

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

March 11, 2018

Fox's Book of Martyrs

Though being one who places a high value on the knowledge to be gained from books, it is not often that I recommend any book other than God's holy word. However, as we consider the sufferings of those who transmitted to us the faith and the book in which that faith is proclaimed, I am motivated to make an exception to my self-imposed limitation. We have never know persecution or even significant oppression. As a consequence, we have come to feel, in relation to our faith, entitled to a life of easy and to feel resentful when faced with even verbal apposition. In light of this I urge each one of you to read or the listen to the reading of one of the classic Christian writings: Fox's Book of Martyrs. That which follows is a sample paragraph from Fox's description of the persecution of Diocletian that started in 303 AD.

Timothy, a deacon of Mauritania, and Maura his wife, had not been united together by the bands of wedlock above three weeks, when they were separated from each other by the persecution. Timothy, being apprehended, as a Christian, was carried before Arrianus, the governor of Thebais, who, knowing that he had the keeping of the Holy Scriptures, commanded him to deliver them up to be burnt; to which he answered, "Had I children, I would sooner deliver them up to be sacrificed, than part with the Word of God." The governor being much incensed at this reply, ordered his eyes to be put

out, with red-hot irons, saying, "The books shall at least be useless to you, for you shall not see to read them." His patience under the operation was so great that the governor grew more exasperated; he, therefore, in order, if possible, to overcome his fortitude, ordered him to be hung up by the feet, with a weight tied about his neck, and a gag in his mouth. In this state, Maura his wife, tenderly urged him for her sake to recant; but, when the gag was taken out of his mouth, instead of consenting to his wife's entreaties, he greatly blamed her mistaken love, and declared his resolution of dying for the faith. The consequence was, that Maura resolved to imitate his courage and fidelity and either to accompany or follow him to glory. The governor, after trying in vain to alter her resolution, ordered her to be tortured, which was executed with great severity. After this, Timothy and Maura were crucified near each other,

— chapter II, Page 29

Though a classic book, Fox's Book of Martyrs is readily available in all common forms. It is available on Amazon as an e-book, in paperback, hardbound and as a kindle book. It is also available from other Christian book sellers, but it for those of you who have access to the internet, it is available free on line as a PDF and also as an audio file. The links follow :

http://kotisatama.net/files/kotisatama/Tekstit_ja_kirjat/foxe.pdf

<https://archive.org/details/FoxesBookOfMartyrsUnabridged/Foxe%2527s+Book+of+Martyrs+1-01.mp3>

— wp

Fear vs Faith

The battle is the Lord's.

—1 Samuel 17:27

Thumb over to 1 Samuel 17 and check out David's view of the giant Goliath, contrasted with King Saul's soldiers' perception of the beast.

David's view was driven by fearless faith. He badgered the Israelite brass: "Who is this uncircumcised Philistine that he should defy the armies of the living God." Trotting out to face off with Goliath he goaded: "I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty . . . the battle is the Lord's." David was totally God-focused.

Saul's soldiers, on the other hand, were totally Goliath-focused. They eyeballed his size, his armor, his weapons—and shook in their sandals.

Which camp are you in? Do your fears overpower your faith or does your faith overcome your fears?

Fear imprisons. Faith liberates.

- Joe Barnett

Gospel Meeting

Southside church of Christ , 17th St., Mattoon
March 12-17 , 7:00 PM daily, Chuck Bartlett speaking
See Flyer on Bulletin Board

Sweetheart Banquet

At 6:30 p.m. on March 17th we will gather at the Lion's Club building in anticipation of “**fun, fellowship and food.**” Bring a sweetheart if you have one, come alone or bring a friend/s. See signup sheet on to facilitate an estimate of food to be prepared and there will also be an opportunity to donate some strategic items if you're so minded. (pies) *See Sherry for info*

Upcoming Events in Paris, IL (see board)

#1- Area-wide singing ... April 7 ... 3:00 to 5:00

#2- Paris Church of Christ, .. Lady's Day .. April 21

Pride Packages For Soldiers: We rotate the items that we bring in so there will be a variety of things available for Pat to send to our soldiers. For the next two weeks we'll be bringing: Writing tablets, Stationary, Black ink pens, Small white envelopes, Card games

Birthday : Mitch March 15

Reading : **II Kings 22: 8 – 23: 5**

NEXT WEEK : (March 18, 2018)

Song Leader : Tim

Scripture Reader : Butch

Table & Announcements : Greg

Prayer list :

Megan Nichols : Megan has grown out of her cane - GREAT

Peggy Storm: Beginning to show significant improvement

Susan's Mother : Susan's mother doing well after her fall

Rosanne Reynolds : Wound from knee surgery opened up. She's awaiting to see a wound specialist and still enduring a very painful pinched nerve

Mark Niehls : Diagnosed with defective heart valve. Mark anticipates valve replacement surgery in the near future.

Bob Stevens: Thank God for answered prayers, doing well

Hailey Wilhour: Beginning to show some improvement

Bruce Miller: Madonna's brother-in-law chemo continues

Ron Bartanen : Enduring pain while awaiting surgery in April.

Ernie Wasson : Home, legs beginning to heal, can't walk yet

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Ruby, Doris, Mary, Jeanne, Delores, Marg, Pete & Hazel, Betty, Francis

Other members with ongoing issues :

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease, moved out to farm

Robin Shumard : significant respiratory and foot issues

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend is suffering from kidney failure due to diabetes. Stabilized, but remains an ongoing problem.

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Ya'll Come !