By Mark Stinnett

The statement was displayed on a 'digital' marquee in front of a local church building. I had to slow down and look again wondering if I had read it correctly at first. (You might want to sit down for this one.) The digital message came across in two parts:

"Jesus had two dads..."

"And He turned out fine."

What were they thinking!? What were they trying to say!? Were they implying that Jesus was brought up in the environment of a same-sex marriage!?

I paused and wondered if I had overreacted or misunderstood at first. I began thinking of plausible explanations for making such a statement.

There were none.

The fact that we are currently living in a social and religious climate of tolerance toward homosexuality and same-sex marriage cannot be overlooked. Had the message been

posted at another time, perhaps it would have suggested something else, but that is not the case.

So, I wondered whether or not the person posting the message intended for it to be understood in the context of same-sex marriage, or if perhaps he/she was simply trying to wake people up, initiate dialogue, or use sarcasm. Though trying to give the author the benefit of the doubt, I could not think of any reason that a person would post such a message. My conclusion was that the author was, at best, naïve or, at worst, foolish or insensitive.

I checked in with my teenage daughters: "What!? That's terrible!" and "Are you kidding me!?" were their replies. My wife made a similar reply; so also a couple of friends. They all, like me, understood the message to promote tolerance for same-sex marriage.

Without a broader context the statement is sure to be understood in light of the current social and religious climate of tolerance. So, within this context, what does the 'two dads' statement imply?

- 1. Jesus grew up in a home with 'two dads.'
- 2. 'Two dads' implies a samesex marriage.
- Growing up in a home with 'two dads' has no adverse effect on kids. So, same-sex marriage is OK.
- Kids brought up in a home with a same-sex marriage might even turn out like Jesus.

Do you see the gross errors in the conclusion of the original statement? Even those who are tolerant of samesex marriages should see the idiocy in the lack of reasoning. Consider:

- 1. God and Joseph, the implied 'two dads,' were not married.
- 2. God and Joseph were not even of the same nature.

- (God is spirit; Joseph, humanity.)
- 3. Joseph was married to a woman, Mary.
- 4. God was not married.
- Children who have 'turned out fine' do not indicate 'fine parents.' Some 'turn out fine' in spite of circumstances.

Christians, there are many statements being written and spoken on the issue of same-sex marriage and homosexual relationships. Guard vourself from foolish statements like this one that pervert the truth and pull God down to the level of sinful man. Do not be naïve about gross misapplications of biblical truth by words that are cleverly pieced together in order to suggest contrived conclusions. dads' The ʻtwo statement is misleading, to say the least. Not only do such statements fly in the face of common sense, they can draw you away from Jesus.

—via **Ron Halbrook's newsletter**, 12/31/18 ☑

### » Remember in Prayer «

Mike B is back in the HH ICU on a ventilator. Betty was in Athens hospital for three days last week due to sugar issues apparently caused by her medication. Pam McNatt continues with her chemotherapy.

Please continue to pray for Barbara; Betty; Carolyn; Deborah and Serenity; Hazel; Joshua V and family; Kathy M; Pam B, Julie, Kaylee and Violet; Mark and Vickie Horton; and John, Sylvia, and Paige Pollard.

The way to worry about nothing is to pray about everything. (cf Philippians 4:6; 1 Peter 5:6,7)