

Hebrews, Faith, & Martyrs

By Dan Jenkins

The writer of Hebrews could so easily see the dangers faced by those Jewish Christians. The nation that killed God's Son turned its wrath on the church almost from the day it began. Jesus had warned them about the trials that were coming. Obviously, they persecuted those Gentiles who had become followers of Jesus, but their persecution was even more fierce on the Christians addressed in this epistle.

They had begun their walk with Jesus and faced many trials which came their way. Hebrews chapter ten describes this: "After you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings...you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations." The author then adds, "You became a companion of those who were so treated" (10:32-33).

How did they emotionally respond to all of this? "You joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods" (10:34). Earthly possessions are meaningless when viewed from the eternal truth about our existence. They could so easily give up that which was temporal. "Knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven."

Living faithfully on this earth for many years is so difficult. We understand the faith of those who are martyrs for the cause of Christ. At that last moment they reached deep within their souls and their faith sustained. What we may have done is overlooked the depth of the faith of those who face not a momentary trial, but serve Him for years and years. We rightly honor the faith of martyrs, but perhaps it takes a deeper faith to serve Him for years and years.

When this letter was written their devotion was weakening. Look again at this chapter and the admonition given to them. "Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God you may receive the promise...if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in Him" (10:35-38).

Now make the application in your life. How long have you been a Christian? Where is your faith in Him compared to what it once was? Remember how joyfully you served Him at first? Remember your routine of daily Bible study and prayer? Remember the joy of partaking of the Lord's Supper and being part of worship, praising His name? Is it possible that we have become "tired" because the journey seems so long? It is not that we have walked away from Him, but have we lifted our a life on this earth as being only a moment compared to eternity!

Things you should know about...

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. Our last contribution was \$1,050.00. If you want to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason.

The next donation will be sent after the end of March.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jonathan Rohr 3/12

Brennan Arrell 3/19

Josiah Rohr 3/12

Doug Seiber 3/26

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Ladies Bible Study ~ The God of All Comfort

THIS Thursday, March 9th @ 6:45pm

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March 12th is Daylight Savings Time

Adjust your clocks this weekend!

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Wednesday, March 15th @ 5:30pm

Soup & Sandwich Supper before Bible Study

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Family & Friends Day April 2nd

Speaker: Dr. Richard Melson, from the Needmore Church of Christ
Invite your family and friends to enjoy the teachings on The Family of God.

We will also have our potluck and our annual egg hunt and am services.

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Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

Sunday Rotation	March 5, 2023 AM	March 5, 2023 PM	March 12, 2023 AM
Greeter	Tom Muter	Rick Ferris	Jerry Thompson
Announcements	Jerry Thompson	Owen Whittington	Tim Bang
Song Leading	Owen Whittington	Duane Kemp	Duane Kemp
Opening Prayer/Usher Left	Seth Arrell	Owen Whittington	Tim Bang
Lord's Supper Comments	Duane Kemp	Jerry Thompson	Tom Muter
Scripture Reading	Tom Muter	Jason Bang	Owen Whittington
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher Right	Tim Bang	Tom Muter	Seth Arrell

This week's Bible Verse

“No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgement You shall condemn. That is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness in from Me,’ says the Lord.” Isaiah 57:14

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Lord's Supper Reflection

So That We Might Be Made Righteous

“Therefore, as through one man’s offense *judgment came* to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man’s righteous act *the free gift came* to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.” Rom 5:18-19

Offering Meditation

Your Gift to God is a Sacrifice. The Amount is Not as Important

“And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury, and He saw also a certain poor widow putting in two mites. So He said, “Truly I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all; for all these out of their abundance have put in offerings for God, but she out of her poverty put in all the livelihood that she had.” Luke 21:1-4

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Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders
- *Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - Parkinson’s
- *Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson’s dad) - health
- *Sally Westover (Carrie Thompson’s mom) - health
- *Carter Buckingham - for continued strength to be regained after his back surgery
- *Maxine Jones (Laura McGiffin’s mom) - having issues with her vision
- *Debby Braefield (Alena Brown’s Aunt) - health
- *Caroline Stine - upcoming tests

- *Phil Garber (friend of Tim Bang) - having valve replacement surgery
- *Josiah (Alena Brown’s brother) - having heart issues
- *Evelyn Lam - sick
- *Chelsea Duebner (friend of Stephanie Bang) - is pregnant and the baby has an enlarged liver
- *Josh Rush (Marjorie Seiber’s nephew) - having tremors and surgery for them
- *Jerry Bollenbaucher (Tom Muter’s Uncle) - he and his wife are recovering from COVID.

How can we be praying for YOU?

Please call or email John (jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you have for the congregation.

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Attendance and Contribution Record

Sunday, February 26	Wednesday, March 1
Bible Classes 29	Bible Classes 30
AM Attendance 32	
PM Attendance 30	Contribution \$1,022.50

Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



March 5, 2023

Worship Times:

- Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am
- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children’s Home Bradford Rd
Greenville, OH 45331

www.greenvillecoc.org

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us today!
If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor’s card and let us get to know you.