

The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

Volume XXXII

September 29, 2013

Number 39

NEGLECT

"How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?" (Heb. 2:3)

What does it mean to "neglect" salvation? The word translated "neglect" in Hebrews is translated in Matt. 22:5 by a phrase "made light of." The phrase brings to mind a balance in which one weighs what he values; when worldly things tip the scale, he is allowing things of God to be light, unimportant in his judgment. So he "makes light of," neglects, his great salvation. It does not mean that what he does is inherently evil or immoral. It means he has made it evil by allowing it to be unduly important in his thinking.

The "balance" may be between assembling with the saints on the one hand, or "sleeping in" on the other. Any number of innocent activities may hinder what should be our primary purpose in life. We may be weighing in the balance "laying by in store" on the first day of the week as opposed to a shopping spree during a holiday season or spending more for equipment for a favorite hobby or sport. Things innocent in themselves can constitute neglect if they become more important than salvation.

The choice may be in the realm of nutrition; of the flesh or of the spirit. Actually, there is not a choice to be made here, for nutrition of both flesh and spirit are necessary; but when men and women who "never miss a meal" as far as fleshly food is concerned regard Bible study (at home or with the saints) as nonessential or unimportant, which kind of nutrition "weighs" more with them? Obviously they are making light of the great salvation. If you had to make a choice between being healthy physically or being healthy spiritually, which would you choose? Which would weigh more with you?

Suppose you had to make a choice between being materially prosperous or being spiritually prosperous. Which would you choose? In 3 John 2 John said "Beloved, I pray that in all things you may prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers." Financial prosperity and spiritual prosperity are not mutually exclusive; but if you could have only one, which would you choose? In most cases we are allowed a degree of physical prosperity while still enjoying spiritual well-being. The temptation is to enhance our physical well-being "for a while" at the expense of spiritual concerns. There is a Biblical character who had this problem. The Lord said to him, "Thou foolish one, this night is thy soul required of thee, and the things which thou hast prepared, whose shall they be?" (Luke 12:20).

Don't neglect our great salvation.

Bulletin Board

Sermon
Notes:

AM Lesson - Jack - "The Secret to Success"
PM Lesson - Steve - "Surviving Anger"

Please keep the following members in mind who have difficulty being with us due to prolonged illness: **Dee Boyd, Doris Norman, Billie Glitsch and Don Hurd.**

NEWS AND NOTES: Several updates on health, though not of "our" members. We received word from Robert Zuniga about the passing of his uncle who preached for the church they now attend. Our sympathy to the family and the church in this loss. Gene Mabry is still in the hospital in Sugarland. Don't know how long he will be there. His health has declined steadily over the last several years. Keep him and family in your prayers. Jesus Trevino, who preaches in Lake Jackson is in Memorial Herman. His situation is complicated. Heart and perhaps kidney's complicated by diabetes. Also remember Pat Butler's brother. He had surgery last week to remove a mass in his colon. On a brighter note. Enrique Villarreal was with us Wed. night and says Levi is doing well. While asking favors/blessings from God, don't forget to give thanks.

Remember our gospel meeting/ singing next weekend. Tony Mauck will be speaking Friday and Saturday. Schedule is on the bulletin board.

CHRIST-I-A-N

The word Christian is found only three times in the New Testament (Acts 11:26; 26:28; I Peter 4:16), but is a very significant word. The word itself means something like "of, pertaining to, or belonging to Christ."

Years ago Marshall Keeble used to say that if you take Christ out of the name Christian, all you have left are the letters i-a-n. He said that those remaining letters with Christ taken out stand for the words, "I ain't nothing." Truly, without Christ, one must say, spiritually speaking, "I am nothing." However, when one is in Christ, those letters i-a-n can mean, "I am new."

One who has been scripturally baptized has been raised with Christ to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4). He has put on the new man (Col. 3:10). Now, as one who is in Christ, he is a new creature (2 Cor. 5:17).

Regarding the word Christian, you must admit "I am nothing" or you can say with joy, "I am new."
Darrell Beard

"A rejoicing Christian is one of God's best advertisements."

"The emptier the pot, the quicker it boils. Watch your temper."

Assignments for today

Sunday, September 29, 2013

Morning Service

Announcements.....Rudy Black
Hymn Director.....Robert McDonald
Scripture Reading.....Mark 16:6
Scripüre Reader...Jay Martin
Opening Prayer.....John Moon
Closing Prayer.....Rudy Black

Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Greg Williams
Opening Prayer.....Bill Hill
Closing Prayer.....Rudy Black

BELLAIRE church of Christ

8001 South Rice Ave • P.O. Box 1029
Bellaire, Texas 77402
713/668-4810

<http://www.bellairechurchofchrist.org>

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible study
5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional
Minister and editor
Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

The Reminder is published weekly by the church of Christ in Bellaire