

The Bulletin

Meeks St. Church of Christ

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October 13, 2024

“What Value Do We Place On The Hoary Head?”

By Dennis L. Reed

“Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honor the face of the old man, and thou shalt fear thy God: I am Jehovah.” (Leviticus 19:32).

I am often made to wonder just how much respect and confidence that we have transferred from one generation to another regarding the value of the "hoary head"? Do we even understand the need to transfer the values of experience and wisdom from one generation to another? As we honestly and carefully look at the spiritual condition of one another in our current generation, can we say, without reservation, that we have truly shared and transferred (embraced) the values of the "hoary head" from our previous generations, those who are "our forefathers" in the faith?

Just how many of us in this generation have any genuine knowledge of the history of the Lord's church, and of the struggles and powerful preaching and teaching of those who have kept the church pure and free from false doctrines and unscriptural practices over the last one hundred or more years? How many of us have any real knowledge at all about those brethren who have carried the Lord's people through various digressions over that period of time?

Do we really realize just how many of the current generation "don't even have a clue" about what has taken place in their parent's generation - let alone what has taken place in the generations of their grandparents or their great-grandparents!

And, I am persuaded that we are certainly not being reminded of these extremely valuable experiences and teaching which are ours to have from the "hoary heads" of our generation and of past generations! I am seriously afraid that we have a present generation who are perfectly content to live their lives in the "values of today", and that there is practically no concern at all about what happened 20, 40, or 60 years ago, and even farther back! The value of the "hoary head" is becoming totally forgotten and disregarded in our lives!

How much of the history of the Lord's church over the past 25, 50, or 100 years does this current generation know anything at all about? Their parents have certainly not shared this information with many of them, and maybe that is also true on the part their grandparents?

Or could it possibly be that these forefathers tried to share this wisdom and experience, but the current generation has just refused to listen? We are living in a generation which is greatly controlled by the desire for more money, facebook, the social media of endless time consuming devices, and electronics of communication which have almost become an idol and which almost totally controls the lives of so many.

The attention which we are giving to the study and appreciation of God's Word and of the history of the Lord's church is almost being completely "pushed out" by so many of these things! Satan is wise and he is filling up our lives with everything he can to keep spiritual wisdom and understanding as scarce in our lives as possible. And, as sad as it is, we seem to be cooperating with him without any resistance!

I have been richly blessed to have a life of 80 years, and I certainly wouldn't be able to have the faith and knowledge to stand firmly for the Truth if it had not been for the "hoary heads" who rebuked me, who taught me, and who stood by my side and encouraged me through many heart wrenching battles where the Truth and the Lord's church was in serious danger. And as heart breaking as it is, we have lost so many of our brethren and family loved ones to Satan along that journey.

As I thankfully look back over more than sixty years of preaching, teaching and encouraging others to love and stand for the Truth, I just very often wonder just how much the present generation cares, or has any interest at all in those things!

And possibly you are wise and aware enough that you will be able to see why I become so discouraged and disappointed at times as I observe this apathy and complacency. In my perception, for us to say that we are "drifting" is just a minimum of what seems to be happening all around us.

It is certainly the responsibility of those who are "wise" among us to demonstrate their wisdom in every aspect of their manner of life, teaching, and example. *"Who is wise and understanding among you? let him show by his good life his works in meekness of wisdom."* (James 3:13).

And I am firmly convinced that it is the responsibility of each one of us to be respectful and receptive of the wisdom and experience of brethren of "hoary heads" who are still with us and those who have traveled before us. They have made mistakes which they don't want us to make, and they have fought diligently, with many sacrifices, and in numerous struggles with Satan on the battlefields of ignorance, unbelief, and disrespect for the Word of God in the very midst of the Lord's church!

If we are so convinced that we are already "smart enough" that we don't need the wisdom and advice of "the hoary head", then we are surely destined to be hurt and possibly destroyed by the strength of the god of this world! Have we truly lost our fear of the dangers which surround us? And possibly our background shows that we never really developed an awareness of Satan's devices.

You can possibly find an easy way to quickly forget or pass off these reminders as being from "just another old man who is living in the past", but it will be far too late to remember, when we stand in the final judgment, that we were encouraged to soberly consider these things!

Are we so complacent and indifferent that we no longer realize that Satan remains extremely dangerous? *"Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour,"* (1 Peter 5:8).

"Who is wise, that he may understand these things? prudent, that he may know them? for the ways of Jehovah are right, and the just shall walk in them; but transgressors shall fall therein." (Hosea 14:9)

"Yea, even when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not, Until I have declared thy strength unto the next generation, Thy might to every one that is to come." (Psalm 71:18)



Speaker: **Mitchell Dalrymple**

Location: **Meeks Street Church of Christ**

Date: **October 20th -- 23rd 2024**

Starting Time: **7:00 PM Nightly (Except Sunday)**

Those Who Need Our Prayers & Encouragement:

Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Robbie, Sheila, & Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, Sandra Oliver, Chad Harris, Eli Johnson, Jamie Jones, Mary Ann Holley, LuAnne Parrish, Billy Grisham, Burt Ward, Wesley Trimble, Anita Harris, Fred Johnson, Bill Hall, George Hutto, Nathan Cox, Angela Warren (Lisa Busby's friend who has cancer), B.J. Graves, Danny Cottrell, Chandler McCain (Cancer), Randall Oliver (Lynlie's Dad), Michelle Hopper (Dan Cottrell's sister) has been diagnosed with cancer, Anita Harris is recovering from her procedure.

