

## A Bag With Holes

In 520 B.C. the Hebrew prophet Haggai looked at those who had returned from Persia to rebuild their city and their lives. To his dismay, he found them living in paneled houses while the Lord's house still lay in ruins. Israel was picking up where it left off — leaving God out.

Haggai reprimanded the people with stern words, "... Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little, ye eat, but ye have not enough, yet drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages, earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes." (Haggai 1:5, 6).

How typical of our generation! We work and labor to build more of this world's goods, but often find that we still want more and more. It is indeed, as if we are storing our wealth in a bag with holes.

Jesus reminded us that there is only one truly safe place to store our treasures; "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal." (Matthew 6:19, 20)

Are you storing your treasure in "a bag with holes?"

- Ron Stough -

## Tax Exempt Investments

A tax assessor came one day to a poor minister of the gospel to determine the amount of taxes the minister would have to pay. "What property do you possess?" asked the assessor. "I am very wealthy," replied the minister. "List your possessions, please," the assessor instructed.



"I have everlasting life (John 3:16), a mansion in heaven (John 14:2), peace that passeth understanding (Philippians 4:7), joy unspeakable (1 Peter 1:8), a faithful and pious wife (Proverbs 31:10), healthy, happy, obedient children (Exodus 20:12), true, loyal friends (Proverbs 18:24), songs in the night (Psalm 42:8), and a crown of life (James 1:12)."

The tax assessor closed his book and said, "Truly you are a very rich man, but your property is not subject to tax.

How very few people realize that the greatest blessings are tax free? How many work and strive for more of the taxable possessions (which they must soon leave here), and go from this life as spiritual paupers, with no "treasures" for eternity. "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

- Author Unknown, via *Bulletin Digest* -

None are so poor as those whose only wealth is money.

## News & Notes

**BAPTISM:** Roscoe Hissam.

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

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

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To **McClay Moore** - Dean's List at West Liberty University; **Brett Thompson** - Honor Roll at East Liverpool High School; and **Laila Brown** - Honor Roll at Allison Elementary.

**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.

**COUPLES FELLOWSHIP:** Next 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.

**DINING & BOWLING:** Friday, Feb. 22nd, those interested will meet at 5:30 p.m. at JP's Pizzeria in Calcutta and then to Walnut Lanes in downtown East Liverpool. 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.

**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:** Canned peas, lima beans, and beets

**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.

**SICK & SHUT-IN:** *At Home:* Makala Reardon, 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.

## WHEN YOU COME TO WORSHIP ...

- Jim Mankin -

- Remember that God is worthy of your honor and praise; He is the audience you are the participant.
- Remember you should sing praises to His name, even with what you may consider a feeble voice.
- Remember to follow carefully the prayer that is led so that it may become yours.
- Remember to listen to God's Word as it is read and discussed, for your rapt attention will encourage the preacher and benefit your soul.
- Remember the sacredness and solemnness of the Lord's Supper, thus causing you to think of the One represented.
- Remember to be prepared to give of your means cheerfully, liberally, purposefully.
- Remember that you have come to worship, not to disturb others from worshipping by any action that would show rudeness to them or disrespect to God.