

“Every Leaning Side”

I have shared the prayer thoughts of my good brother Jones before (He is the one who prays to God as one that **“can do anything but fail”**). Another expression unique with him comes up when he is praying to God for strength. The actual words vary from prayer to prayer, but the general thought is that God would “strengthen us where we are weak, and **build us up on every leaning side**”. To me, this calls to mind God’s picture of life as a “house” (**Matt 7:24-28**), being built every day, with a roof, and “sides” to which attention must be paid. Left to ourselves, the edifice is bound to be unstable, and each part of the house is subject to structural weakness. Metaphorically, **every** side of my life is only as strong as I allow God to have an input. The expression from bro. Jones carries both an element of trust

By Aubrey Belue

and a submissive will. God is asked to “inspect” our lives for defective work (we will thus be unerringly seen as to our real needs), and finding such, He can be counted on for the proper input which will make us strong. The expression ASSUMES human weakness, needing only for specific flaws to be uncovered, and Divine help, with which these weaknesses will be strengthened. It needs to be said – such strengthening is accomplished through the “word of His power”, the materials for proper building are incorporated into it. Indeed, we are **“His workmanship**, created in Christ Jesus unto good works” (**Eph 2:10**) It is He who “worketh in us both to will of do of **His good pleasure**” (**Phil 2:13**). We “lean”, **He** makes strong!

Sunday 5:15 Kid’s Class at the Building	Monday 7 PM Men’s Class at Walker Davis’ House	Tuesday 8 PM “Truth Seekers” at Student Center - Room 2310	Wednesday 12 Noon Ladies “Proverbs” class at the Rouse’s	Friday Classes 6-8 PM - 1st-6th grade at the Weldon’s ; 6:30- 8:30 PM - 7-12th Grades at Walker Davis’
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Sick			
Sam Smith (Ken Sullivan’s brother)	Eli Williams (Friend of Sarah Norman)	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)	Jeffery Miller (Friend of Walker Davis)
Emma Hettinger (William Herd’s Mother)	Neal May (Manna Jones’ Mother)	Roger Whatley (Daphne Whatley’s son)	Andrew Hagewood (Friend of Sarah Norman)
Pat Webb (Friend of Jared Johnson)	Quinton Addison (April Jerkins Grandfather)	Diane Hudson (Josh Hudson’s grandmother)	Arline Harkrider (Nichole Pender’s Grandmother)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley’s Father)	Dave Brown (Friend of the Lanier’s)	Emily Stallings (Anna’s sister)	Madi Wise (Friend of the Robert’s)
Marty Meeks, Russell Dickerson (Toni Herd’s Nephews)	Frances Fultz (Davis Fultz’s grandmother)	Judy Nichols (Suzanne’s Mother)	Owen Mauldin (Seth and Summer Mauldin’s Son)

October Birthdays
1 - Aiden Hahn
2 - Suzanne Nichols
6 - Jessica Anderson
8 - Heath Fowler
9 - Seth Edwards
11 - Mason Chandler
12 - Stacy Norman
14 - Grant Smith
17 - Abbie Buchanan
20 - Evan Pender
20 - Olivia Hillard
20 - Keith Bailey
22 - Meredith Bragwell
22 - Hunter Crawford
22 - Christopher White
22 - Chris Davis
24 - Sarabeth Roberts
24 - Suzanna Roberts
24 - A. J. Price
25 - Bethany Bradford
25 - Josh Sutton
26 - Palmer Daniels
26 - Sarah Sutton
29- Belle Johnson
29 - Matt Hall
31 - Kitty Tam

News and Notes
☒ - Congratulations to Karen and Justin Padgett on the birth of Coleman Craig Padgett on Monday night!
☒ - The Elders will present the names of potential deacons to the church tonight. We then will have a 2 week period for discussion and objection.
☒ - The flower fund is running low. Please see Yvette Rouse to contribute!
☒ - Let us remember out expectant mothers in our prayers, Emily S. Jones and Nicole Pender.
☒ - Lori Holloway is not doing well. She is home under hospice care.
☒ - Will King had successful surgery on Wednesday.
☒ - New address: Holly and Caleb Law 13614 Hwy 280 W; Waverly, AL 36879

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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Thoughts to Ponder

Obedience is the key that unlocks the door to every profound spiritual experience.

Is Only One Church Right?

By Sewell Hall

Probably no charge creates more prejudice against a group of people than the charge that they think there is only one church that is right. This fact clearly indicates that most Americans consider all churches right. Is it possible that only one church is right?

At least three other questions must be answered before this one can be answered intelligently.

1. Is there such a thing as right and wrong? Many who complain so bitterly about such a claim do not believe that anything is absolutely right or wrong. If there is no right and wrong, then obviously any claim to be the only right church would be ridiculous. However, if there is a God and if He created us, then He is the standard of right and wrong (**Romans 3:4**). His word is truth (**John 17:17**).

