

# University Heights Messenger

Volume 3--Number 17

October 9, 2011

## GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

- Hear the gospel (Romans 10:17)
- Believe Jesus is the Christ (John 3:16)
- Repent from sins (Luke 13:3)
- Confess faith in Jesus (Romans 10:19)
- Be baptized for remission of sins (Acts 2:38)
- Live worthy of the calling (Ephesians 4:1)

## IN NEED OF PRAYERS

### Recent Additions:

**Wayde Miller** will meet with another surgeon soon. Shoulder surgery seems to be inevitable at this point.

**Taylor Osterling** is recovering from further surgery that he had last Thursday.

### Standing List:

**Our members:** Jeff Howerton, Glenn Kimberlin

**Others:** Edith Tirey, Glen Davis, Charlene Antle, Lala Whitson, Tom Curtis, Rita Pagan, Robin Miller, Vina Krassow, Courtney and Aubrey Reeves, John Bennett, Dennis Brennan, Robert and Sarah Brundige, Donald Dawson, Jean Gartland, Gail Stein

**Reminder:** If you wish to have someone added to the prayer list please submit his or her name and condition to me *in writing*. Thanks.

<p><b><u>WEEKLY READING</u></b>  <b>Sun:</b> Prov 7-8, Ps 66, Jn 6  <b>Mon:</b> Prov 9-10, Ps 67, Jn 7  <b>Tue:</b> Prov 11-12, Ps 68:1-18, Jn 8  <b>Wed:</b> Prov 13-14, Ps 68:19-36, Jn 9  <b>Thu:</b> Prov 15-16, Ps 69:1-18, Jn 10  <b>Fri:</b> Prov 17-18, Ps 69:19-36, Jn 11  <b>Sat:</b> Prov 19-20, Ps 70, Jn 12</p>	<p><b><u>LEADERSHIP</u></b></p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b><u>ELDERS</u></b></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><b><u>DEACONS</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Garry Banks</td> <td>Troy Antle</td> </tr> <tr> <td>David Collins</td> <td>Richard Brundige</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John Thompson</td> <td>Neal Erickson</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Adam Litmer</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b><u>EVANGELIST</u></b></td> <td>Bill Morelan</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adam Litmer</td> <td>Jim Parsons</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Pat Seabolt</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Matt Thompson</td> </tr> </table>	<b><u>ELDERS</u></b>	<b><u>DEACONS</u></b>	Garry Banks	Troy Antle	David Collins	Richard Brundige	John Thompson	Neal Erickson		Adam Litmer	<b><u>EVANGELIST</u></b>	Bill Morelan	Adam Litmer	Jim Parsons		Pat Seabolt		Matt Thompson	<p><b><u>SERVICES</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Sunday</u></b>  Bible Study: 9:45 AM  Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM</p> <p><b><u>Wednesday</u></b>  Bible Study: 7:30 PM</p> <p><b><u>1st Fri. of Month</u></b>  Singing: 7:30 PM</p> <p><b><u>3rd Fri. of Month</u></b>  Bible Study: 7:00 PM  (Ask for location)</p>
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## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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### **There's A Lesson Here...**

In about 606 or 607 BC Babylon began its conquest of Judah. About 20 years later, in 586 BC, Jerusalem fell and the Babylonian captivity of God's people was well underway. Most of the Jews, no doubt, experienced intense fear and sadness over their own personal plight. Some, however, must have felt grief and anguish over the loss of the city itself. One of this group, probably Jeremiah, was inspired to write about the distress and heartache he felt regarding the downfall of Jerusalem and what it communicated to the world about the damaged relationship between God and His people. As he lamented over the fall of that great city he wrote of the reproach God's people brought upon themselves because of their prolonged disobedience to Him.

*“Jerusalem sinned grievously, therefore she became filthy; all who honored her despise her, for they have seen her nakedness; she herself groans and turns her face away.”* (Lam 1:8) *“All who pass along the way clap their hands at you [Jerusalem]; they hiss and wag their heads at the daughter of Jerusalem: is this the city that was called the perfection of beauty; the joy of all the earth?”* (Lam 2:15) *“Jerusalem has become a filthy thing among them.”* (Lam 1:17) *“All your enemies rail against you; they hiss, the gnash their teeth, they cry, ‘We have swallowed her! Ah, this is the day we longed for; now we have it; we see it!’”* (Lam 2:16)

Reproach means to speak ill of; to find fault with; to upbraid; to discredit; to mock; to ridicule; to be ecstatic when the object of one's hatred has been brought down. In the above passages of scripture it is obvious that God's people had caused the very reproach they were experiencing from those around them. *“Jerusalem sinned grievously, therefore she became filthy; all who honored her*

**Who Will You Tell  
About Christ This  
Week?  
John 1:41**

*despise her.*” How those from whom God had wanted His people to remain separated must have gloated when they saw the Israelites being just as filthy as they were. They were looking for, longing for such a day, and when that day came, they, with a great shout of satisfaction, proclaimed, *“We have swallowed her! Now we have it.”*

The lesson here is that Christians can so live as to bring reproach upon the church and the cause of Christ. Jesus clearly says that the world is not our friend. *“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”* (John 15:18-19) Romans 12:2 says, *“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”* James 1:27 echoes the same caution: *“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.”*

What it comes down to is this: If the world loves us, if we live in such a way that the world considers us as its own, then we are bringing reproach upon ourselves, the church, and even Jesus Himself. If we conform ourselves to the world, i.e. if we dress like the world, talk like the world, give priority to the things of the world, think like the world, then we are bringing reproach upon the things of God. If we fail to keep ourselves unspotted from the world, then we cause those of the world to hiss at us and gnash their teeth as they say to themselves, *“We have swallowed her! Ah, this is the day we have longed for.”*

The Elders

### **A Morning Prayer**

Father, help my love for brethren grow with each new day.

Let that love reflect and shine in every word I say.

Grant that I might serve a need as I become aware,  
of a dear saint who bears a load they desperately must share.

Father, increase my willingness to hear disagreement or complaint.

Grant me now the humility to accept correction from the saints.

Remove pride and arrogance from deep in my heart within.

Never let me be wise to self for that would be a sin.

Father, increase my awareness of fellow laborers in the Lord.

Let us grow and be joined as one by mercy’s abiding cord.

A son of encouragement I would be, please help me in my quest,  
to lift a brother from the muck, help a sister to find rest.

Father, faithful in all to Your Word is my longing in this life.

Help me within my home to lead my children and my wife.

Never let me falter from clinging firmly unto Your will,  
but holding on with both hands in times of turbulence or still.

Father, forgive the mistakes that I have made and likely will again.

Help me to consider what I am now in light of what I’ve been.

Let gratitude grip my heart and loyalty my ways,  
and let me be reliable all throughout my days.

My very soul belongs to you, my salvation in Your grasp,

so plant my feet by streams of joy, enduring to the last.

My thoughts rise above the earth and to the heavens soar,  
for I cannot wait to see what my dear Father has in store!

AL

### **A Passage To Consider**

*“Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.”* Jude 24-25

Let us stand in awe of His glory, in praise before His majesty, in humility before His dominion, and in obedience to His authority. Let us grasp the great joy that is ours and let it kindle the flame to our light before the world. Let gratitude spur our hearts on to greater praise and honor. Our boast is the Lord!

### **Today’s Sermon Topics**

AM: The Prodigal Son--2

PM: The Rich Man and Lazarus--2

### **Today’s Scripture Readings**

AM: Matthew 10:1-2:

PM: Matthew 10:24-4: