

I WILL FEAR NO EVIL

"Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil" (Psalm 23:4).

We live in a fearful age: Covid-19, quarantines, economic uncertainty, riots, and Chinese communist belligerence. Many are incapacitated with uncertainty and fear.

But Paul declares: "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind! (2 Timothy 1:7). The word for "fear" here basically means "cowardice." The Amplified Bible has "craven, cringing, fawning fear." Paul tells us why we should fear no evil:

Because God Has Given Us Power! The power of God is an awesome thing: It created the world; slew 185,000 warriors of Assyria in a single night; raised Christ from the dead; and one day, it will dissolve this world in fervent heat! What is there to fear linked to power like that?

Because God Has Given Us Love! We are secure in God's love forever. "For He Himself has said, 'I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you.'" (Hebrews 13:5)." But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:37-39).

Because God Has Given Us Sound Thinking! One translation has "a calm and well-balanced mind." God teaches us to put things in proper perspective...to see clearly and think rationally...to rise above ignorance and superstition (John 8:32). "Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, and though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea...God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:2,1).

Bobby Dockery, Fayetteville, AR (via *Bulletin Digest*)

BE OF GOOD CHEER

You cannot be SOUR and be a Christian! True Christianity chases gloom. Solomon said, "A merry heart does good, like a medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones" (Proverbs 17:22), and again in chapter 15:13, "A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance." More than once Jesus commanded his disciples to "be of good cheer."

The industrious bee does not stop to complain that there are so many poisonous flowers and thorny branches in his road but buzzes on, selecting the honey where he can find it and passing by the places where it is not. There is enough to complain about and find fault with, if you have the disposition. We often travel on a hard and uneven road. But, with a cheerful spirit and a heart to praise God for His mercies, we may walk therein with comfort and come to the end of our journey in peace.

- Author Unknown, via *Bulletin Digest* -

Do not forget that God is between you and your enemy.

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.**

BAPTISM: Kevin Richmond.

SYMPATHY: To the Postlethwait Family at the passing of Leah Lowther who died in a house fire. Visitation **Tuesday, Sept. 8th, 2-4 & 6-8 p.m.**, and funeral service on **Wednesday, Sept. 9th, 11 a.m.** Both events at Nixon's Funeral Home in Newell, WV.

FAREWELL GIFT: For **Marcella Martin** who will be moving back to the South on **Sept. 15th.** If you wish to contribute, give your money to Sharon Sprout.

NEW ADDRESS: **David McCoy**, 126 Fox Lane, Apt. 107, Chester, WV 26034. Phone: (304) 459-3508.

OUR SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES: Will resume **Sept. 27th at 5:30 p.m.** and **we will meet at the Fellowship Building for those services.**

REMEMBER WITH PRAYERS & CARDS: **Steve Higginbotham**, 3318 October Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Keith McClung, Mary Jane Bowers, Kathy Hissam, Melvin "Pete" Reed, Marlene Evans, Shirley Beagle, Russell Martin, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless. **Cleveland Clinic:** Jim Loy (brother of Twila Adamson) **FOX:** Tom Postlethwait. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore, (Room 210). **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl, Regina King, and Benjamin Radford.



OUR GOSPEL MEETING
September 20 - 24
Hiram Kemp
of Lakeland, FL
Sunday - 10:30 a.m.;
Monday through Thursday - 7:00 p.m.
Masks required; Social Distancing observed

THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU COME TO JESUS CHRIST

Your sins are all forgiven. "Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood" (Rev. 1:5).

Your old nature is changed. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17).

The power of Satan is broken. "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God" (Acts 26:18).

Your fear of death is removed. "And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage" (Heb. 2:15).

- Author Unknown, via *Beacon*, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -