

### Three Facts

There are three facts which, when accepted, will keep one's life on a proper course. They are: (1) This world is not our home, (2) life is, at the longest, very brief, and (3) only spiritual things are of real importance.

(1) **This world is not our home.** "Love not the world" (1 John 2:15), "be not conformed to this world" (Romans 12:2), "my kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36) are typical New Testament warnings not to become enamored with, or attached to this world. We are at best "strangers and pilgrims" (Hebrews 11:13) merely visiting with no provisions for settling in.

(2) **Life is, at the longest, brief.** "Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble. He cometh forth like a flower, and is cut down: he fleeth also as a shadow, and continueth not (Job 14:1, 2). Other Biblical phrases such as "a tale that is told" (Psalm 90:9), "swifter than a weaver's shuttle" (Job 7:6), and "as water spilt on the ground" (2 Samuel 14:14) are used to remind us that life is soon over. There is no power, no wealth, no doctor who can avert death. Shakespeare wrote: "By medicine life may be prolonged, yet death will seize the doctor too."

(3) **Only spiritual things are of real importance.** The drive for money, houses, land, prestige and power consumes many. How foolish, since this world is not our home and we will be here for such a short time. Marshall Keeble was once given a tour by a very wealthy man. After showing all his great possessions the man said, "Well, brother Keeble, what do you think?" In his inimitable style brother Keeble replied, "God's going to burn it all up." "... the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up." (2 Peter 3:10)

In view of these three facts only one exhortation seems appropriate: "Prepare to meet thy God!" (Amos 4:12). Nothing else is nearly so important.

- James Simpson, *Bulletin Digest*, via *Biblical Messenger*, San Angelo, TX

### TODAY

Alan Redpath said, "The Devil's calendar always says tomorrow. God's calendar always says today." Indeed, Paul exhorted, "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2).

Procrastination is a tool of Satan. He doesn't deny the value of worship, the truthfulness of the gospel, the need for service or the call to discipleship. He just says, "wait until tomorrow." "Put-off-it-is" is a common malady that many face.

We come into an assembly like today. Our hearts are stirred by the praise, our souls are touched by the prayers, our consciences are pricked by the message. We think "I need to make some changes." "I need to do more," "I must get more involved."

And the Devil smiles and says, "Fine. But wait until tomorrow." But if you look and listen closely, you can see the sober expression and hear the concerned voice of Christ say, "Now is the accepted time. Now is the day of salvation."

- Author Unknown -

*He who serves two masters has to lie to one. Portuguese Proverb*

### News & Notes

**NEW CONVERT CLASS: Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class** in Room 401.

**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH & EARLY SERVICE: Lunch TODAY about noon** at the Fellowship Building followed by our **early afternoon service at 2:00 p.m.** at the church building.

**CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.** All ladies are invited to participate.

**MEN'S ENRICHMENT CLASS: Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.** Men are urged to come and spend an hour with your brothers and be encouraged.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Feb. 9th, 8:30 a.m.** at the Columbiana, Ohio Church of Christ Sign-up sheet on the desk.

**MEMBER VISITS:** Calls are being made for Elders and Minister visits with members that can be scheduled in your home or to meet here at the building. Schedule an appointment so this outreach can be completed ASAP.

**PANTRY:** Spaghetti and spaghetti sauce.

**COUPLES FELLOWSHIP: Thursday, Feb. 14th at 6:30 p.m.** at the home of David & Janet Malcomson, 320 Fifth St, East Liverpool, OH. All married couples invited. Child care services will be available. Sign-up sheet on the desk.

**VALENTINE PARTY: Saturday, Feb 23rd, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** at the Fellowship Building. All are invited. Sign-up sheet on the desk. Donations to help defray the cost may be given to Dean or Sandy Spencer.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** For **Matt & Susie Rice Family** (Keith & Elaine McClung's daughter & son-in-law) 201 Wexford St, Raeford, NC 28376. **Matt's brother, Chuck** is in ICU with a serious undiagnosed health condition. Also, pray for **Leon Sharp** (Elaine McClung's dad) who has serious health issues, and **Chris Haught** (son of Skip & Sue) and family, 202 Rexroad Drive, Weston, WV 26452. They are dealing with health issues.

**SICK & SHUT-IN: At Home:** Shirley Beagle, Lois Hissom, Beulah Walker, Jenny Rhodes, Arlen & Joann Webb, Russell Martin, Blondenia Orr, Doris Dunham. **FOX:** Mary Jane Bowers. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

### *What is Love One to Another?*

Love is an attitude — love is a prayer

For a soul in sorrow, a heart in despair.

Love is good wishes for the gain of another;

Love suffers long with the fault of a brother.

Love giveth water to a cup that's run dry;

Love reaches low, it also reaches high.

Seeks not her own at the expense of another;

Love reaches God when it reaches our brother.

*The Biblical Messenger*, San Angelo, TX