

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

July 7, 2019

The Battle Belongs To The Lord

There is an old Lone Ranger and Tonto story that illustrates a situation in which many find themselves. The Lone Range and Tonto are the last survivors of an Indian massacre. The Lone Range turns to Tonto and says, "It is just us Tonto." To which Tonto replies, "What you mean 'us' white man?" Do you ever get the feeling that there is not even an "us," there is only you? That is a rather desperate feeling isn't it? Being alone any time is bad enough, but being alone in the midst of battle is really frightening. And we are all in the midst of a battle that makes earthly wars pale in comparison. We are not going to survive alone! But we are not alone!

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?" (Rom 8:31) These words of the Apostle Paul are comparable to the last minute rescue at the hands of the cavalry in the old western movies. They are the bugle blowing "charge" just over the hill. We are never alone! We are never left to be sacrificed to the surrounding enemy. God is always with us. It is just a matter of having the faith to know His presence.

But you say, "If it were only a circling enemy I could withstand him. It is the enemy within which defeats me." That is un-

derstandable. But two things are wrong with that thought. First, we are not able to withstand the enemy without alone. Satan is a vastly superior force against whom we have absolutely no hope of winning alone. In the battle against the Prince of Darkness man has no weapon which will bring victory. That battle has been fought and won by the Son of God. He defeated the devil by a life of perfection and He gave the victory to us by dying in our place. The second mistake in the previous thought is that, while the "enemy within" is certainly a deadly challenge, we have been promised the victory there as well. Listen: "No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it." (1 Cor 10:13)

Temptation is the "battle within!" While we have no real part in the great heavenly battle between the powers of Light and the powers of Darkness, there is a daily battle in which we are actively engaged. It is the battle for personal faith and purity. And the promise is that in that very battle God is not only with us, but has presented to us a door of escape. There is a tunnel out of the fort and beyond the enemy lines! The only question to be answered is "Will you take the path to safety or remain in the jeopardy of destruction by choosing to stay where the danger is?"

The words of King Hezekiah to the fearful of Judah when they faced Sennacherib king of Assyria are still as true today as they were then. "With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah." (2 Chr 32:8) Tonto may desert us but the LORD is faithful and we, like the people of Judah, need to rest in His promise.

— Marion

Waiting For Jesus

Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of the were foolish, and five were prudent. For when the foolish took their lamps, they

took no oil with them, but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. Now while the bridegroom was delaying, they all got drowsy and begin to sleep. **Matthew 25:1-5**

This is a word picture about us being ready to meet Jesus. He's our bridegroom, and we're the brides in waiting. We don't know when He is coming, so we need to be ready at all times. It's foolish for us to doze off without taking care of our spiritual business first. These foolish virgins thought they would be able to get ready later, but they were wrong. The bridegroom came and they missed out. Five were prudent, five were foolish. Five were prepared, five were not. Five went in, five were on the outside looking in. The prudent thing for us to do each day is be ready to meet Jesus. Let's not be foolish and put our preparations off until later. **"O Prepare To Meet Your God."**

Upcoming Events :

Lady's Day ... "A Word Fitly Spoken"

Presented by : Sheila Butt

Date : August 3, 2019 (*Mark this date.*)

Venue : Clinton Church of Christ
5450 Evans Rd..
Clinton, Illinois 61727

Luncheon : calling ahead appreciated (217/ 935-5058)

Lady's Day ... "A Heart Full Of Joy"

Presented by : Delores Nelson

Date : September 28, 2019 (*Mark this date.*)

Venue : Sunnyside Church of Christ

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: Soups in pull tab cans, Hormel dinners in small oval containers (Dinty Moore, turkey and dressing, beef and mashed potatoes) Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, tuna packets (*no pork prod.*)

Birthday : Scot Perry July 9

Reading : **Galatians 5: 1-18 ; Revelation 21: 1-4**

NEXT WEEK : (July 14, 2019)

Song Leader : **Stan**

Scripture Reader : **Ron**

Table & Announcements : **Tim**

Prayer List : .

Susan Bowyer : The ulcerative colitis that plagued Susan ten years ago made a reappearance. God's hand steered several events to let it be discovered quickly so the doctor thinks it can be controlled with meds. After a couple nights in the hospital she was released to recover at home. Ongoing prayers will most certainly be appreciated.

Betty Lowe : In addition to Betty's heart issues, a recent biopsy has shown the presence of cancer as well. At present, her oncologist is consulting with her heart doctor to determine if she can endure the cancer surgery.

Shelly Kruger : Pete's niece is battling cancer and it's a real struggle. They had to take her back to the hospital on Friday due to an infection. She is in urgent need of prayers.

Mike Nichols : Mike continues therapy and is working hard to regain his mobility. He is beginning to show incremental progress but it is a long, challenging process.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Ruby, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel,

Others with ongoing issues :

Doris Faulkner : Her condition is advancing more rapidly.

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Bruce Miller: Madonna's brother-in-law is holding his own.

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend has severe kidney failure due to diabetes. His condition is deteriorating.

*** 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 !