



Life Lines

Dover Church of Christ
Dover, Arkansas 72837-0299
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“On A Hill Far Away . . .”

*On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame;
And I love that old cross
where the dearest and best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.*

The hymn from which the above lines are taken brings the reader to the image of the cross on Golgotha and the personal, precious gift of life offered that day. In our minds there must be an ever-fixed image of the Lord at the cross – not as a morbid fascination with suffering or a macabre specter of human loss, but as an event whose significance has shaped the destiny of humanity.

The Book tells us that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was there, and one can imagine the tremendous emotions washing through her as she helplessly watched her son pass. Were we to be transported back as silent observers of that scene, what would we witness that etched itself into our memories and deepened both our appreciation for and sadness at such a moment? We would see:

One Lord. Everything that day centered upon the one Lord and His treatment at the hands of His enemies. Their efforts to remove Him as an influence by His execution failed, for posterity knows that only one Master exists, and He offered Himself on that day. (Acts 4:12)

Two Thieves. There were two crucified along-side Jesus and they, by self-admission, deserved this penalty. At first they cast insults and aspersions to Christ (Mark 15:32), but apparently as time passed, one of them reconsidered. In Luke 23:39-42, the one acknowledged that Jesus was wrongly condemned, even asking that Jesus might remember him. Christ made the famous promise, “*Today shalt thou be with Me in Paradise.*” At

least one person seemed to awaken to both the error and the opportunity present that day.

Three Crosses. Isaiah 53:4 says, “*Surely He has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows, yet we did esteem Him stricken smitten of God and afflicted.*” In looking at that day’s proceedings, we see Jesus casting His lot with humanity, coming to relieve our suffering due to sin. With His own cross situated amidst those of the thieves He was truly “*Immanuel*” – “*God with us*”. (Matthew 1:23)

Four Soldiers. While the Lord was suspended from the tree, four soldiers were at the foot of the cross, entirely missing the significance of what was transpiring. (John 19:23-24) Casting lots for the mundane, they were oblivious to the truth that Jesus was shedding His tent for humanity. How many repeat their error in seeing only the common in Christ, while missing the eternal significance of His sacrifice?

Five Close Friends. Though the soldiers were unaware, five of Jesus’ closest friends and followers, including His mother, were there, captivated by this terrible drama. (John 19:25-27) In an amazing irony, they were no doubt feeling sorrow for Him, while He gazed down with concern for them!

Six Hours. From Mark 15:25 and Matthew 27:46-50 we learn that Jesus remained upon the cross, suffering, for about six hours that Friday; the crucifixion itself occurred about 9 AM and He passed away about 3 PM. What an amazing period of both suffering and also temptation! He had said that He could call legions of angels to His rescue, but did not allow Himself to do that in all those hours. Instead, He schooled Himself to finish the task the Father had assigned. Would that everyone remained as committed to doing the divine will.

Seven Sayings. Perhaps you are already

acquainted with some of the statements of Christ from the cross. However, seen in their fullness, they represent depths of love and emotion that is both very human and very worthy of the divine.

Words of Forgiveness: “Father, forgive them for they know what they do.” (Luke 23:34)

Words of Salvation: “To day thou shalt be with me in Paradise.” (Luke 23:42)

Words of Affection and Concern: “Woman, behold thy son . . . behold thy mother.” (John 19:26-27)

Words of Commitment: “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46)

Words of Suffering: “I thirst.” (John 19:28)

Words of Victory: “It is finished.” (John 19:30)

Words of Confidence: “Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.” (Luke 23:46)

What tremendous range of concern, sentiment and determination, on behalf of humanity, these comments reflect.

At the end of His life, the significance of all occurring was observed by an impartial figure present that day – the Roman centurion who stated, “*Truly this was the son of God.*” (Matthew 27:54)

If ever an image were universally held in mind, surely it should be this one. The destiny of all humanity revolves around this scene and its implications. So should our lives.

May we each be able to sing the words of the hymn that so poignantly calls to mind the tremendous significance of that day’s events, and in so singing, express our commitment to live in honor of that sacrifice.

*Rick Brumback
Via The Southwesterner*

Lines for Ladies

By Pat McAlister

Fear can come in many forms. What should we fear most? Fear is very different among people. It can range from public speaking to a little black spider. We may have a fear of growing old, especially alone. We may have a fear about our health or losing our nest egg. Should we fear our enemies? What about the devil? Do you fear the devil? We should fear him!

We can be enticed by the devil. “. . . *Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*” (I Peter 5:8) Peter used an example of a roaring lion which I think all of us would fear.

As humans, we know that we sin. The devil can use one sin to create another, even more evil. Paul tells us not to “*give the devil the foothold.*” (Ephesians 4:27) This can be scary. However, God has given us a weapon to use against the devil and his foothold. “*Submit yourselves, then to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*” (James 4:7) We have a way of escape.

With all there is in the world today, the devil can just sit back. His job is so easy. He uses our “things” to trap us; our time, our material things, our prejudices, our passions, our filthy language, our anger, our evil desires and all the other things we are warned against in the Scriptures.

Paul tells us in II Timothy 2:26, “. . . *and that they will come to their senses and escape from the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.*” Sinners are already his captives, so his traps are set to lure those who strive to be faithful to the Lord.

Remember Our Sick

Eugene Cox – home, recovering, rehab.

Troy Curtis – home recovering.

Pat Holloway – home from hospital, had pneumonia.

Annette Hull – surgery successful tumor removed.

Joyce Walters – had laser eye surgery May 12th.