Southside In Houston, Ms. will begin their Gospel Meeting This Sunday, October 13th-18th, with John Isaac Edwards (7:00 PM Nightly).

Our Gospel Meeting with Mitchell Dalrymple begins October 20th—23rd.

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: Nathan Meade
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #1: "Are You Narrow-Minded?"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:

Workbook: Brian Meade
Hebrews
Author: Daniel H. King, Sr
Starting Page & Question: Page #101, Question #2

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Paul Johnson
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Fred Johnson
Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 14:8-12
Song Leader: Lee Busby
Lord's Supper: Paul Busby
Assisting: — —
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #2: "Relying On God Through Difficult Times"
Closing Prayer: Blake Briggs

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

October 15, 2024

Auditorium Bible Class: Paul Johnson
Workbook: The Minor Prophets #2
Author: By Marc Gibson
Starting Page & Question: Page 32 Question #1
Invitation: Jerry Kennemur
Song Leader: Dan Cottrell
Closing Prayer: Connor Whitemore



Visit our YouTube Channel:

Meeks Street Church of Christ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgiXJxZC1oraOugO9qIfBtw?view_as=subscriber

And Our Facebook Page.

For sermon videos, articles, and announcements.

“Are You Narrow-Minded?”

Lesson Text: **Matthew 7:13-14.**

I. The Narrow Nature Of Truth.

- We Understand Narrowness In Mathematics- $2 + 2 = 4$; $4 + 4 = 8$...
- We Understand Narrowness In Geography: Jackson Is The Capital Of Ms.
- No Different In Biblical Truth:
 - **1 Timothy 1:3; 2 John 9.**
 - **Ephesians 4:14.** Every Time— Apostasy Is Condemned!
- A Unity And Consistency Of Truth- **Ephesians 4:1-6; 1 Corinthians 4:17.**

II. The Problems With Being Broad-Minded.

- We Become Too Inclusive— Everything’s Right!
- It Is The Main Problem With “*Unity In Diversity*” In Denominationalism.
 - Goes Against What Paul Said In **Philippians 3:16.**
- Everyone Has A Right To Their Own Beliefs Mentality- **Judges 21:25.**
- Being Broad-Minded Leads To Divisions & Factionalism- **Galatians 5:20.**
 - Definition For “Factions” (NASB) Or “Heresies” (NKJB): “*a choosing, choice.*” (Vines).
- We Become Deceived & Depart The Faith- **2 Corinthians 11:1-4; 1 Timothy 4:1-4.**

III. When Should We Be Narrow-Minded?

- **In Faith.**
 - One God Who Created All Things: **Acts 17:22-30; 1 Thessalonians 1:9.**
 - Jesus, The Son Of God: **1 John 2:22-23.**
 - The Virgin Birth: **Luke 1:26-35; Isaiah 7:14.**
- **In Doctrine.**
 - The Resurrection Of Jesus: **1 Corinthians 15:12; Acts 23:6-9.**
 - Circumcision: **Acts 15; Galatians 2:3-5.**
 - Husband’s Leadership Of The Home: **Colossians 3:18.**
- **In Worship.**
 - **John 4:23-24; Acts 2:42; Ephesians 5:19.**
 - Not Accepting Extra-Biblical Worship: Prayer beads, Choirs, Solos, Instrumental Music...
 - **1 Peter 4:11; Colossians 3:17.**
- **In The Morality Of The Scriptures.**
 - **Colossians 3:5-6.**
 - Article From Newsweek: “*Roll Over John Calvin.*”

“Relying On God Through Difficult Times”

Lesson Text: **2 Chronicles 14:8-12 (ESV).**

I. Rely On God In Times Of Distress.

- Distress Is A Real Problem!
- Definition of Distress: Extreme anxiety, sorrow, or pain.
- **Job Chapters 1-2**; Yet Job Trusted In God- **Job 13:15; 19:23-27.**
- Are There Times Of Distress In Our Life?
- **Psalm 57:1** *“Takes Refuge In You.”* (NASB).
- **1 Peter 5:7; Philippians 4:6.**

II. Rely On God In Times Of Weakness.

- Weakness Is A Real Problem!
- **Paul In 2 Corinthians 12:7-10.**
 - Humility In Weakness- **2 Corinthians 12:1-6.**
 - Grace In Weakness- **12:9; Psalm 84:11.**
 - Strength In Weakness- **12:9; Psalm 118:14.**
- Be There For The Weak- **1 Thessalonians 5:14.**
- Help Bear Their Burdens- **Romans 15:1 (NASB); Galatians 6:2.**

III. Rely On God When We Are Afraid.

- Fear Is A Real Problem!
- **Psalm 56:1-4; vs. 11.**
 - David Was Captured By The Philistines At Gath- **1 Samuel 21:11.**
- **Proverbs 3:25-26.**
- **Psalm 23:1-4.**

IV. Rely On God When We Are Tired & Weary.

- Weariness Is A Real Problem!
- **Galatians 6:9.**
- Even Paul Faced Weariness- **2 Corinthians 11:27-30.**
- Jesus Helps Us Through Our Weariness- **Matthew 11:28-30.**