

NEWS

Tonnette and Matt Harrel's Uncle (Thetford is last name) passed away Thursday. We express to them our sincere sympathy in their loss—**Paul Relph** saw his doctor in Tyler this past week and he received a good report. The stitches were taken out of his foot and the healing is doing good—**Nova Montgomery** had another chemo treatment week before last, she had some nausea this time, but she is doing better now. She was not able to attend the meeting—**Bob Arnold** also had another treatment for his cancer, and he has not felt (continued on page 3)

ELDERS

Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Richard Montgomery
936-577-4819

DEACONS:

Ricky Davis 572-9428
Ken Ferguson 572-4135
Pat Marshall 572-9347

SERVICES:

Sunday

Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 5:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

PREACHERS:

Drew Nelson 254-541-3815
Leon Goff 572-6809

Assignment

May 15, 2022

Scripture and Lord's Supper
Royce Gibbs

Song Leader

Richard Montgomery

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—**Jerry Wildman** Opening)
—**Ricky Davis** (Closing)
PM— **Bob Arnold** (Opening)
—**William White** Closing)

Announcements

A.M.—**Richard Montgomery**
P.M.—**Richard Montgomery**

(call Ken Ferguson if unable to serve)

Southside
Church of Christ
P.O. Box 242
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

Think It Over—If you were to die today...Where would you spend eternity? To all who love God, and to those who do not, but should, to all who are weary and heavy laden; to all who are lonely and sad; to all who sin and need a Savior, and to whosoever will come a hearty welcome is extended.

Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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(903) 572-2148

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Sunday Morning Immortal

(By Dee Bowman)

I don't know why, but I've just always assumed that when the Lord comes again, whenever that might be, that He will come on the Lord's Day. I suppose I have that impression because it was on the Lord's Day that He was resurrected. It just makes sense to me. For me, Sunday and immortality just kind of go together.

The concept of immortality is difficult for me to grasp. I can't imagine living forever, never being sick, never even having a bad day. And I certainly can't get hold of the concept of being in the presence of God, His Son, and the Holy Spirit. That's too high for me, folks.

But I believe it. There are too many assurances that it's so. First Corinthians 15 tells us that "He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. And after He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once..." (verse 6). That He was resurrected is as much an indisputable fact as that He was declared dead (Mark 15:44; John 19:33). The evidence of His resurrection is irrevocable. His resurrection is the assurance of ours.

Paul affirms that at the resurrection of the righteous "this mortal must put on immortality." The words "put on" in the Greek are "clothed upon." I don't know how we will be clothed with immortality, or with what visage it will come, but I know that John, who no doubt wondered the same thing, says, "...it has not been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him" (1 John 3:2). I guess that'll be sufficient — to be like Him, don't you think? Can you get a hold of that?

Just think about a place where there are no tears. No phone calls whose immediate reaction begins with, “Oh no.” No obituary columns to peruse. No graveyards or hearses, no funeral homes. There will be no reason for tears. There won’t be any bad news of any sort. I could stand some of that, how about you?

I started to say there will be no doctors in heaven. I’m sure there will be some doctors there because I know some that are qualified; but I mean that there will be no need for their profession there. Nobody will practice medicine because nobody will get sick. There won’t be any cancer, no heart trouble, no diabetes in heaven. There won’t be one single, solitary pain — not one. How about that for a paradise?

We always think of heaven being up. In fact, the skies and the abode of the stars and planets are called “the heavens.” It must be “up” because we are told that Christ ascended and that those who saw His ascension “looked steadfastly toward heaven,” and were asked by the angel, “Why do you stand gazing up into heaven?” The Scriptures everywhere state that when He comes again, He will “descend from heaven with a shout” (1 Thess. 4:16).

Heaven is the dwelling place for the immortal. It is described in the Oxford English Dictionary as “The celestial abode of immortal beings; the habitation of God and His angels... the state of the blessed hereafter.” The re-ensoulment of the body

is a staggeringly wonderful thought.” The fact that we will be raised into immortality is one of the highest thoughts of human contemplation. Just a cursory dwelling on the thought makes you want it desperately.

I want to go to heaven. I want to go there because there won’t be any tears, no sickness, and no dying. But mainly I want to go there because of who will be there. My Lord and my God. The Holy Spirit Himself (I want to know a quite bit more about Him). My Savior and Lord. His men — men like Peter and Paul, James and John. My own father and mother. Norma’s father and mother, Joe and Sophia Fullington. People I have loved in this life — people like A. Hugh Clark, Grover Stevens, James R. Cope, Roy Cogdill, Franklin T. Puckett, and Homer Hailey. But there will be lots of lesser lights there too. E.J. Nichols, Phyllis Key, Clary Turner, Norm and Naomi Henson, Margaret Gage, Jimmy Balmer.

But there are two fellows who will be there that have fascinated me for years, and I want to be with them. Those two little men who walked on the road to Emmaus. I just want to talk with them, get to know them, because I think I’m so much like them. I want to talk with Cleopas. And, even before that, I want to ask that other fellow what his name is.

I can’t imagine immortality. I don’t comprehend it. But I believe it going to happen for the faithful. And it will be

something special. I want it so badly, don’t you?

I’ll tell you one thing, folks. If you miss heaven, you’ve just missed all there is.

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Don’t Confuse Me With The Facts

Some people say: “*Don’t confuse me with the facts, my mind is already made up.*” Of course, this is often said jokingly, but it really is a true description of many people concerning religious beliefs.

Honest investigation of religious beliefs is a relatively rare thing. We are tempted to examine doctrines in light of what we want, or in light of what we have always believed. But if we are honest, we will ask ourselves: “*Am I investigating my beliefs in light of the Bible, or am I investigating the Bible in light of my beliefs?*” There is a difference—a very big difference! For example, if we have a religious belief, we can probably find a passage that seems to justify it, that is, if we look long enough, and are willing to take a passage out of context, or ignore other passages on that subject. Yes, it is possible to twist a Bible passage into saying what God never said.

But there is no profit in intellectual dishonesty. Even if we succeed in convincing ourselves and others, that a doctrine is from the Bible, when in fact it is not, we still must face God. And God warns us that the one who does not abide in the true doctrine of Christ does not have God. “*Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not*

have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.” (2 John 9). Therefore, it is essential for each of us to be intellectually honest. Jesus described those who were intellectually dishonest as having closed their eyes, and shut their ears, lest they should come to understand the truth and be converted. (Matt. 13:13-15; quoting (Isa. 6:9-10). We must never close our eyes to the truth but always be open to accept God’s will above our own.

The man who hears nothing but his own beliefs, and will not consider the possibility of being mistaken, is intellectually dishonest and does not have an honest heart. Think on these things. --Dennis Abernathy

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NEWS (continued from back page)

up to being any the services of our meeting except last Sunday——**Daphne Nelson** ran a fever a couple of day this past week, but she was back with us Friday night——**Judy Hinson** hopes to be able to get another chemo treatment this next week. She has been having too much nausea. Continue to remember her——**Randy Blackmon** continues to have breathing problems and he saw a doctor in Tyler this past week, who told him he had to build up his stamina——Remember **Nova Montgomery, Dale Rockett, Bob Arnold, Charles Davis, Rance Hockaday, Kenneth and Beverly Amerson, Kenny Ferguson, Ricky Davis, June Johnson, Randy Blackmon, Frank White, Willie Don Davis, William and Yvonne White, Judy Hinson and Catherine Moss**——Remember our **Shut-in: Marion Shurtleff**.