

“Oh My God!”

By R. J. Evans

There is an expression, involving the name of God, which is used extensively today—“Oh my God!” We hear it on TV, at work, at school, in the home—just about everywhere! One of the most commonly used texting expressions today is “OMG”—“Oh my God!” How close do we pay attention to the words that we use? The words we choose to express ourselves are very important. Our Lord tells how important it is to use proper speech in **Matthew 12:36-37**: “But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.” Thus, we should be very selective in choosing our words.

Since God is our Creator and Lord, we ought to speak of Him respectfully. In **Matthew 6:9**, Jesus gave His disciples a model prayer. He begins with “Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.” “Hallowed” means “to hold as holy, sacred or revered.” Under the Old Law, God told the Israelites “You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain” (**Deut. 5:11**). Taking God’s name in vain is to treat it lightly, as if it is useless, a part of idle speech, which manifests disrespect for His name. The Hebrew word for “vain” comes from a word that means “to rush over something or to be careless with it.” Some

of the Jews were so concerned about not committing this sin that they went so far as to totally avoid using certain names of God (such as Yahweh/Jehovah) in their normal conversations. In **Leviticus 19:12**, there was a warning not to profane the name of God. To profane the name of God is a serious matter. The term “profane” means “to treat something sacred with abuse, irreverence or contempt.” Let it be understood that we are not saying, nor are we implying, that the various names of God cannot be used in conversation. They can and should be used, but, always in a reverent and respectful manner. His name should never be used as an exclamation, “filler” or slang word, as is the case in today’s use of the phrase “Oh my God!” At times we hear people using other expressions as slang such as “My Lord!,” “Good Lord!,” “Lordy, Lordy!,” or “Oh Lord!” And, again, the most commonly used expression in texting today is “OMG”—“Oh my God!” As Christians we have the responsibility of keeping our speech pure and above reproach. We must constantly guard against using the Lord’s name as a “filler” in a light, flippant, vain or derogatory manner. We are reminded of the words of the Psalmist: “Holy and reverend is His name” (**Psa. 111:9**)

Classes This Week

Tuesday 10 AM Ladies Class at Paula Davis’ on “Giving God Control”	Tuesday 8 PM Truth-seekers in Student Center Rm 2310	Thursday 7 PM Men’s Study at Walker Davis’ House
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Brad Marshall (Allie Hosey’s Cousin)	Jesse Godwin (Troy’s father and Mac’s grandfather)	Frank Hand (Laura Humphrey’s dad)	Louise Pack (Anna and Christopher’s grandmother)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd’s Sisters)	Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	David Hartsell (Holly and Brad’s Father)	Wanda Price (Ada Owen’s sister)
Betty Mcareavey (Mary Ann Roberts’ mom)	Audrey Barnett (Joanetta’s sister-in-law)	Betty Bradford	Hazel Gilliland and Sherry Carroll (Toni’s relatives)
Tom Davis (Walker Davis’ Uncle)	Joy Powell (Tori Luther’s grandmother)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon’s brother)	William Smith (Ken Sulli- vanne’s broth- er)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley’s Father)	William Herd	Rebecca Davis (Chuck Hahn’s Niece)	Ray Humphrey (Seth’s dad)
John M. Rhodes and Bonnie Rhodes Kirkley (Toni Herd’s family)	Joe Perkins (Scott Perkin’s Dad)	Aubrey Meeks (Toni Herd’s Nephew)	Eleanor McKay (friend of Erica)

October Birthdays

- 1-Jacob Smith
- 1-Aiden Hahn
- 3-Jennifer Hasty
- 3-James Malloy
- 4-Jordan Corneil
- 6-Jessica Anderson
- 7-Molly Borden
- 8-Heath Fowler
- 12-Stacy Norman
- 17-Abbie Harrison
- 18-Eric Shotts
- 20-Evan Pender
- 20-Keith Bailey
- 21-Zac Slay
- 22-Christopher White
- 22-Meredith Bragwell
- 24-Sara Beth Roberts
- 24-Suzanna Roberts
- 25-Bethany Bradford
- 26-Palmer Daniels
- 26-Esther Biddle
- 29-Belle Johnson
- 29-Matt Hall
- 29-Julie Britnell
- 29-Madi Luther
- 29-Stewart West
- 30-Caleb Gandy
- 31-Kitty Tam

