

THE GOSPEL LIGHT

We live in a world where the darkness of sin permeates and influences nearly everything. Jesus called Paul as a minister to “*open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light*” (Acts 26:18). Jesus said if we set our eye on evil that our whole body would “*be full of darkness*” (Matthew 6:23) and that darkness would be great! Our world is full of examples of individuals and groups alike that sadly are negatively affected by the darkness of sin in their lives. Jesus describes individuals as being “heavy laden” with sin and that He offered “rest” there from (Matthew 11:28-29).

All of humanity need not despair because of the darkness that permeates all of life because Jesus said, “*I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*” (John 8:12). Thus, the joy of a cure from the darkness of our sin is clearly available from Jesus, the Lord of lords and King of kings. Jesus says we must follow Him, and in so doing we will not “*walk in darkness*” (John 8:12).

Paul, who was sent “*To open their eyes*” turning those that heard “*from darkness to light*” (Acts 26:18), also spoke of the power of the Gospel (Romans 1:16). Consider the Gospel of Christ as a powerful agent for change. It is powerful enough to teach those wandering in darkness, lighting their life. Thus, it is easy to understand why it is called “*the glorious gospel of Christ*” (2 Corinthians 4:4).

Friend, take courage; there is indeed a curative from the dark influence of sin. It is the “*glorious gospel of Christ.*” Paul was sent to turn individuals from darkness to light. Are you willing to take advantage of the blessings of the Gospel by becoming a Christian or by returning to your first love?

Keith McNeeley from Curry St. Bulletin

COFFEE

A young woman went to her mother and told her about her life and how things were so hard for her. She did not know how she was going to make it and wanted to give up. She was tired of fighting and struggling. It seemed as though just as one problem was solved, a new one arose.

Her mother took her to the kitchen. She filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Soon the pots came to a boil. In the first she placed carrots, in the second she placed eggs, and in the last she placed ground coffee beans. She let them sit and boil, without saying a word.

In about twenty minutes she turned off the burners. She fished the carrots out and placed them in a bowl. She pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl. Then she ladled the coffee out and placed it in a bowl. Turning to her daughter, she asked, “Tell me what you see.” “Carrots, eggs, and coffee,” she replied. Her mother brought her closer and asked her to feel the carrots. She did, and noted that they were soft. The mother then asked the daughter to take an egg and break it. After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, the mother asked the daughter to sip the coffee. The daughter smiled as she tasted its rich flavor. The daughter then asked, “What does it mean, Mother?”

Her mother explained that each of these objects had faced the same adversity: boiling water. Each reacted differently. The carrot went in strong, hard, and unrelenting. However, after being subjected to the boiling water, it softened and became weak. The egg had been fragile. Its thin outer shell had protected its liquid interior, but after sitting through the boiling water, its inside became hardened. The ground coffee beans were unique, however. After they were in the boiling water, they had changed the water.

“Which are you?” she asked her daughter. “When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a carrot, an egg, or a coffee bean?”

from Glad Tidings of Good Things

“If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small”
Proverbs 24:10

A SIMPLE REMEDY FOR DEPRESSION

The late William L. Stidger, a famous minister and teacher, once had a nervous breakdown. He was enclosed in gloom and depression, caring for nothing. In the midst of his despair, a friend suggested, “Think of those who have benefited you in life and ask yourself if you have ever thanked them.” Stidger responded that many people had helped him, but he could not recall ever having thanked one of them. Stidger’s friend encouraged him to write some helpful person a letter of thanks.

After giving it some thought, Stidger remembered a teacher named Miss Smith, who had given him a love for literature. He wrote Miss Smith and expressed his appreciation for her influence in his life.

Soon he received a letter in shaky handwriting: “Dear Willy, I remembered you as a little fellow in my class. You have warmed my old heart. I have taught school for fifty years. Yours is the first letter of thanks I ever received from a student, and I shall cherish it until I die.”

This response so encouraged Stidger that he wrote another letter and another. After five hundred letters, he stopped. He was no longer downcast.

All of us have benefited from a host of people—parents, teachers, schoolmates, friends, preachers, fellow Christians. Are you in the dumps, feeling sorry for yourself? Pick up a pen and write a letter. Go dial the number of a friend. Express thanks!

Chris Smith from Glad Tidings of Good Things

“And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.”
Colossians 3:15

“In everything give thanks...”
1 Thess. 5:18a

ILL

Sunday: Judith Anderson; Stan Anderson (PM); Jessica Carter; Millie Robertson (PM); Steven Schleif (AM); Clara Scott (PM); Erin Stillwell; Tom Tucker (PM).

Wednesday: Janice Carter; Monica Nemechek; Millie Robertson.

Tom Tucker's daughter, Mary Huffman, will have back surgery on February 5 at North Kansas City Hospital.

Those battling cancer: Ledgia Campbell, David Cole, Shauna Heck, Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers.

HOME BOUND

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace Nursing Home in Olathe. Barbara James' Aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at Sharon Lane in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

Julia Thrasher is in Ardmore, OK caring for her mother who is in Mercy Hospital at Ardmore. Chris Edwards was away on business last week.

POT LUCK DINNER

Our monthly Pot Luck Dinner will be held next Sunday, February 7, following our AM worship. Plan now to come and enjoy the good food and good company!

MISSION UPDATE

As of January 30, John Shafer reports 130 baptisms so far in the India work and added, "Again thanks to each and every one of you who made this mission possible."

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 45; Sunday PM, 29; Wednesday PM, 27.

POINT TO PONDER

"A Christian should never let adversity get him down, except on his knees."

Those To Serve

January 31, 2010

BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Thrasher (1)

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Stanley Anderson
SONG LEADER..... George Thomas
OPENING PRAYER Chris Edwards
PRESIDE..... Joel Nelson
ASSIST..... Jared Nelson
ASSIST..... Steven Schleif
CLOSING PRAYER..... Jeff Nemechek

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER John Cody Carter
CLOSING PRAYER..... Trent Thrasher
LORD'S SUPPER..... Joel Nelson

WEDNESDAY Feb. 3rd

SONG LEADER..... Trent Thrasher
INVITATION Ted Thrasher

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher

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