

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

February 21, 2021

But God ...

Paul wrote of Epaphroditus in Philippians 2:27, *“For indeed he was sick almost unto death; **but God** had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.”*

God is a powerful God. And the phrase “but God” is a very powerful statement. The little word “but” changes things. It is a word that introduces a different thought or statement. One of the definitions that the Oxford English Dictionary gives of the word “but” is: “on the contrary.”

Epaphroditus was sick and unable to help Paul - he might have even died. But then we read the words “but God” and things changed. In this instance, the word “but” pointed out the differences between human frailty and God’s power.

It is important to keep the phrase “but God” in our hearts and minds. We know our abilities and resources are limited, but God has unlimited power and assets. Men may see no answer to various problems, but God has a solution to every dilemma. Folks may be lacking in knowledge and wisdom in certain areas, but God has all the answers. There may be times when we cannot help ourselves, but God can! We need to remember the words of Jesus, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26).

Keep the phrase “but God” in your vocabulary. Use it often. It will make a huge difference in your attitude, perspective, and outlook.

*“And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience – among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. **But God**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2:1-6, ESV)*

– Edd Sterchi

Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All!

Heaven Will Surely Be Worth It All! Many decades ago, on a Sunday morning, I was in a 15 passenger van with a member of the local congregation picking up kids to bring them to Bible study. I remember it as if it were yesterday. The van was packed to the gills with children, and my job was crowd control. It must have been a full moon the night before and/or the kids must have had extra sugar in their cereal that morning, for they were rowdy and getting out of hand. As a fairly young and somewhat inexperienced Christian, I was doing the best I could, but was losing the battle. Luther, who was driving the van and was a song leader as well as a deacon, turned to his vast repertoire of songs and said to me with a big smile on his face, “Remember Edd, heaven will surely be worth it all.”

I have taken the lesson learned that day with me all of my Christian life. There have been many times when things weren’t going my way and I would harken back to that day and those words: “Heaven will surely be worth it all.”

When you have to deal with that difficult person again, remember: “Heaven will surely be worth it all.” When you have that task to do that brings dread, remember: “Heaven will surely be worth it all.” When that temptation comes that is difficult to deal with, remember: “Heaven will surely be worth it all.” When

hard times hit and hope seems far away, remember: "Heaven will surely be worth it all." When you want to give up, give in, or give out, don't! Just remember: "Heaven will surely be worth it all."

Take a few moments and read 1 Peter 1:3-9 very carefully. Let it soak in deeply. Let it give you the strength to keep you going no matter what happens. Trials? Troubles? Tribulations? Turmoil? Hang in there, Christian - and even smile! You can make it through it, and remember: Heaven will surely be worth it all!

"Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless" (2 Per 2:13-14)

— Edd Sterchi

Give God the Glory

"For I was ashamed to request from him troops and horsemen to protect us from the enemy on the way, because we had said to the king, 'The hand of our God is favorably disposed to all those who seek Him; His power and His anger are against all those who forsake Him'."
— Ezra 8:22

Ezra faced a thousand mile journey leading the people back to Israel. Many obstacles would be faced on the trip. He had a king who was ready, willing and able to help them, but first he would ask God to keep His promises. He went to God first. God opened the doors and paved the way and got the glory. When we walk in the will of God, He promises to open the doors and pave the way for us too. We should be ashamed to ask the world and the government to bail us out before we have asked God. Can we trust in Him, or will we be ashamed? Let's give Him the glory.

— David Grubb

"You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him."

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

(*Since we did not have services last week, I saved these.*)

Reading : **Matthew 5: 13-16 ; Matthew 6: 1-4**

Birthdays : Megan Nichols February 18
Mikala Nichols February 18

Anniversary : Pete & Hazel Rankin ... February 14

NEXT WEEK : (February 28, 2021)

Song Leader : Delmar

Scripture Reader : Larry

Table & Announcements : Bob

Prayer List :

Stan Uphoff : (*No update*) At last report Stan was still improving, but is still experiencing fatigue.

Doris Bartanen : (*No update*) Ron and Doris Bartanen have now been accepted for a room at Mason Point by Sullivan.

Lisa Vanmeter : (*No update*) Gary's sister is home and seems to be on the mend. Thanks for your prayers.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel,
Susan, Wayne, Fay Julius

Others with ongoing issues :

Madonna Nichols : Madonna continues to receive chemo every other week to treat her liver cancer.

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Jerry has multiple serious ongoing issues.

Tim Gaddis : Recovering from a stroke at the Rehab facility

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing painful back issues.

Debbie Adams : Lengthy recovery from severe car accident

Susan Bales : Rosanne's mother is growing progressively weaker. Even a few steps are difficult and her mind is slipping

* 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.*

Ya'll Come !

Schedule of Services :

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

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

