

## 92 YEAR OLD PREACHER

While watching a little TV on Sunday instead of going to church, I watched a church in Atlanta honoring one of its senior pastors who had been retired many years. He was 92 at that time and I wondered why the church even bothered to ask the old gentleman to preach at that age. After a warm welcome, introduction of this speaker, and as the applause quieted down, he rose from his high back chair and walked slowly, with great effort and a sliding gait to the podium, without a note or written paper of any kind he placed both hands on the pulpit to steady himself and then quietly and slowly began to speak ...

"When I was asked to come here today and talk to you, your pastor asked me to tell you what was the greatest lesson ever learned in my 50-odd years of preaching. I thought about it for a few days and boiled it down to just one thing that made the most difference in my life and sustained me through all my trials. The one thing that I could always rely on when tears and heart-break and pain and fear and sorrow paralyzed me ...

The only thing that would comfort me was this verse ..."

"Jesus loves me this I know. For the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to Him belong, we are weak but He is strong ...

Yes, Jesus loves me ... The Bible tells me so."

The old pastor stated, "I always noticed that it was the adults who chose the children's hymn 'Jesus Loves Me' (for the children of course) during a hymn sing, and it was the adults who sang the loudest because I could see they knew it the best."

"Here for you now is a senior version of Jesus Loves Me":

Jesus loves me, this I know, though my hair is white as snow

Though my sight is growing dim, still He bids me trust in Him.

(CHORUS)

Yes, Jesus loves me ... Yes, Jesus loves me ...

Yes, Jesus loves me, for the Bible tells me so.

Though my steps are oh, so slow, with my hand in His I'll go

On through life, let come what may, He'll be there to lead the way.

(CHORUS)

When the nights are dark and long, in my heart He puts a song ...

Telling me in words so clear, "Have no fear, for I am near."

(CHORUS)

When my work on earth is done, and life's victories have been won.

He will take me home above, then I'll understand His love.

(CHORUS)

I love Jesus, does He know? Have I ever told Him so?

Jesus loves to hear me say, that I love Him every day.

(CHORUS)

If you think this is neat, please pass it on to your friends. If you do not pass it on, nothing bad will happen, but you will have missed an opportunity to "reach out and touch" a friend or loved one. God bless us all.

- Author Unknown (From the Internet & submitted) -

*Full trust in the Lord puts anxiety to rest.*

## News & Notes

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:** Until further notice: **Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.** and **Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.** (auditorium class only). **Masks and social distancing required.**

**SECRET SISTER REVEAL: TODAY.** Those sisters participating should leave their final gift for the year on the back table and also reveal themselves. Congregate, talk and exchange thank you's outside after morning worship.

**ESTATE AUCTION: This coming Thursday, August 27th, 5:00 p.m.** The Stillwell house and contents, car, riding mower, and miscellaneous items will be auctioned. The address: 15889 Highland Drive, East Liverpool (Cuttica). Details and conditions of sale are posted on the bulletin board.

**REMEMBER WITH PRAYERS & CARDS: Steve Higginbotham,** 3318 October Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931. We pray for Steve and that his cancer treatments will be successful in his recovery.

**SICK & SHUT-IN:** Kathy Hissam, Leroy Burdine (Willard's brother), Ernie Robinson, Bill Robinson, Skip Haight, Melvin "Pete" Reed, Marlene Evans, Shirley Beagle, Emma Rine, Russell Martin, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless, Don & Judy Floding. **Cleveland Clinic:** Jim Loy (brother of Twila Adamson) **FOX:** Mary Jane Bowers, Tom Postlethwait. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore, (Room 210). **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl, Regina King, and Benjamin Radford.

## JOY TO THE WORLD BECAUSE THE LORD HAS COME

What was it the angel said when he announced the birth of our Lord? "I bring you good news of great joy" (Luke 2:10).

So why is it that so many Christians—including some preachers—live and worship as if they were baptized in jalapeno juice? Have we forgotten the words of the Apostle Paul? "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4).

Joy is a deep and abiding inner rejoicing which was promised to those who live in Christ and obey His commandments (cf. John 15:10-11). Joy does not depend on circumstances because it rests in God's sovereign control of all things.

Jesus said: "If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete" (John 15:10-11).

Joy is the by-product of obedience which comes from a desire to be like our Lord (not out of some sense of legalism which brings no joy).

With this in mind, let us never forget that Jesus, Himself, is the source of our joy!

"Joy to the world, the Lord has come, let earth receive her king!"

- Larry Fitzgerald, Woodlawn church of Christ, Abilene, TX (*Bulletin Digest*) -