

The Mirror

I don't like mirrors. Mirrors make me look fat. They make it seem like my hairline is in full retreat. Mirrors make my face older, my hair thinner, my shape more rounded. I don't know what is wrong with these mirrors.



I know what you are thinking, you are going to say there is nothing wrong with the mirror. It's doing exactly what it is supposed to do. Just because I don't like what's in the mirror doesn't make it wrong.

The word of God is described as a mirror (James 1:23-25). One that shows us what we truly are so we then can take action to correct the flaws. If we see something in it we don't like, it isn't because the word of God is wrong, it is because it is showing in us what is wrong.

I've found over the years when a person looks at a Bible verse and immediately starts to explain it away, it most often has to do with a person unwilling to change themselves than it does with a misunderstanding or mistake with the text.

If we don't like what the mirror is telling us it is not the mirror that is at fault.

- Barry Haynes, Hope church of Christ, Hope, AR (*Bulletin Digest*) -

How Long, O Lord?

Terry Wheeler

"How Long, O Lord?" This prayer occurs eight times in the Scriptures. Obviously, many men of God wanted an answer to this question: How long, O Lord, must I wait, hurt, mourn, see trouble and lack justice until relief comes?

When one considers the plight of Noah, waiting was the burden. He had to wait for God to act to save him from a violent world that threatened his family and him. Then, he had to wait in the ark God had him build. Imagine sweating it out in this huge box filled with wild animals while outside the weather was cutting loose to overwhelm all nature!

Here's the point: The wait was not forever. He got relief from the evil that surrounded him, and he got relief from the storm and the isolation of the ark. After a year in the great box, a new world opened to him, a gift from God, that he was free to use as he chose (Genesis 7:1-8:22).

We, too, find ourselves waiting in isolation as contagion and death seem to swirl all around us. We may cry out to the Lord, "How long?" Know that God hears; God will take care of you, and He will bring you out of the storm to a safe place once more. Just wait! "Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!" (Psalm 27:14 NKJV).

- Gospel Gazette Online -

Physical strength is measured by what we can carry; spiritual by what we can bear.

News & Notes

TODAY'S GUEST SPEAKER: Herman McHan of the Columbiana congregation. Bro. Rico speaks today at the North Central Ohio Bible Lectureship in Lorain, OH. Sis. Latisha will speak there to the ladies on Monday.

COVERED DISH: CANCELED for TODAY due to the increase in Covid in our membership.

EARLY AFTERNOON SERVICE TODAY at 2:00 p.m. Our regular 5:30 p.m. service will resume next Sunday.

TO HAVE SURGERY: Linda Parkes, Tuesday, Aug. 9th at Southwoods Surgical Hospital, Boardman, Ohio.

PANTRY ITEM: Canned fruit.

LADIES DAY: Next Saturday, Aug. 13th, Columbiana Church of Christ. Topic: "Stock Your Pantry!" - *Being refilled with Christ! Rom 15:13. 9:00 a.m. - Noon.* Lunch provided. Additional details on the bulletin board. **RSVP by Wednesday, Aug. 10th.**

SECRET SISTER REVEAL: Next Sunday, Aug. 14th immediately following the morning worship. Remember to bring the August gift for your "secret sister", and learn her identity.

LABOR DAY COOKOUT: Monday, Sept. 5th, 1:00 p.m. at Thompson Park, Pavilion 1, sponsored by the Chester & East Liverpool congregations. More details later.

OUR GOSPEL MEETING: Sept. 25-29 with **Tim Hatfield**. Plan now to be here for every service.

GET WELL CARDS: Several boxes were donated to the church and are FREE to anyone who wants them and can use them. They are in the foyer.

NEW ADDRESS: The Pepperberry Suites, c/o David McCoy, 125 Fox Lane, Chester, WV 26034.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Those with Covid or in recovery: Russell & Margie Martin, David Stefl, David & Janet Malcomson, Rylan & Cortland Richmond, and Maysun Reardon. Others sick or shut-in: **The Orchards Rehab, East Liverpool:** Charlotte Mader (David Stefl's sister). **At Home:** Mike West, Barbara DeLong, Claudette Miller, Sam Burdine (Willard's brother), Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Weston, WV:** Rick Beck.

Laugh a little — sing a little
As you go on your way!
Work a little — play a little
Do this every day!

Give a little — take a little,
Never mind a frown —
Make your smile a welcomed thing
All around the town!

Laugh a little — love a little,
Skies are always blue!
Every cloud has silver linings,
But it's up to you!

- Author Unknown (*Treasures of Silver*) -