

# THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

December 20, 2015

"BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT"

PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST

JACKSON, TENNESSEE

## Am I a Builder or a Wrecker?

I watched them tearing a building down,  
A gang of men in a busy town.  
With a ho-heave-ho and lusty yell,  
They swung a beam and a sidewall fell.  
I asked the foreman, "Are these men skilled,  
The men you'd hire if you had to build?"  
He gave me a laugh and said, "No indeed!  
Just common labor is all I need.  
I can easily wreck in a day or two  
What builders have taken a year to do."  
And I thought to myself as I went my way,  
Which of these two roles have I tried to play?  
Am I a builder who works with care,  
Measuring life by the rule and square?  
Am I shaping my deeds by a well-made plan,  
Patiently doing the best I can?  
Or am I a wrecker who walks the town,  
Content with the labor of tearing down?

This poem by Edgar Guest raises an important and serious question for all of us: "Am I a builder or a wrecker?"

Wreckers in life are good at discouraging. Depressing. Demoralizing. Depreciating. And destroying. They know how to ruin friendships. Wreck homes. And undermine peace and unity in the Lord's church. Sometimes it's a subtle word. Maybe it's an overt action. Juicy gossip. An unfounded charge. Or just a critical spirit that finds fault with everything. And everyone. The attitude and actions of the wrecker is opposed to all the good, godly and Biblical. God desires that we be builders.

Builders in life are skilled at encouraging. Edifying. Educating. Enlightening. Energizing. And Elevating. They know how to bring a smile to your face. Lift your spirit. Warm your heart. Put a spring in your step. Their friendships are closer. Their homes are happier. And brethren are build up by their very presence. They know how to say a good word. Offer a helping hand. And sow seeds of faith, hope and love. Christians are collectively characterized as "the house of God", "the building of God," and the "Temple of God." Peter says we like "living stones, are being built up a spiritual house" (1Pet.2:5). Jesus Christ is the foundation. But He is building up the church one stone at a time. And we are workers together with God in the building process.

The Bible teaches that the role of preachers, pastors and teachers is to equip Christians to do ministry "for the edifying of the body of Christ" (Eph. 4:12). When that occurs Paul says it results in the "effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love" (Eph. 4:16). Edification was both the

cause and the effect of the spiritual growth and success of the first century churches. Luke writes, "Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied" (Acts 9:31).

Building up and edifying should be the desire and work of every Christian. It was Paul's inspired plea to first century churches. "Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another," he admonished the church at Rome (Rom.14:19). To the Thessalonians he penned, "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing. (1Thess. 5:11). And to the Corinthian church he simply said, "Let all things be done for edification" (1 Cor 14:26).

What about you? And me? It's a fair question to ask: "Am I a builder or a wrecker?"

**We are so grateful that you have made the decision to join our family, today, as we worship our Almighty God! If you have any questions or inquiries, please feel free to ask any of our members and we would be more happy to answer as best we can! Please accept our invitation to join us, again, when you have the opportunity.**

**-Ken Weliever, [thepreachersword.com](http://thepreachersword.com)**



Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday AM Notes 12-20-2015



**Ephesians 5:22-33**

A \_\_\_\_\_ marriage involves a

\_\_\_\_\_ who.....

✓ \_\_\_\_\_ his wife \_\_\_\_\_.

✓ \_\_\_\_\_ his wife as \_\_\_\_\_.

A \_\_\_\_\_ marriage involves a

\_\_\_\_\_ who.....

✓ \_\_\_\_\_ her husband \_\_\_\_\_.

✓ \_\_\_\_\_ her husband for his \_\_\_\_\_.

A \_\_\_\_\_ marriage seeks to

\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_ and

His \_\_\_\_\_.



Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday PM Notes 12-20-2015

# TRUTH

## II John

There is such thing as \_\_\_\_\_.

God \_\_\_\_\_ for us to \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

If we \_\_\_\_\_ God, we will \_\_\_\_\_ out \_\_\_\_\_,

and we will \_\_\_\_\_ in that \_\_\_\_\_.

Only those who \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ can have

\_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

## Our Shepherds

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## Our Preacher

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### Times of Worship & Bible Study

#### **Sunday:**

**9:30 AM Bible Study**

**10:30 AM Worship Service:** You can expect heart felt singing, reverent prayer, preaching from the Word of God, a focused and reverent observance of the Lord's Supper, and an opportunity for the saints of Pleasant Plains to give back to the Lord.

**5:00 PM Worship Service**

#### **Wednesday:**

**7:00 PM Bible Study and Worship**

### Weekly Attendance

**Last Sunday AM Worship.....113**

**Last Sunday PM Worship.....76**

**Last Wednesday Bible Study.....86**

## In Our Prayers

### RECENT ADDITIONS/UPDATES:

**-Tim Berry (The Berry's son)...** recovering from by-pass surgery. Please keep him in your prayers for a full recovery.

**-Christy Bennett's Nephew Logan...** was able to go home for a little bit, but was then quickly taken back to the hospital with serious complications. Please continue to pray for this young man and his family.

**-Barbara Leonard...**really struggling with her health. Please be praying for her and let's see what we can do to assist her with food or other needs.

**-Keller Stephens (Kathy Raines' Uncle)...**please continue your prayers for Keller that he is able to recover to the extent that he can be baptized into the Body of Christ.

### CONTINUED PRAYERS:

**\*\*\*Our expecting mothers: Melanie Siedenstrang, Melessa Sain, Spring McDonald, & Katie Angel.\*\*\***

**-Christian Shadburn...**20 yr. old Christian battling cancer.

**-Stephanie Still (Becky Waddell's cousin)...** dealing with numerous health issues.

**-Robin Hill.....** battling cancer.

**-Jamie Neal and family (Nancy Phillips' friend)...**Battling Melanoma.

**-Ashley Pickens (Brent Holt's cousin)...** Battling Cancer.

**-Louise Stitt (Amy Gailey's mother) ...** Battling leukemia..

**-Pray for the work of this church. The fields are white & we need to be hard at work to spread the Gospel to as many lost souls as possible.**

**-Men & women making the sacrifice to protect the freedoms of this country.**

**\*\*\*If you have any updates or additions to the prayer list, please see Nick (in person, phone call, text, or email) so we can keep the bulletin up to date.\*\*\***

## Pleasant Plains News

### Upcoming Pleasant Plains'

#### Bible Studies & Events

**✓Song Practice** - January 3rd at the Angel's home after evening service. **Song leaders: please be thinking of 4-5 songs that you would like to learn/practice during our time together.**

**✓Men's Bible Class** - January 9th at Panera Bread at 7:30am. Please be on the lookout for next year's book "Tender Warrior" to be handed out.

**✓Ladies Class** - January 5th at 10:00am here at the church house. Lesson 3 will be covered.

**✓Young People's Gathering - \*TONIGHT\*** at Jeff Cisco's Home.

### Area Gospel Meetings & Events

●Nothing on the calendar.

**Daily Bible Reading For This Week:** Job 12-27; Psalm 100, 101, 141; Revelation 13-17

**Please make an effort to be in daily reading and meditation of God's Word! It's never too late to join your brothers and sisters of Pleasant Plains as we dive into God's Word. Read the Old Testament, Psalms, New Testament or any combination of the three and glorify God in your study and growth in 2015!**