

Spiritual Checkup

Derek Broome

We must all continually humble ourselves before God and His Word. We need to check the condition of our spiritual lives, always making sure that we are not letting pride, arrogance, complacency or any other sin get in the way of us being the humble servants that we ought to be. "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up" (James 4:10 NKJV). God can do amazing things in our lives and in the work of the church, but we must remain humble servants who are constantly looking into the Word and relying on God to give the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6-7). Like Paul, let us all "...press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:12-14). It does not take special events for us to realize the need for spiritual renewal. Let us all be renewed day by day as we dive deeper into the Word of God.

[Editor's Note: Somehow, introspection (2 Corinthians 13:5) doesn't occur to us as easily as examining the lives of others (Matthew 7:3-4). ~ Louis Rushmore, Editor]

- Gospel Gazette Online -

Pursue Holiness

Terry Wheeler

"Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14 NKJV). The need to be holy is present throughout the entire Bible. So, the need to understand the concept and how to attain it is vital to our standing before God.

The meaning of holiness is "special to God" and "set apart from common use to be employed for God's use." Sanctification is the process by which this holiness is attained. Therefore, to be sanctified is to be made holy for God's unique possession and purpose (1 Corinthians 6:9-11; 1 Peter 1:14-16).

As with other salvation concepts, holiness is both a statement of fact in relationship to God and also a goal to which those in such a relationship are to strive to complete. There is no accomplishment of perfection in holiness this side of Heaven. Yet, there is the sanctification every Christian possesses simply because one is in Christ, a perfection in relationship that is obtained by faith which God acknowledges (1 Corinthians 1:30).

In this relationship, the gift is to be so precious and endearing to us that we work to make it, not just promise, but real in our own application. Such is the process or pursuit of holiness that every Christian must fulfill (Philippians 3:12-15; Hebrews 10:12-14). As we see in Hebrews 12:14, to fail here is to lose what we had claimed to love.

- Gospel Gazette Online -

Casual Christians become Christian casualties.

News & Notes

LADIES INSPIRATION DAY: Saturday, Nov. 5th at Hanoverton, 10 to 10:30 a.m., Registration & eatables; Service at **10:30 a.m.** with Latisha Brown speaking on "A Great Cloud of Witnesses." Lunch will be provided.

BABY, BABY (TWINS) SHOWER : For Sean & Nikki Beagle, **Saturday, Nov. 5th, 1 to 3:00 p.m.** at the Fellowship Building. Sign-up sheet in the foyer with more information.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY RESUMES: Tuesday, Nov. 15th, 7:00 p.m.

PANTRY: Oatmeal.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Weirton Medical: Russell Martin. **At Home:** Beulah alker, Paula Clutter, Linda Parkes, Becky McKitrick, Mike West, Barbara DeLong, Claudette Miller, Charlotte Mader (David Stefl's sister), Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Fox, Pepperberry Suites, Chester:** David McCoy. **Weston, WV:** Rick Beck.

What We Hear Today

B.C. Carr (Deceased)

From the same pulpits where brave and faithful men stood we are hearing:

1. Salvation is by grace alone. There is nothing man can do toward his own salvation.
2. Others are saying we are saved by faith alone.
3. We are told that instrumental music is a matter of tradition or opinion.
4. Pattern theology is to be rejected. We should be less rigid in our beliefs.
5. The "old paths" mentality should be rejected.
6. We should not believe we are the only true church.
7. The Scriptures should not be used as proof texts.
8. We need to give women a more prominent role in the church.
9. Preachers are swapping pulpits with denominational pastors.
10. Fellowship among all who believe in Christ should be practiced.

- Beacon, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -

Much Talking - The tongue is an unruly member. Being forked can bless or curse, speak the truth, or lie. One should not tell all he knows but be sure he knows what he tells. Some talk to say something; others because they have something to say. He is blessed and knows how to punctuate the conversation with periods. Be not like the married man who summed life up this way, "During courtship, I talked, and she listened. The first year she talked, and I listened. Now we both talk, and the neighbors listen." - Author Unknown -

Much speech is one thing, well-timed speech is another.

Sophocles (496 BC - 406 BC)