

“He Restrained Them Not”

Do you think juvenile delinquency is an evil that is peculiar to our day? If so, then you would do well to read your Bible, particular such passages as are found in the book of First Samuel.

By John Iverson

Eli was judge in Israel and a priest of the living God. When he grew old, instead of his children being a source of joy to that religious leader of olden days, they caused him much heartache and grief. After Eli had heard of the almost unimaginable sins which his sons committed--as recorded in **First Samuel 2:22**--he said unto them, “Why do ye such things? For I hear of your evil dealings by all this people...it is no good report that I hear. Ye make the Lord's people to transgress” (**1 Samuel 2:23,24**).

What a tragedy! The sons of this “man of God” were a stumbling block to the Lord's people! How-

ever, the sons (though vile and wicked indeed) were not altogether to blame, for we are told in **First Samuel 3:13**, “For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not.” Eli did not “curb” his children. He apparently just let them have their way. Perhaps he had the idea that “boys will be boys.” Yes, but those boys grew up to be men--“vile men”!

This case alone should be enough to convince us parents that placing restrictions upon our children is needful if we expect them to grow up to be useful citizens and individuals whose manner of life will be worthy of “the gospel of Christ.”

Fathers and mothers, think on these things!



Classes This Week

Sunday 5:15 Kid's Class at the building	Sunday Evening College Devo and Singing at the Hall's Home. Josh Hudson will be teaching!	Monday 7 PM Ladies "James" Class at Karen Padgett's	Tuesday 8 PM Truth Seekers in Room 2222 Student Center	Thursday 10 AM Ladies "Proverbs" Class at the Rouse's
---	---	---	--	---

Sick

Sam Cox (Friend of Anna Stallings)	Owen Mauldin (Seth and Summer Mauldin's Son)	Frank Hand (Laura Humphrey's dad)	Sandlyn Fultz (Davis Fultz's Sister)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	David Hartsell (Holly and Brad's Father)	Joan Parker (Aurie Adams Grandmother)
Emma Hettinger (William Herd's Mother)	Neal May (Manna Jones' Mother)	Roger Whatley (Daphene Whatley's son)	Andrew Hagewood (Friend of Sarah Norman)
Betty Bradford	Quinton Addison (April Jerkins Grandfather)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	Hannah Wilson (Friend of Mason Chandler)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Don Meadows (Ashley Miller's step-father)	Emily Stallings (Anna's sister)	Madi Wise (Friend of the Robert's)
Marty Meeks, Russell Dickerson (Toni Herd's Nephews)	Kathy Johnson (Erica Seymore's Aunt)	Toni and William Herd	Ann Scaff (Hannah Morris' grandmother)

March Birthdays

- 2 - Maddie Norman
- 2 - Angela Fowler
- 2 - Chase Harrison
- 3 - Shaun Oliver
- 5 - Amanda Barnes
- 7 - Josh Pender
- 8 - Carmen Herd
- 10 - Parker Godwin
- 10 - Pepper Humphrey
- 11 - Becky Harris
- 12 - Brad Hartsell
- 14 - Tyler Claxton
- 16 - Drew Martin
- 17 - Susan Sullivanne
- 18 - MaKenzie Anderson
- 20 - Jimmy Roberts
- 21 - Carter Hunt
- 24 - Jordan Toombs
- 26 - Jared Burton
- 28 - Shelby Freeman
- 29 - Rachel Simpson
- 30 - Amanda Stephens
- 30 - York Smith

News and Notes

- ☒ - Joel Black fell this week and broke his collarbone. Let us pray for and help our brother.
- ☒ - We will have a congregational meeting at 3:30 on Sunday, March 24.
- ☒ - Plans are being made to conduct a VBS on June 24-27 on the life of Joseph. There will be a meeting after services on Sunday night April 7 for those willing to help.
- ☒ - If you are interested in helping to provide individual assistance as need arises please contact Jeff Jerkins for further information.
- ☒ - Let us remember our expectant mother, Nicole Pender, in our prayers.
- ☒ - Let us continue to pray for Glenn Weeks.

The Auburn Beacon



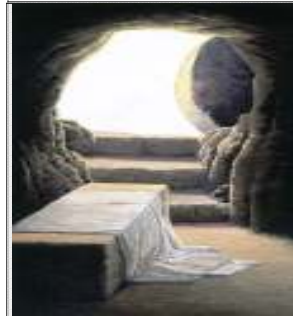
Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (**Matthew 5:16**)

Volume 4, Issue 20

March 17, 2013

The Essentiality of Belief in the Resurrection

By Tom Edwards



Thoughts to Ponder

If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said?

Someone once mentioned that the pyramids of Egypt are famous because they contain the mummified bodies of ancient Egyptian kings. Westminster Abbey in London is renowned because in it rest the bodies of English nobles and notables. Mohammed's tomb is noted for the stone coffin and the bones which it contains. Arlington Cemetery in Washington, D.C., is revered, for it is the honored resting place of many outstanding Americans. All of these are famous because of what they contain. Christ's tomb, however, is renowned because it is empty!

Part of believing in Jesus is believing in His resurrection. This is imperative; and, as one person described, the “linchpin of our complete system”; and that if removed “the whole structure of Christianity collapses” (Arlie J. Hoover). Paul conveyed to the Corinthians how futile one's belief in God would be had it not been for the Lord's resurrection: “...if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins” (**1 Cor. 15:12-19**). And in writing to the Roman brethren, he emphasized “that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,

Because Christ arose, we, too, can have hope of not only a resurrection, but of also a better resurrection (**Heb. 11:35**). There is coming a time when the dead in Christ shall be risen first and then we Christians which are alive to meet the Lord in the air (**1 Thess 4:13-18**), when time shall come to a halt and every element of this physical universe will be dissolved into nothingness.

