



# THE MESSENGER

## NOVEMBER 19, 2023

### NEWS AND NOTES

#### Congregational Meeting

December 10

#### Our Next Gospel Meeting

March 3-8, 2024

#### Weekly Bible Studies

Thursday at 2 on Zoom

#### Times of Service

##### Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

##### Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM

(Immediately followed by a short worship service)

#### First Friday of Month

##### Singing

December 1, 7:30

#### Address and Contact

University Heights Church of Christ

445 Columbia Ave., Lexington,  
KY 40508

(859) 255-6257

[www.uheightschurch.com](http://www.uheightschurch.com)

### CALLING ALL PRIESTS!

Malachi had a message for the priests. We're going to focus on 2:5-9, where God reminds the priesthood of his covenant with Levi and how they were failing in it. Please take a moment to read that passage now.

In this article we will focus on the priests as the teachers of the people. Their commission was to teach the ways and will of God, to explain His judgments and desires. It was their responsibility to ensure the nation was equipped with knowledge of the law and had an example of how to behave reverently before God. What an important commission! *You are to distinguish between the holy and the common, and between the unclean and the clean, and you are to teach the people of Israel all the statutes that the Lord has spoken to them by Moses.* (Leviticus 10:10-11)

How often does a nation rise above the level of its teachers? True, people are not automatons and all bear personal responsibility for their actions and relationship with God; yet poor teachers place challenging stumbling blocks before the nations they teach. God's people suffered in large part because God's chosen teachers had lost their reverence for Him. Without reverence for God any instruction, even if correct in form, will be a cold thing. It will be lifeless, and, finally, useless. *And the Lord said, "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men..."* ("a tradition learned by rote" NAS; "merely human rules that have been taught" NIV; Isaiah 29:13) What is faith without reverence? What is instruction *about* God without fear of God?

**Members Needing Our Prayers**

Jill Harrison, Joyce Bolton, Rick Small, Benny and Arlena Poynter, Janett Brundige, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson

**Others Needing Prayer**

Parker Raley, Maurice Baker, Jeff Padgett, John Thompson, Cheryl Samons, Georgia Patton, Glenda Miller, Michael Edwards, Alyse Nash, Mary Bishop, Helen Thomas, Patty Hill, Eli Kempton, Sophie Brown, Family of Valari Butler-Jones, Charlie Hoy, Janice Parsons, Allison Walker, Mark Nickles, Dwayne Harrod, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Patty Hill

**To Our Guests**

Interested in a Bible study? Either let one of us know or mark it on your visitor card.

Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, or our website to watch or listen to sermons.

What does this have to do with us? *To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.* (Revelation 1:5b-6; consider also 1 Peter 2:9) Saints serve as God’s priests today. *We* are the teachers. *We* are the salt that seasons and the light that reveals. (Matthew 5:13-16) Whatever our sphere of influence, it is ours to ensure truth is heard within it. It may not be accepted, but it must be heard.

As important as it is to state God’s truth accurately, it is incomplete without reverence. The priests might claim they were offering the right genus of animal, yet God claimed they were offering the “throw away” of that group. (Malachi 1:6-14) Why should God be expected to accept that?

Reverence for God had vanished from their hearts. Because of this they could not teach correctly, worship correctly, or live correctly. *Everything* was stained. So, too, with us unless reverence for God fills our hearts. Please think about these things. Adam Litmer

<b>Elders</b>	<b>Deacons</b>	<b>Evangelist</b>
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
Adam Litmer	Marcus Lake	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Sebolt	
	James Weatherholt	

