

The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

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April 6, 2014

Number 14

THE CROWN AWAITING THE FAITHFUL

The Bible speaks of people receiving a crown. Paul speaks of the crown as "an incorruptible" crown. Timothy is told of a "crown of righteousness." James refers to it as "the crown of life." Speaking concerning elders, Peter tells us that they who serve God in this capacity can expect to "receive a crown of glory that fades not away." The church at Smyrna was told to "be faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life." (1 Cor. 9:25; 2 Tim. 4:8; James 1:12; 1 Pet. 5:4; Rev. 2:10) There is a crown that shall be given. No Bible student will dispute this fact. But who will be the ones who will receive it?

Paul tells us that in running races, one must be temperate in all things. A Christian is running a race. Thus, a Christian must be temperate in all things if he hopes to obtain the crown.

Paul could say "there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness which the righteous judge shall give me at that day" because he had "fought a good fight, had finished his course and had kept the faith." But he hastens to add for our benefit that the crown was not to be given to him only, but to all them that love Jesus' appearing. So, one must love the Lord and be serving Him in anticipation of His coming again in order to expect this crown.

The man that endures temptation is blessed, so says James. Why? Because "when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to them that love him." Christians will be tried but the one that endures these tests and is faithful to our Lord will be the receipt of "the crown of life."

Peter gave wise instruction to men who serve as elders. All men who serve God in this capacity should be attentive to what Peter says. If the shepherds of the flock do their work as God had ordained, "when the chief Shepherd shall appear, they shall receive a crown of glory that fades not away." If you are an elder, you should never forget this promise.

The church at Smyrna was told of various things that it must suffer and was exhorted to "fear none of these things." Even though the Devil would cast some of them into prison, that they may be tried and John told them they would have tribulation ten days, the message from God was "be faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life."

The crown is awaiting the faithful. Will you receive it? Are you faithful to God?

Guy McDaniel

Bulletin Board



AM Lesson - Steve - "God Is In Control"
PM Worship - 1st Sunday Song Service -
Weston is in charge.

Please keep the following members in mind who have difficulty being with us due to prolonged illness: **Dee Boyd, Doris Norman, Billie Glitsch and Don Hurd.**

NEWS AND NOTES: Don't know of any "News" about our health condition. Seems most of us are doing very well. Except seasonal allergies from all the pollen. Surely nothing to complain about.

Several are out of town. Sharon Alexander is in Dallas with her daughter. Ruben and Eloise are out of the country for a couple of weeks. Most likely several others. Pray for a safe trip and a happy return for everyone.

Check the bulletin board for meetings in the area.

"Every man feels instinctively that all the beautiful sentiments in the world weigh less than a single lovely action."

"The question "Are we doing well?" is unrealistic; there are no measures. The test is: "Are we doing right?" For that, there is a measure - what Christ has told us to do."

"If you want to keep out of debt you must earn more than you yearn."

Assignments for today

Sunday, April 6, 2014

Morning Service

Announcements.....Mike Pharris
Hymn Director.....Michael Krueger
Scripture Reading.....I Cor. 10:14-22
Scripture Reader.....Trent Miles
Opening Prayer.....Johnny Martinez
Closing Prayer.....Mike Pharris

Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Weston Hodge
Opening Prayer.....Bob Ward
Closing Prayer.....Mike Pharris

"Feeble" Members Necessary

"Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary." (I Cor. 12:22)

Church work is cooperative. Every member is necessary to make it what it ought to be. No member is without value to the church. One can of himself do little, but in cooperation with the entire church he can do worthy things. A wheel of itself is of little value, but fitted onto a car it makes a necessary contribution to the ongoing of the automobile. It matters little who preaches or leads singing, prayers, etc., but it matters much that every member serves where he or she may best serve. Every member is necessary to the efficiency of the church.

Diligent attention to every detail, to minor and seemingly insignificant things is the difference between doing things "decently and in order" and living beneath our ability. "Let all things be done unto edifying." (I Cor. 14:26)

Great and effectual is the influence of a united congregation. If everyone tells me I look "poorly", or asks if I have a fever, or if I'm going to see the doctor for my problem; I might actually think I'm sick. Such is the influence of a united effort, be it for good or bad. When we all agree to serve diligently, sing heartily, pray fervently or encourage the world to serve Jesus, the united effort has more power.

Ears, eyes, hands and feet are necessary to make the body what it ought to be. Even smelly toes. The body may lose an appendage along the way and still survive. The body has tremendous resilience. But the work is easier and more efficient with everything intact and functioning properly.

Jesus built the church with all kind of members. He loved everyone of us. He wants to hold on to everyone of us. Let's hold onto Him.

BELLAIRE church of Christ

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Schedule of Services

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible study
5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional
Minister and editor
Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

The Reminder is published weekly by the church of Christ in Bellaire