

“The Preacher Hasn’t Called On Me Lately!”

~ Selected

Sometimes we hear someone say, “Our preacher never stops to visit in our home.” If this is true, you probably have much for which to be thankful to the Lord. It usually means that death has not struck; that no serious illnesses have laid low members of your family; that you are not a shut-in; or you have not had to go under the surgeon’s knife; or that you have no serious family problems to solve; or that you are not a spiritual delinquent.

As a rule, preachers do not get to make many “social calls,” for they do not have the time. They would enjoy doing so, as much as you would like to have them, but there simply are not enough hours in the day.

But be sure of this - the preacher is willing to come at any hour of the day or night that you call him for help.

Thank God you have not needed him. Some day you will, and he will be there.

Comments from Wayne Goff ~

I realize that some of our younger members may not remember the time when the local preacher paid visits to the homes of members, often unannounced! But as we have become more socially distant in the last few decades, this practice has almost disappeared. However, I have always been willing to go to homes to conduct a Bible study, go to the hospital to sit with loved ones while they are undergoing surgery, pray with brethren day or night on the phone, in the hospital, or in person. There is much done with loved ones when death has invaded the family. Covid-19 has *drastically* changed our ability to visit in the hospital or sit with someone there, but in the past I always did that — **not as the preacher, but as a concerned brother in Christ**. Just the same, people *expect* the preacher to be there. I think it is a denominational “pastor” concept because the Scriptures have the following to say about the subject: *“Is anyone among you sick? **Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven**” (James 5:14–15).*

It used to be said of preachers: **“They are there to hatch, match, and dispatch!”** (present at births, weddings, funerals). But even that has gone by the wayside in most places due to the secularization of all of the above. Just the same, if you have **a spiritual need**, and I can be of assistance, **just ask**.

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