

THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD

July 5, 2015

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

PLEASANT PLAINS CHURCH OF CHRIST, JACKSON, TENNESSEE

Great Verses of the Bible: Matthew 6:34

During the war between two city-states in ancient Greece, a spy was captured and sentenced to death. Before the execution he requested an audience with the King. The interview was granted, and the condemned man stood before the Ruler and begged "O great king, if you do not execute me, but instead allow me to live a mere two years longer, I will teach your favorite horse to sing." The king thought "What's two years? I can always kill him later." So he agreed, and the spy was spared. Several weeks later two of his friends were smuggled into the city to learn of their friend's fate. Imagine their surprise when they found him in the stables playing a harp in front of the king's horse. After telling them his story they said, "You're crazy! You can't teach a horse to sing! The king will kill you!" The spy then said very wisely, "In two years, anything can happen. The king may die; I may die: or, who knows maybe the horse will learn to sing!" And he went on playing the harp.

What a great lesson! Too often we worry about potential problems that may occur. Regarding this matter, Jesus issued this divine advice: **"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."** (Matthew 6:34, NIV)

It's obvious that many people are worried about the future. About the rapid moral decline in our country. About the stock market. About terror attacks. About personal safety and security. Yet, what does worrying accomplish? An old adage says, "Worry is like a rocking chair. It will give you something to do. But it won't get you anywhere." William A. Ward called worry "faith in the negative, trust in the unpleasant, assurance of disaster and belief in defeat." In the context of this great verse, Jesus' admonition is based on ordering our priorities correctly. When we do, worry is diminished (Matt. 6:19-34)

When my values are right, I won't worry about the unimportant things in life. Three common sources of wealth in Palestine were expensive garments, grain, and gold or silver. However, moths can destroy clothes, rats and mice can get into the granary and eat away the grain, and thieves can steal precious treasures. Jesus is saying we ought to value that which is permanent. Spiritual. Eternal.

When my vision is clear, I won't worry about the distractions of life. Jesus contrasts a blind person and sighted person. In the metaphor he equates the eye to the heart. As we fix our eyes (heart) on worldly ambition it impacts the whole of our life. The gospel opens our eyes to what's really important. The "god of this world" tries to distract our vision with jealousy, prejudice and pride.

When my master is God, I won't worry about who's in control of my life. There are only two choices. Jehovah God or worldly concerns. These two choices involve whether we will walk by faith or walk by sight? Values and vision determine who I will serve. When I realize that all things belong to God, that people are more important than things and that wealth is to be a subordinate good, then I can know my values are solid and my vision is clear. So, why worry? Instead of worrying, Jesus instructs us to change our focus.

(1) Concentrate on the Kingdom. It is the true rule of God in our lives. It is the greatest treasure. It transcends all that is physical and material. And it is eternal.

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.

(2) Seek God's righteousness. Not our self-righteousness. Or the world's self-deluded righteousness. But seek that which issues itself in true righteousness and holiness.

(3) Live one day at a time. Warren Wiersbe was right. "Worrying about tomorrow does not help either tomorrow or today. If anything it robs us our effectiveness today—which means we will be even less effective tomorrow."

Be active. Be positive. Do something good for someone else. As Pat Schroeder said, "You can't wring your hands and roll up your sleeves at the same time." Don't worry about this old world. God's prepared a better place for His people.

-Ken Weliever, thepreachersword.com



Speaker:
NICK ANGEL
Sunday AM Notes 7-5-2015

PRAYER THAT GLORIFIES

Characteristics of God Glorifying Prayer

Prayer that is _____ and _____

Prayer that is _____

Prayer that is _____

prayer that is _____





Speaker:

NICK ANGEL

Sunday PM Notes 7-5-2015

MARRIAGE:
God's Holy
Institution

_____ the _____ of marriage.

Government does not have the _____ to _____ or
_____ it in any way.

We must continue to _____ for _____
regardless of _____.

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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.....111
Last Sunday PM Worship.....91
Last Wednesday Bible Study.....111

In Our Prayers

RECENT ADDITIONS/UPDATES:

-Jason Bennett... had back surgery this past Thursday. Let's be praying for his recovery and his family and see if we can assist them in any way.

-Keller Stephens (Kathy Raines' Uncle)... has been hospitalized in the recent days. He has also realized that he needs to obey the Gospel. Unfortunately, it is impossible for him to be baptized because of his current condition. Please pray that he recovers quickly so that he can act upon his faith.

-Jim Johnson (brother at Meek St. in Corinth, MS)... has been diagnosed with gall bladder cancer. Please remember this brother in your prayers.

-Paislee Longmire (friend of the Gateleys)... young girl that has been through open heart surgery. She is having some complications in her recovery. Please pray for this little girl and her family!

CONTINUED PRAYERS:

-Christian Shadburn... 20 yr. old Christian at Western Ky U. was recently diagnosed with a very rare and serious stage 4 cancer. He has made good progress, but is still in need of our prayers for him, his family, and his doctors.

-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.

-Barbara Leonard... Battling cancer and COPD.

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

-Men and 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 Bible Studies & Events

Men's Bible Class - July 11th at 7:30AM at Panera Bread. Our subject of study is "Do Things Well." Please read chapter 7.

Teen Devo - July's date and location to be determined.

Couples Class - July 25th at the Siedenstrang's home at 6pm.

Ladies Class - *Tomorrow* Monday, July 6th here at the building at 10:00AM. Lesson 11 will be covered.

*****Save the Date!*** Gospel Meeting with Abe Martin. September 20th-23rd.**

Area Gospel Meetings & Events

◎ **Young Adult Bible Study at the Bartlett Church of Christ.** July 10-11. Cloyce Sutton will be leading the young people in a study of developing essential spiritual skills. Please see the bulletin board for more times and details.

◎ **Summer Youth Bible Lectures & Singing at the Prince Street Church of Christ in Conway, AR.** July 17-19. Jason Lankford will be teaching about the subject of Heavenly Sunlight. Please see the backboard for additional details.

◎ **Gospel Singing & Preaching at the Elliot St. Church of Christ.** August 8th from 2-4. Congregational singing will be followed by preaching by Josh Thornhill of the Expressway Church of Christ.

◎ **Middle Tennessee Song Leader Workshop.** July 23-25 in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Registration can be done at www.songleaderworkshop.com

Daily Bible Reading For This Week: I Kings 10-11; Ecclesiastes 1-12; II Chronicles 9; Psalm 45, 46, 125; I Timothy 6; II Timothy 1-4

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!