

## Honoring Men Above God

Hophni and Phinehas were despicable priests. Eli, their father, verbally rebuked them, but he did nothing further to restrain their abusive conduct. As a result, God brought judgment on Eli and his house. The Lord's complaint to Eli was, "Why did you . . . honor your sons above Me?" (1 Samuel 2:29).

Perhaps few would admit to honoring men above God, yet it is not all that unusual. Do we not do so. . .

- ◆ When we dismiss what the Bible says in favor of what some preacher told us? (2 Timothy 4:3-4)
- ◆ When we are more concerned with the world's view of our appearance than

By Frank Himmel God's? (1 Timothy 2:9-10)

- ◆ When we marry someone whom God has said is not eligible to marry? (Matthew 19:9)
- ◆ When we put social activities ahead of worship? (Matthew 6:33)
- ◆ When due to peer pressure we compromise our morals? (1 Corinthians 15:33)
- ◆ When we refuse to preach on certain subjects for fear it might "turn off" some people? (Luke 9:26)



### Classes This Week

<b>Sunday 5:15 PM</b> Kid's Class at the Building	<b>Monday 7:30 PM</b> Evangelism Class with Ryan Hasty in college classroom	<b>Tuesday 8 PM</b> Truth-seekers in Student Center Rm 2225	<b>Thursday 7 PM</b> Ladies Class - at Laura Humphrey's Home
------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------

### Sick

Brad Marshall (Allie Hosey's Cousin)	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)	Kate Miller (Daughter of Brandon and Erin Miller)
Donna Pridmore (Erin Miller's Mom)	Neal May (Manna Jones' Mother)	Mark Dean (Father of Logan Dean)	Jerry Foropoulos (Anna Jean's Uncle)
Jon Jon Henderson (Suzanne Stagner's cousin)	Quinton Addison (April Jerkins Grandfather)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	Bob Cannon (Friend of Holly Law)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Eli Williams	Emily Stallings (Anna's sister)	Ted Nelson (Sheryl Fowler's Cousin)
Lisa Carter (Josh and Luke Carter's mother)	Joe Perkins (Scott Perkin's Dad)	Toni and William Herd	Tom Davis (Walker Davis' Uncle)

### October Birthdays

- 1 - Aiden Hahn
- 2 - Suzanne Stagner
- 3 - James Malloy
- 3 - Jennifer Hasty
- 4 - Jordan Corneil
- 6 - Jessica Anderson
- 7 - Molly Borden
- 8 - Kelsey Parsons
- 8 - Heath Fowler
- 8 - Coleman Padgett
- 11 - Mason Chandler
- 12 - Stacy Norman
- 14 - Grant Smith
- 15 - Ashton Guy
- 17 - Abbie Buchanan
- 20 - Evan Pender
- 20 - Keith Bailey
- 22 - Christopher White
- 22 - Meredith Bragwell
- 24 - Suzanna Roberts
- 24 - Sarabeth Roberts
- 25 - Bethany Bradford
- 26 - Palmer Daniels
- 29 - Belle Johnson
- 29 - Matt Hall
- 31 - Kitty Tam

### News and Notes

- ☒ - Lets keep in our prayers our expectant mothers, Brittany Bagent, Shang Li and Jana Hall!
- ☒ - Congratulations to Brad and Fallon Hartsell on the birth of their twins, Lucy and Violet, on Monday!
- ☒ - Remember Tim Morton and also Matthew Cavender, a new student to be with us in January, in your prayers as both are deployed to Afghanistan.
- ☒ - Will King's grandfather, H.L. King, is doing better and is now in rehab.
- ☒ - Remember Sheryl Fowler's cousin, Ted Nelson in your prayers as he enters Hospice care for cancer.
- ☒ - Cliff Parsons will be away for one month in LA.
- ☒ - We encourage our members to park on the grass and to move up front to provide seating for our visitors.
- ☒ - Our group meetings will be tonight!
- ☒ - A new teaching quarter begins next Sunday.

# 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 5, Issue 47

September 28, 2014

## Life in the Lion's Den

By Bubba Garner



### Thoughts to Ponder

In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?

(Psalms 56:4)

The story of Daniel in the lion's den is often thought of as a lesson for young people. It is usually grouped in a set of children's books alongside Jonah and the Big Fish or David and Goliath. That's because we picture Daniel as the same young man who distinguished himself in the first chapter with his fellow "youths" Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego.

But by the time you get to **Daniel 6**, over sixty years have passed. Babylon was no longer the ruling power. A new king was on the throne. And Daniel was probably past eighty years old.

All of us—young and old, men and women alike—live in the lion's den. Our world is shrouded in darkness with dangers seemingly around every corner. Our great adversary, the devil, "prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). We are in this lair together.

Our world is shrouded in darkness with dangers seemingly around every corner. Our great adversary, the devil, "prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). We are in this lair together.

What do we need, like Daniel, to survive in the lion's den?

### A Constant Character

What distinguished Daniel from his contemporaries was his "extraordinary spirit" (6:3). When his fellow officials tried to discredit him by uncovering some scandal or skeleton in his closet, "they could find no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption" (6:4). In fact, they concluded that the only way they were going to remove him from power was to find a ground of accusation "with

(Continued on page 2)

### Elders

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



### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday

Bible Class .....9:30 AM  
Worship .....10:20 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### Wednesday

Bible Classes.....7:00 PM

### E-Mail:

[larryrouse@aubeacon.com](mailto:larryrouse@aubeacon.com)

Larry Rouse  
Evangelist and Editor

Check Us Out On the Internet: [www.aubeacon.com](http://www.aubeacon.com)

(Continued from page 1)

regard to the law of his God" (6:5). Daniel was outnumbered 122 to 1. But his constant character was unmatched.