Shut-ins – need prayers and visits:

Dover Area: **Bernice Brown**
Evelyn Burton
Robert Lee

Russellville Nursing & Rehab Center:
Melba Hodges
Louise Killer

Stella Manor: **Mae Vanzandt**

Towbin Health Care, LR:
Charles Hickey,
(hospitalized with pneumonia)

Others Who Need Our Prayers:

Yvonne Adkisson, Amie Barkley, Michael Beasley, Bob/Carolyn Bennett, Lloyd Boley, Lois Boley, Wm/Susie Boley, Jeff Davis, Pauline Dale, Barbara Dawson, Charles Ensey, Hoyt/Sarah Ensey, Carol Graham, Paul/Sue Griffin, Leota Hickey, Cleon Johnson, Ray/Dorothy King, Rose Lee, Liliya McDaniel, Linda Melton, Julie Moss, Charles Proctor, Don Sheeran, Reedie Smith, Tanya Smith, & Judy Will.

Special Children: Elysia Lee, Emmy May, Keith Martin and Noah Williams.

Expectant Mothers: Kelly Chance and Kristen Nordin

Our Military: Greg Davis, (state-side) Cole Wetzal, and Rudy Will (out of Iraq, home soon).

Congratulations!!!

Brian & Amy Johnson are the proud parents of Seth Remington Johnson, Born April 28, 2008. Great-Grandfather, Athel Hill!

Prayers & Sympathy for the family and friends of Jerry Martin, Jr., passed away Sunday, April 27, 2008, services May 1, 2008, Joplin, MO.

Growing Good Corn

A farmer grew award- winning corn. Each year he entered his corn in the state fair, where it won a blue ribbon.

One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors.

“How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?” the reporter asked.

“Why sir,” said the farmer, “didn’t you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn.”

Here’s a person who knows the value of staying connected to other people. He understood that his own welfare was in some way connected to the welfare of his neighbor.

That’s why we who live in peace try to help our neighbors to live in peace.

That’s why we who have found joy and meaning in our lives must seek to share it with others.

It’s a lesson in agriculture: If we are to grow good corn, we must help our neighbors grow good corn.

From: Home Touch

Events

Dover Church of Christ Children's Church

Every Sunday
11:15 - 12:00 Noon

Ages 4 thru 8
Bible Story and
Activities

Ages 1 thru 3
Nursery Class

No Area Wide Devo

For the Months of
May, June & July.

Dover's Lawn Mowing Schedule

Saturday, May 31st
Chris Besterfeldt/Mike Creel

5th Sunday Celebration

Sunday, June 29th
Following PM Services

POTLUCK!

Mark Your Calendars

Memorial Day Weekend

May 30th & 31st

A remembrance for those who
have served and are serving to keep
us free!

KEEP SAFE!

Dover Church Youth Devo

Sunday, June 8th

Following Evening Services
Sid/Karen Womack's Home

Dover Men's Monthly Business Meeting

Monday, June 2nd, 7PM

Dover Men's Devo

Thursday, June 12th, 7 PM

Host: Micah Williams

Dover Ladies Night

Thursday, June 19th, 7PM

Home of Sandra Boatright

Petit Jean Camp Out!

Dover Church of Christ

May 30th thru June 1st

Make plans now.

For more info see:

Sid Womack

May Birthdays

- 02 Amelia Besterfeldt
04 J. R. Hale
05 Brett Cains
06 Randall Walters
Jessica Straight
Victoria Thomas
Carlee Williams
07 Trinity Loper
13 Kelli Hottinger
Misty Pointer
15 Alan Boatright
Alicia Brown
20 Shelley Culwell
Aleck Pointer
24 Jaylinn Williams
25 Diane W. Walters
31 Paul Helton
Don Johnson

If we missed your birthday,
please let us know so it won't
happen again.

"In Search of The Lord's Way"

Now 24/7

The Search Program can
now be accessed any time
website: www.searchtv.org

Mack Lyon's weekly lesson
can be heard and seen on
KARK, Channel 4
Sunday, 7:30 AM

THOSE TO SERVE

May 25, 2008

Sunday A.M.

Announcer: Randall Walters
Song Leader: Merrell Shoptaw

Prayers

Blake Walters
Allen Veasman

Communion

Podium: Jim Killer
Serve: Chris Loper
Chris Moss
Dennis Whiteside
Donny Forehand

Scripture Reading

Brett Walters

**Sunday P.M.
Prayers**

Alan Boatright
William Boley

SPEAKER

Sunday A.M.
Micah Williams

Sunday P.M.
Micah Williams

Prepare Table for Communion

Diane Walters

Communion to Shut-Ins

Allen Veasman
Blake Forehand

Greeters

Gary and Sonia Williams

Wednesday Night Devotional

May 28, 2008

Sid Womack

Meeting Times

Sunday Morning Bible Classes
9:45 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship
10:45 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship
6:00 P.M.
Ladies Tuesday Bible Class
10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Classes
7:00 P.M.

Minister: Micah Williams
Church Office: 479-331-3428
Or Cell: 479-264-9244

Elders:

William Boley 858-7131
Jim Killer 331-2802
Allen Veasman 331-2156
Sid Womack 967-2367

Deacons:

Chris Besterfeldt
Donny Forehand
Brent Hottinger
Chris Loper
Rex McDaniel
Joe Miller
Chris Moss

Nursery Attendants:

Sunday Class: JoAnn Killer
Sunday Church: Pat McAlister
Kaeli Miller

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Dover Church of Christ
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