2. Is there a right and wrong in religion? Some who accept the concept of right and wrong in the realm of morals exclude it from

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religion. They seem to think that God is so loving and good that He will accept anything man may do and dedicate to Him. But Jesus warned of false teachers who would come in sheep’s clothing (**Matthew 7:15**). He stated that worship was made vain by teaching the doctrines of men (**Matthew 15:9**). Paul informed the Galatians that anyone who preached any other gospel than what he had preached would be accursed

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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

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(**Galatians 1:8**), and Peter predicted that there would be false teachers among us (**2 Peter 2:1**). So religious teachings can be false and religious practice can be wrong. Jesus also said, "Every plant which my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted" (**Matthew 15:13**). This is equal to saying that churches not planted by the Lord will be rejected.

3. Has God designated any exclusives in religion? Consider **Ephesians 4:4-6**.

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." The "one" in these verses obviously means "one and only one."

These verses do not allow for our modern broad-mindedness. Such broad-mindedness, however, is not really new; it existed in the first century among the Ephesians to whom this was written. Paul became the focus of a riot because he insisted "that there are no gods made with hands" (**Acts 19:26**). To put it another way, he preached there was "one and only one" God. The Ephesians were tolerant of many gods, but intolerant of anyone who said there was only one. Most of us would agree that there is one and only one God. But the same verses say, "there is one body." What is this one body? The same writer says in **Ephesians 1:22-23** that God has given Christ "to be head of all things to the church which is His body." So if there is one body and that body is the church, this is saying there is one church. If one God means only one God, then one body means one body or only one church.

What is the one church? Without doubt, the one body (church) referred to in **Ephesians**

4:4-6, was the church than Jesus promised to build (**Matthew 16:18**). It was to be founded on the fact that He was the Christ, the Son of God. That church began on the day of Pentecost (**Acts 2**), when Jesus was first publicly proclaimed to be the Christ, based upon the facts of His resurrection from the dead. Those who believed asked, "What shall we do?" Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit"...Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them...And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (**Acts 2:37-38, 41, 47**).

Please note that all who were saved were added to the church. It includes all who were saved, for the Lord added all who were saved to it. But if it included all who were saved it was not a denomination, for a denomination by definition is only one part of a whole. Neither was it a combination of all denominations, nor even an association of local churches known as "churches of Christ." The one body was made up of individual members, not of local churches. It was the one true church to which all who were saved were added. It was that one body described in Ephesians.

How can this church be identified? Jesus said that the gates of Hades would not prevail against His church (**Matt. 16:18**). It must be in existence today. If it is, it has Jesus Christ as its only Lord and the gospel as its only faith. It is entered by the one baptism, it still includes all who are saved, and it is not one of many. It is the body of Christ (**Colossians 1:18**), Christ's church (**Matthew 16:18**), the church of God (**Galatians 1:13**), the house of God (**1 Timothy 3:15**). It is the one and only church that is right.



Serious Business

By Cled Wallace

The gospel is the only means of escape from sin with its indescribable consequences. How zealous, then, should Christians be in preaching the gospel! It is serious business.

The work of saving men from sin is serious business. Jesus Christ, "existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the cross." (**Phil. 2: 5-8.**) God sent him as the greatest apostle ever known on the greatest mission ever conceived—the redemption of mankind from sin. In pursuance of this mission, the "ministry of reconciliation" was chosen, the great commission was given, and

the gospel became the power of God unto salvation. When Christ ascended up on high, the Holy Spirit came down and the apostles became active ambassadors on behalf of their reigning Lord. "We cannot but speak the things

which we saw and heard," (**Acts 4:20**) Peter and John said sharply to the angry Sanhedrin. "The love of Christ constraineth us; woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel." (**1 Cor 9:16**) Paul considered himself a "debtor both to Greeks and to Barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish," (**Rom 1:14**) to the full extent of his opportunity and ability in preaching the gospel. A world lying in the evil one is a direct challenge to the church. The fact that the world was evangelized in a generation, in the face of persecution armed and designed for annihilation, affords eloquent testimony to the magnificent manner in which that challenge was met in the first century when Christianity was new.

Christians today view a world in sin with too much complacency, or indifference, maybe it is. Too many well-fed and properly clothed disciples feel that the measure of their responsibility is attending a service or so and dropping

in a coin or so occasionally. But is it? Paul said: "I have great sorrow and unceasing pain in my heart." Let us note

the occasion of this distress. His "kinsmen according to the flesh," the Jewish nation, for whom God had done so much and from whom Christ had come, were displaying an amazing and unreasonable stubbornness in their rejection of the Lord and opposition to the gospel. Paul was chilled to the heart at the thought of their lost condition, in their fatal self-righteousness. Suffer for them? Sacrifice on their behalf? He would do anything and everything for them. "I could wish that I myself were anathema from Christ for my brethren's sake, my kinsmen according to the flesh." (**Rom 9:3**) Were it possible to do such a thing or right to wish such a thing, Paul was capable of choosing a place in hell, if thereby he could purchase a home in heaven for the Jewish race. Such burning intensity mocks the insipid indifference of many present-day disciples. Sin is a terrible reality, and through it death reigns. It even worked condemnation and ruin through such a good thing as the law. The gospel is the only means of escape from sin with its indescribable consequences. How zealous, then, should Christians be in preaching the gospel! It is serious business. - Gospel Advocate, May 11, 1933