And in writing to the Roman brethren, he emphasized “that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,

(Continued on page 2)

Elders

Walker Davis
(334) 703-0050
Larry Rouse
(334) 734-2133



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday

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

Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 PM

E-Mail:

larryrouse@aubeacon.com

Larry Rouse
Evangelist and Editor

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

(Continued from page 1)

you shall be saved" (**Rom. 10:9**).

These verses lucidly declare of the need not only for the Lord's resurrection, but also for our belief in that resurrection. A belief, therefore, that doesn't terminate in a tomb of hopelessness, but one that, just as Christ arose, can also help to elevate the believer from his death in sin to a new life in Christ, and where he can see by the eyes of faith Jesus alive and well and at the right hand of God from which He reigns.

What a marvelous sign the Lord's resurrection was (**Matt. 12:38-40; John 2:18-22**). It served to confirm His deity (**Rom. 1:3,4; Acts 1:3**) and helped others to believe. Had it not been for His personal appearances to the apostles after His death, they would have probably remained despondently hopeless in their unbelief. During this interim between the Lord's death and their witness of His resurrection, they appeared as a sad and timid group of lost sheep who were in the process of wandering back to their old pastures of occupation and leaving behind the mission for which Christ had selected them. Even after hearing the testimony of faithful Mary, as she testified of the risen Lord, they were not moved to believe. Apparently, there was not even the slightest inkling that any of them possessed toward the possibility of the Lord's resurrection. After seeing Jesus for themselves, however, they were then enabled to give their all for His cause --

even though that meant suffering on His behalf. Perhaps one of the greatest testimonies towards the resurrection of Christ is this great transformation that occurred in these cowardly and faithless apostles to becoming heroically adamant in their stand for the truth and their endeavors to propagate its teachings even at the cost of their very lives.

Because Christ arose, we, too, can have hope of not only a resurrection, but of also a better resurrection (**Heb. 11:35**). There is coming a time when the dead in Christ shall be risen first and then we Christians which are alive to meet the Lord in the air (**1 Thes. 4:13-18**), when time shall come to a halt and every element of this physical universe will be dissolved into nothingness. Then the "mortal" will have put on "immortality" (**1 Cor. 15:50-53**), and the Christian shall be made "like Him" (**1 John 3:2**) in the sense that He has an eternal, glorified body.

Now is the time to be thinking seriously about making ourselves ready for that day. Whether it will be for you a "resurrection of damnation" or a "resurrection of life" depends on the choice which you make while upon this earth (**John 5:29**). If we can help or encourage you in any way to make this decision for the "resurrection of life," feel free to contact us at the address shown in this bulletin. Yes, as the song tells us, "There's a great day coming...when the saint and the sinner shall be parted, right and left. Are you ready for that day to come?"



The Gospel and Me

By Dee Bowman

How wonderful is that gospel. How phenomenal the facts we believe, how effective the commands to be obeyed, and how marvelous the promises to be received. How dare man tamper with it or change it in any way!

The word "gospel" means "good news." It was originally godspæl in Old English and was thought to mean "sayings that are good" or "God's sayings," one or the other. Either definition fits perfectly the word from which the English "gospel" is translated. In the Greek it is euangelion, "good news."

The gospel is the single most important piece of news in the history of mankind. It contains not only the fact that God has provided for man's salvation, but the means necessary to make that salvation possible. It denotes the grace of God (Jn. 3:16), then tells how man's partaking of that grace through his obedience to the dictates of the gospel (Rom. 1:16) can bring about the salvation of his soul.

For many years, preachers of the gospel have divided the gospel into three distinct areas: facts to be believed; commands to be obeyed; and promises to be received. While this definition may appear to be somewhat simplistic, it is actually very accurate. Let's look at it for a minute.

Facts to be believed. The gospel message introduces one to Jesus Christ. It begins with the creation by God and ends with the salvation by God. Everything in the Old Testament points, in some way or the other to Jesus' coming, His provisions for man's salvation in the New Testament. The facts of His birth, life, and teachings are comprised in the so-called "gospel accounts," Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The facts to be believed concern not only his life and teachings, but, more importantly, His death, burial, and resurrection. Before any salvation is possible for a man, he must believe sincerely the facts of the gospel message.

Commands to be obeyed. God's salvation is—and always has been—conditional. While Christ died for all men's sins (again, Jn. 3:16), all men must meet the conditions He has stipulated in order to obtain

that salvation. "Except ye believe that I am He, ye shall die in your sins" is a condition which must be met before there is salvation in the gospel. But that's not the end of the matter: repentance, confession, and baptism or also commanded by Christ and are necessary conditions for salvation from sin (see Lk. 13:3; Rom. 10: 10-17; Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 22:16; Rom. 6:3-5). Even after achieving

what Jesus refers to as being "born again" (Jn. 3:3-5), there must be an effort to grow into the kind of person He has described as fit for His salvation. Peter says, "but grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 18); and he warns, furthermore, that diligence be taken to make sure of the salvation, for, says he, "the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8). And so the commands for initial salvation must be met and then care taken so that one does not lose that which Jesus has made possible.

Promises to be received. The promises in the gospel are certainly good news. First, there is the assurance that forgiveness of sins and salvation. Next, there is the assurance of being begotten to a "living hope," to "an inheritance that is incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven..." (1 Pet. 1:3-5). The promise of our eternal redemption is further enhanced by the assurance of the resurrected body, the final act of God's redemption. This corruptible body will put on incorruptibility and then "death will be swallowed up in victory" (1 Cor. 15: 54). Truly "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1).

How wonderful is that gospel. How phenomenal the facts we believe, how effective the commands to be obeyed, and how marvelous the promises to be received. How dare man tamper with it or change it in any way!

