

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sunday

Bible Class 9:45am
Morning Assembly 10:35am
Evening Assembly 6:00pm

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00pm

RADIO PROGRAM

The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00-9:30a.m.
KURM 790AM

Downtown Church of Christ

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“The term ‘church’
is so yesterday.”

CLASS SCHEDULE

Today
All Classes
Num 22-23

Next Sunday
All Classes
Num 24-25

This info is provided
to help everyone stay
in synch during our
three-year study thru
the Bible (Sunday AM).



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST
ROGERS, ARKANSAS

Contending earnestly for the faith since 1866

March 4, 2018

FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER LIST –

Preachers we support: Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, U.S.
The sick: Mary Lou Lewis, Shirley Cole, Kathy Fletcher, Sylvia & Arvis Tatom,
Margaret Abel, Sandra Walsh, Richard Wike, Diane Willis and Nellie Shell
Shut-ins: Betty Jo Young and Helen Weiser

SINGING AND ELDERS' REPORT: Our monthly singing and elders' report is scheduled for this evening at 6. Be here if you can!

SENTENCE SERMON: Whether you are the pigeon or the statue, God's Word can tell you how to deal with it.

Taters and Butter Religion

In our health-conscious society we are very aware of the importance of a strong heart, and the consequent duty we have to eat right and exercise. And, while one can hardly argue the importance of such things, most of us go through life with an easy disregard for our health — ‘Amen, pass the taters and butter, please!’.

And, the same could be said of our spiritual heart. We know the importance of guarding our heart (Pr 4:23) — that it is the source of all we do or say (Mt 15:19-20). And, we know that one day we will be

judged based on the condition of our heart (Ro 2:5).

Yet in spite of this, we may go through life with a casual disregard for our spiritual heart. Lulled into a Pharisaic life of lip-service and outward show, we may ‘go to church’ (at least enough to fulfill our ‘duty’ to God), and we may smile at our brethren (at least enough to convince them of our ‘love’); but, our hearts may well be far from God **and** our brethren. Such a religion is mere ‘taters and butter’, and will cost many their souls.

- *WKing*

Through Ancient Eyes

When examining scriptural hymns, *Nearer, My God to Thee* is a beautiful description of God's faithfulness to His promises. Originally, Sarah Adams wrote the hymn in 1840 with five verses depicting the story and implications of Jacob dream in Genesis 28:11-12.

The first verse begins with the cross of Jesus, the fulfillment of Jacob's dream, and our only means of drawing nearer to God. The second verse, also in our hymnal, looks back to the Genesis scene. Jacob, after fleeing his brother in a dark place in his life, is found sleeping with nothing but a rock.

Continuing, verse three, "*There let the way appear, steps unto heav'n; All that Thou sendest me, in mercy giv'n; Angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to thee.*" Yet, in darkness Jacob can see

what is to come, a way to heaven, a peace and harmony to come. Thusly in resolve, verse four picks up, "*Then with my waking thoughts bright with Thy praise, out of my stony grits Bethel I'll raise; So by my woes to be Nearer, my God, to Thee.*" Though the way is a path of bearing the cross, the end brightens the moment with vigor to act.

The last verse, "*Or, if on joyful wing, cleaving the sky, sun, moon and stars forgot, upward I fly; Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to Thee!*" **This hymn encourages us to look forward to the day when we fully will be, Nearest to Thee our God!**

-JVenuso



Another Perspective

Are YOU Heaven Bound?

It matters not what else you may do in life, if you miss heaven you have been totally unsuccessful. You might gather about you great riches and fame, and leave thousands of friends to mourn your departing; but, if you are not ready for heaven, you have been a miserable failure.

On the other hand, you may die in a charity home for the poor and be buried in a potter's field without a single friend to mourn your death; but, if you go to heaven, your life will have been a marvelous success.

You cannot afford to miss heaven, because if you miss it, you have missed everything that matters. It is a place of eternal rest (He 4:9-11) where pain, sickness, and death will not be known (Re 21:4). It is an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and it will not fade away (1 Pe 1:4). It is that city built by the living God (He 11:10).

You do not have to miss heaven. Humbly submit yourself to the will of God (Mt 7:21). Be forgiven by the blood of Jesus (1 Pe 1:18-19). Let His word guide you (2 Ti 3:15) and let no one beguile you of your reward (Col 2:18). Overcome temptations (Ja 1:12) and suffer for His cause with rejoicing (Mt 5:11-12). If you do these things, heaven will be yours someday, for the God of heaven — who cannot lie — has promised it.

- David J. Riggs (edited)