News and Notes

- ☒ - Gerald White, had open heart surgery on Wednesday. Saturday it was discovered that he has a condition called abdominal ileus. He has been moved back to ICU as it is a serious condition. Please pray for him.
- ☒ - Tonight is singing night!
- ☒ - Please remember York Smith’s dad, John, in your prayers as he struggles with health issues.
- ☒ - We are thankful that Seth Humphrey’s foot surgery went well on Wednesday.
- ☒ - Please pray for Brittany Bagent’s friend, Erin Brogden, who is pregnant with her daughter, Emmy, and is in the hospital in Montgomery.
- ☒ - Sheryl’s friend’s baby, Jordan Alexander, still has been unable to receive the heart surgery she needs.
- ☒ - Jackie Richardson (gdad of Brandon and Brock Hester) had successful knee replacement surgery and returned home this week from rehab.
- ☒ - Continue to pray for Allen Davis, the grandfather of Matt Logins, as he recovers from surgery. Also pray for his wife, Marie as she care for him.

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**)

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“There Arose a Generation”

By Irven Lee

Moses found a people who were not well informed about God when he went back to Egypt to lead Israel out of bondage. The Lord sent him for this task. It was not a strong faith in Israel that sent out an invitation to Moses to help them escape bondage and find freedom in a land flowing with milk and honey.

During the forty years in the wilderness these descendants of Jacob had a great opportunity to learn much about God and his righteousness. There was a great revelation made. These former slaves were taught by Moses who was given power to confirm his message by miracles, wonders, and signs. Food and water were provided by the power of God in the sight of all. The Lord blessed, punished, and protected a people who needed to learn of him.

After the death of Moses, Joshua continued this leading and teaching process. There may never have been a generation of Jews that knew more about God than those who were given the land by Joshua. Millions of people had grown from childhood to maturity in intimate and personal contact

We are to buy the truth and sell it not. Peter wrote of precious faith (2 Pet. 1:1; Prov. 23:23). Timothy’s life was truly enriched by these two wonderful gifts from his mother and grandmother. Are you in similar way making your children rich? Parents need to start early and work hard at this worthy task.

with God in all his power, love, and righteousness.

“The people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the Lord, that he did for Israel. . . And that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the Lord, nor the works which he had done for Israel. . . and they forsook the Lord god of the fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people

(Continued on page 2)



Thoughts to Ponder

Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and understanding. (**Proverbs 23:23**).

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

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that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the Lord to anger" (**Judg. 2:7-12**).

Moses commanded the parents to train their children with diligence. The book we call Deuteronomy is a book of sermons Moses preached near the end of his long and eventful life. In these sermons he made numerous appeals to the adults to train the young (e.g., **Deut. 6:4-9**). There was none to object to his teaching on this duty, but his suggestion was evidently not heeded with proper zeal.

Children can be taught. They can be taught to have faith and to accumulate knowledge. Eunice and Lois did their work so well in Paul's day that Timothy had "unfeigned faith," and from a child he had known the holy Scriptures (**2 Tim. 1:5; 3:14,15**). This faith and knowledge made Timothy one of the very best servants of his day (see **Phil. 2:19-22**). There are very few like Eunice and Lois, so there are not so many rooted and grounded in the truth as was Timothy.

Many general statements could be made about people in America today. One such remark is that there is a pathetic lack of Bible knowledge in our country. There are a few excellent students today, but in some cases their own children are not being well taught. Such students may be too busy writing, studying and teaching others to teach their own children. They may have a feeling that their children may absorb precious knowledge or just inherit it.

We are to buy the truth and sell it not. Peter wrote of precious faith (**2 Pet. 1:1; Prov. 23:23**). Timothy's life was truly enriched by these two wonderful gifts from his mother and grandmother. Are you in similar way making your children rich? Parents need to start early and work hard at this worthy task.

