

Wrong is Always Wrong

Wrong is wrong, even if you don't get caught. The eyes of the Lord are in every place.

Wrong is wrong, even if you do it for a good cause. The end never justifies the means. The honorable purpose does not justify a dishonorable deed or action.

Wrong is wrong, even if it doesn't bother the conscience. The conscience can be trained or educated to accept wrong-doing; even an honest sin or an evil done in sincerity is sinful in the sight of God. Whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap."

Wrong is wrong, even if it is commonly considered Acceptable. The bible says "Thou

By Author Unknown shalt not follow a multitude to do evil."

Wrong is always wrong despite our efforts to excuse our actions.

Remember, there is never a right way to do wrong!

For "He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; Let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil." **(1 Peter 3:10-12)**



Classes this Week:				
Sunday 5:15 Kid's Class at the Building	Sun PM After Services College Devotional and Singing	Mon 12 Noon Campus Study	Wed. 10 AM Ladies Class at Manna Jones	Thurs 11AM Campus Study

Sick		
Fran Snyder (Mother of Carla Humphrey)	Lori Holloway	Chick Wade
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Carrie Chavers (Friend of Sharon Bailey)	Jared Nixon
Ross Folmar	Grandparents of Mary Ann Roberts	Joe Perry (Anna Miller's Relative)
Ed Mort (Friend of Sharon Bailey)	"Grandmama" Odessa Wyatt (Dyle's grandmother)	Erlene Davis (Walker Davis' mother)
Gerald White (Christopher's and Wesley's Father)	Dave Brown (Friend of the Lanier's)	Bill Rhodes (Toni Herd's Uncle)
Marty and Aubrey Meeks (Toni Herd's Nephews)	Frank Johnson (Debbi Coleman's Uncle)	Herbert Missildine (Toni Herd's Uncle)
Christi Gibson (Fallon Hartsell's Mother)	Mike Reed (Friend of the Long's)	Call Yvette to have a name added to this list

October Birthdays
1 - Micah Mauldin
2 - Suzanne Nichols
6 - Jessica Anderson
8 - Heath Fowler
11 - Mason Chandler
12 - Stacy Norman
14 - Lauren Drake
20 - Keith Bailey
21 - Scott Shields
22 - Hunter Crawford
22 - Chris Davis
22 - Christopher White
25 - Josh Sutton
26 - Sarah Sutton
26 - Palmer Daniels
26 - Mel Ambrose
29 - Belle Johnson
29 - Matt Hall
31 - Kitty Tam

News and Notes

- Our members are encouraged to sit towards the front and also to make room in the pews for our visitors!
- Our Gospel Meeting with Tim Stephens will start today! Please use the postcards and invite others each day.
- Our weekly bulletin is also sent by e-mail with an additional article and other information. If you wish to sign up please give me your e-mail address.
- If you have any Bible question or would be interested in a home Bible study please let one of our members know.
- After every service Audio CDs will be available in the foyer. Please take them and give them to others!

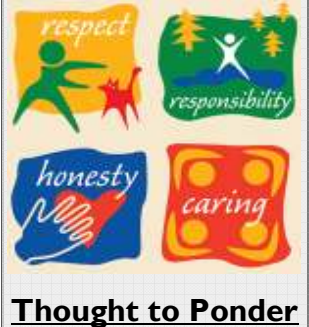
A weekly publication of the University church of Christ in Auburn, Alabama

The Auburn Beacon

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. **(Matthew 5:16)**



Volume 1, Issue 48 September 26, 2010



Thought to Ponder

Hell will be filled with those who, in a period of moral crisis, maintain their neutrality.

Do You Have a Bible Question?
Call (334) 734-2133 or E-mail: LarryRouse@aubeacon.com

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday
Bible Class9:30 AM
Worship10:20 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday
Bible Classes.....7:00 PM

Ask about our home Bible Study Groups!

Larry Rouse
Evangelist and Editor

Your Values and You

By Steve Hardin

Many are not aware of it, but the choices we make everyday say a great deal about our sense of value. It's a simple fact that we choose what we like, what we are interested in. There is a good example in the Bible which shows us the relationship between choices and values. This example is referred to in **Hebrews 12:16** where we read, "lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright." This statement in Hebrews is made about Esau in connection with the story we find in **Genesis 25**.

I think this story demonstrates how much a man is often willing to give away for immediate satisfaction of his material or physical desires. The meal which Esau received from his brother, Jacob, was the most expensive meal that Esau would ever eat.

By virtue of being the firstborn

Likewise, our daily choices in regard to the kind of speech we will use, the kind of clothing that we will or will not wear and our daily conduct show just where our values lie. We prove by such things, no matter what we may say, whether God is first in my life or not.

son, Esau had the right of a greater share of inheritance in his father's house. He showed a total lack of appreciation for this right which was his by birth. Instead of appreciation, his choice shows that he really did not comprehend the value of this great blessing.

I believe that one today who is born again (**John 3:3**) and is in the kingdom of God, has a spiritual birthright. In Christ, all spiritual blessings are found (**Ephesians 1:3**). There is no

(Continued on page 2)

Check Us Out On the Internet: www.aubeacon.com

(Continued from page 1)

greater heritage than that which awaits for the child of God. Notice what Peter wrote about the inheritance of the Christian in **1 Peter 1:3-4**, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you." Christians are members of God's family (**Galatians 3:26-27; Romans 8:14-17**).