If people were to examine our daily lives, would they find any evidence that we were not who we claimed to be? What signal would our text messages send and what trail would our footsteps leave behind? The world is watching to either accuse us for judging them or to justify what they're doing. Let them see our consistency. With Daniel, even the king noticed that he "constantly" served God (6:16). It's what we must do to keep from getting devoured.

### *A Respect for Right*

Under the government of the Medes and the Persians, the law ruled the king. Darius, as powerful as he was, did not have the authority to make Daniel an exception. Once he signed the law that forbade anyone from making a petition to any god or man besides the king for thirty days, it "could not be revoked" (6:8). Yet Daniel "continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously" (6:10). He didn't do so to openly show his defiance of the law, but he didn't change the habits of his daily worship to avoid the consequences either. He had respect for a higher authority.

Such boldness is needed by all disciples of our day. We must display the courage of Peter and John who, when commanded to preach no more in the name of Jesus, said, "We cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). As the laws of our land lead people further away from the law of the Lord, we should be counted with the apostles who also testified, "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). Instead of cowering to political cor-

rectness, let us stand up and "preach the word" (2 Timothy 4:2). It's always right.

### *An Unfailing Faith*

Even in crisis, Daniel did not give up on God. He could have easily quit serving the Lord in all those years of captivity, but He refused to forsake the One Him that had never forsaken him. When Daniel was brought up out of the lion's den, "no injury whatever was found on him, because he had trusted in his God" (6:23). It was the same faith that had delivered him from every other trial—and without fail.

Faith in God is what will see us through as well. When the Philistines seized David, he wrote, "In God I have put my trust; I shall not be afraid. What can mere man do to me" (Psalm 56:3-4)? No matter our opposition, we must believe that God can shut the lions' mouths of fear, worry, discouragement, temptation, and persecution. In the great hall of faith, Daniel is referenced simply among "the prophets" who "shut the mouths of lions" (Hebrews 11:33). How did he do that? "By faith." Let's be certain we have ours with us in the lion's den.

Daniel was a man of prayer, daily prayed he three times; even when they cast him down in the den of lions.

Even then, in the den, fear could not alarm him. God did shut the lions' mouths so they could not harm him.

Oh that all of God's children would dare to sing this song.



## Famous Lost Words

By Dennis L. Shaver

No one can be right all the time, and no man can live completely free of apologies. If you think you can, then you are already in deep and serious trouble.

By inserting the word "lost" for "last" in the phrase, "Famous Last Words," we arrive at an interesting thought. There are some words that are lost in the vocabulary of modern man. As we look at some of these, we need to be thinking seriously about the effect this has on those around us, and the world in general. If each one would concentrate on incorporating these words, or finding these words, and using them in his vocabulary, the world surely would be a better place in which to live. Now, let us look at some lost words:

**1. "I'm wrong."** The word wrong is not lost, but the pronoun usually connected with it is *you*. It's never me, always you. Some are just like the fellow that allegedly said: "Don't confuse me with the facts, I've already made up my mind." This lost phrase takes very little time to say, but at the same time it takes a great deal of courage. However, many have too much pride to use these words in their vocabulary. Therefore, to them they are lost words. In **Romans 3:4** the apostle Paul says: "...yea, let God be true, but every man a liar." When we study the words of God, this must be in our minds. We don't study God's word to prove our opinions, but rather to understand HIS holy and matchless truths. Much of the problem is related to pride, in that we are afraid someone else might show us, from the Word of God, the truth concerning our belief. We look upon this as man vs. man. But, in reality it is God speaking to man through His word. "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God" (**1 Pet. 4:11**). When we can plainly see that our position disagrees with the word of God, why can't we use the phrase "I'm wrong?" Why do we consider it a shame to be wrong? The wise man Solomon de-

clared: "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." (**Prov. 16:18**). The word of God is profitable for reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness. When one disagrees with the word of God, then he must say, "I'm wrong." We need to give up some of our pride, lest it lead us to eternal torment and pain in the depths of a fiery hell. Let us remember, God is giving the correction through HIS WORD, and not one man to another.

**2. "I'm sorry."** This is closely connected with the last phrase. We no longer hear apologies, at least not very often. Again I am firmly convinced that part of the problem is pride. Paul tells us, "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think..." (**Rom. 12:3**). Don't we pray to God for forgiveness of our sins and wrong doings?" Aren't we saying "I repent;" "I'm sorry?" We admit to God that we are sorry for being weak, and for often failing our duty. We realize our weakness before God, and we are not ashamed to admit it. But, because of our pride, we won't admit our faults before others, yet it is even worse not to admit it and say that you are sorry. It would be a sorrowful thing, if the omission of the words, "I'm sorry" caused one to miss eternal life.

Each one needs to examine himself and see if these are lost words in his vocabulary. If so, it is time for some soul-searching and honest meditation. No one can be right all the time, and no man can live completely free of apologies. If you think you can, then you are already in deep and serious trouble. - **Gospel Guardian, Feb 24, 1972**