Ignorance of the holy Scriptures is not a new thing under the sun. Many in the generation before mine did not attend school much so they were poor readers. They worked long

hours to earn a living. Fifty years ago there was a serious lack of effective teachers and song leaders. In those days many attended worship services once a month on "preaching Sunday." Others attended only during the "big meeting" in the summer. Some speak of the great Bible students in the past with "testaments in their pockets." I knew a few, but very few, such people.

Now there is school for every one and there are many with their graduate degrees from the universities. There are many known for their great scholarship. Many of these highly educated people have been trained to a great extent by atheists, and they have been taught to disbelieve the Bible and to have no reverence for God. These educated people are pathetically ignorant of the Bible, but they may often speak with dogmatic arrogance about spiritual things as if their degree with biology gave them authority to speak about Christ and his Father.

There is a great multitude of people who attended school for twelve years, more or less, and who have developed skills and earn good salaries. Many of these watch TV to keep up with the world about them and for entertainment, but they do not read. The TV networks are not teaching people to be Christians! They teach promiscuity, evolution, and materialism. It is hard to reach many of this segment of the population because they do not listen to the gospel or read it. Of course, they are not teaching their children.

We are taught to pray for more laborers in the vineyard. They will have to be found among those who "give attendance to reading" (**1 Tim. 4:13**). If people close their eyes, stop their ears, and harden their hearts, there is hardly any way to help them. Even the Master and his apostles did not reach such people (see **Matt. 15**). The faithful need to shout the gospel from the rooftops to awaken those who are asleep spiritually. Children of the spiritually blind are not well taught, of course. Preachers, teachers, and parents should, by all means, do their "homework" and be well prepared to teach the needed lessons.

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Do What on Sunday?

By Bill Hall

There was a time in our society when nearly everyone thought that it was right to "go to church on Sunday." Even those who didn't attend would agree that they should attend, and felt that one day they would do so. They admired their neighbors who were regular in attendance, and had a deep respect for preachers and others who were truly religious.

Some churches are hardly more than social and welfare society that have little regard for the Bible. Fortunately, there are churches that are spiritual in their emphasis, that have refused to follow the social and promotional ways characteristic of so many of the churches around us.

manner of some is" (**Hebrews 10:25**). The message of these verses is clear. One cannot sit at home on Sundays, or go for a ride in the mountains, or walk in the woods, and please God. If he wants to do what God commands and go to heaven when he dies, he must worship God with God's people.

"But where should I attend?"

That time has passed to a great extent. People are often heard to say, "I can get close to God in ways other than going to church." So they go for a walk in the woods, or drive through the mountains, or go boating on a lake, or sit at home and listen to a preacher on TV. Others feel that good morality is what counts, not church attendance; that if they live a life that is morally clean, give to the needy and various worthy causes, contribute something to the welfare of youth, and in a general way do those things that will make this world a better world, surely God would not send them to hell just because they didn't "attend church."

What does God say about this question? God commands people to worship Him with other Christians on the first day of the week. "And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them" (**Acts 20:7**).... "When ye come together in the church" (**1 Cor. 11:18**)... "When ye come together therefore into one place" (**1 Cor. 11:20**)... "Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs" (**Col. 3:16**).... "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the

someone may be thinking; "So many churches today!" Some churches are hardly more than social and welfare society that have little regard for the Bible. Fortunately, there are churches that are spiritual in their emphasis, that have refused to follow the social and promotional ways characteristic of so many of the churches around us. Where should one attend? Where truth is taught; where the Bible is respected, not only as the word of God, but as the final authority in religion; where worship is conducted "in spirit and in truth," that is, as the scriptures teach (**John 4:24**); where, in every way, the church is seeking to pattern itself after the teaching of the New Testament; where the church is doing what Christ authorizes, rather than what the majority of the members wants to do. This will require investigation, but careful investigation can pay great dividends that are eternal in nature.

We are not telling people to "go to the church of your choice next Sunday;" we are telling people to study the scriptures to learn what God's will is, and to work and worship with others who are determined to do God's will.