Great blessings come to those who are part of this family. We are given the right to pray to God, our heavenly Father, and to receive His blessings (**Matthew 7:11**). There is no guarantee however, that we will receive the great heritage reserved for us. It is reserved for the faithful child of God (**Matthew 7:21; Revelation 2:10**). Just as Esau sold his birthright, we as God's own children can sell ours for a "mess of pottage."

We can yield to temptation to gratify the lusts of the flesh and thereby relinquish our right to the world's greatest heritage. When we neglect the kingdom of God and put material things above godliness, righteousness or holiness; we do not have a proper sense of values.

It is said that Esau was a profane person (**Hebrews 12:16**). The profane person is not only one who curse and takes God's name in vain or uses vulgar and obscene speech. A profane person is also one who does not value the spiritual blessing of God above the material things of this world.

What is the value of a dollar, or even a million of them, compared to the birthright of a child of God? All of the money in the world is only a mess of pottage when compared to the spiritual blessings in Christ. The beautiful mansion in this world is only a cheap trinket when compared to the heavenly mansions Jesus promised in **John 14:1-4**. Yet, there are those who for one little moment of pleasure in sin will turn from the Lord and sell their birthright.

Moses is held up as an example in Hebrews 11 of one who had a proper sense of values. Moses refused to trade the rich future blessings of God for the temporal pleasures of sin which could have been his in Egypt (**Heb. 11:24-27**).

Simple choices in our day to day lives show where in our list of priorities we place the kingdom of Christ. When we choose to come back to services on Sunday evening and when we attend Bible study classes on Sunday and Wednesday, we are saying by our choices what we consider to be important in our lives. If we do not choose to comeback when we could, we likewise are telling the world how much we do not value the spiritual things over physical things.

Likewise, our daily choices in regard to the kind of speech we will use, the kind of clothing that we will or will not wear and our daily conduct show just where our values lie. We prove by such things, no matter what we may say, whether God is first in my life or not. We show by our choices if going to heaven means more to me than popularity and pleasure in this world.

Do you realize that the world's greatest inheritance is yours to have, if you truly value it above all?



Yesterday

By David Smitherman

Yesterday...it exists only in fading memories, worn out photographs, history books and museums. And yet, it is one of the finest learning centers available to us if we will only allow ourselves to be taught.

However, there is no living space in yesterday, so don't plan to reside there. As pleasant as it may have been, we cannot recall it, and Solomon warned against trying to live in it (**Ecc. 7:10**). Although reflections upon its achievements can be encouraging,

be careful: yesterday is often larger than life. How we *remember* things being and how they *really* were are often two different things. Many, though, would not want to live in yesterday. For them it is a haunted house that is filled with regret and memories of mistakes and failures they would like to, but can't, forget (**Gal. 1:13**).

But as wonderful or as humiliating as it may be, yesterday is not our savior, nor will it necessarily condemn us. It makes little difference how faithful we *were* (**1 Tim. 1:19**), what we *meant* to do (**Acts 24:25**), or thought we *would have done* (**Matt. 23:29-36**). God's standard for judging is not yesterday and one's acceptance before Him is not described in the past tense. And, regardless of past mistakes, God's grace and mercy are sufficient to forgive and to forget even if we are unable to do so (**Ps. 103:12**).

But even if the achievements of yesterday were great, remember that the memories of men are short: we, along with our accomplishments, will not likely be immortal. Yesterday will soon be forgotten by tomorrow's generation (**Ecc. 2:16; 9:13-18**). "The world will little note nor long remember what we say here..." was not true of Lincoln's words or deeds but will be of ours.

Yesterday...our knowledge and memories of it can challenge and give courage, or depress and weaken resolve. What power there is in yesterday!

What yesterday was is but a reflection of what tomorrow will be. Others have said it better: "Straight ahead lies yesterday" and "Those who are ignorant of history are doomed to repeat it". Solomon's conclusion was "there is no new thing under the sun" (**Ecc. 1:9-11**). Such statements remind us that looking back can help us to see ahead. Moses encouraged the Jews to "remember the days of old...ask your father...your elders, and they will tell you" (**Deut. 32:7**).

Because Rehoboam refused this counsel, he caused a nation to divide (**1 Kings 12:8**). Yesterday brethren fought and churches divided and the next generation does the same. A careful look at yesterday might prevent such shame and attendant heartache.

Yesterday reminds us of how short life is (**Job 14:1-2**). Our rapidly growing collection of yesterdays makes us humble: "True, today we are here, but tomorrow may see just a grave in the vale and a mem'ry of me". How easy it is to count our yesterdays. How impossible to know of our tomorrows.

Yesterday also impresses upon us the possibility of apostasy. Yesterday I knew men and women who were "once enlightened" but then they "fell away" (**Heb. 6:4-5**); marriages that were apparently strong but have now dissolved. We would do well to look at yesterday and conclude: "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (**1 Cor. 10:12**).

Yesterday...our knowledge and memories of it can challenge and give courage, or depress and weaken resolve. What power there is in yesterday! Allow this power to aid in living happier today and anticipating, with God's will, a better tomorrow.

