

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

Sunday morning worship (Bible study)	9:30 AM
Sunday morning worship (Preaching)	10:30 AM
Sunday afternoon worship (Preaching).....	4:00 PM
Wednesday evening worship (Bible Study).....	7:00 PM

NEWS AND NOTES

SCHEDULE: The schedule for September will be posted on the bulletin board so the men can see what their responsibilities are for the month.

MOVING: Helen Sparks has moved back to TN. Here is the correct address (I left out one of the 6's last week) 13667 Chapman Hwy, Seymour, TN 37865.

EDITOR OUT OF TOWN: Jerry and Dottie are leaving after services this evening for an extended trip. Jerry will be preaching in Ranchester, WY Wednesday evening Aug. 28. He has a meeting in Sunnyside, WA Sept. 1 - 4. We will be with the church in Blackfoot, ID Sunday Sept 8. We plan to be in Lubbock, TX for Bible study Wednesday Sept 11. From there we will go to Beaumont, TX to see some of our grandchildren and worship with them Sept 15. We plan to be back home Sept 17 and resume our work here. Bruce Tooley has scheduled men to preach and he will be doing some off the preaching while we are away. David Tiffin will be teaching on Wednesday evening.

SICK AND SHUT-INS: Charles Weatherbee had a pacemaker and a stint put in. He is recovering well, but must have another stint put in soon. Remember Telford Hamm's brothers. Nancy Summerford's mother has Alzheimer's. Nancy's sister-in-law, Jeannie Bowen continues to improve. Donna Criswell is caring for her aunt, Nell Barrett whose condition is worse at times. Donna's brother-in-law, Sam Livingston is about the same. Virgie Waddle's sister-in-law, Jean Malone is now in the Red Bay Nursing home.

TEACHING EFFORTS: Our teaching bulletin, the **EASTSIDE EXAMINER**, was in the **Red Bay News** June 26 with a meeting announcement on the front and an article on the back. There are copies of the new issue on the table in the foyer. There is also an ad in the local paper once a month offering a free Bible correspondence course. Remember our TV/Radio program on local Cable TV channels 12 and 97 at 6:30 AM and 4:30 PM on Sunday and various times through the week as well as the audio on radio stations 1430 AM and 97.9 FM. It is also on Facebook live at various times. There are DVD copies of the TV program available. Jerry is also on the radio on 95.5 FM about 10 AM each Sunday. Please pray that these efforts will reach people interested in studying God's word.

GOSPEL MEETINGS: Eastside (Athens) Sept 8 - 10 with Jeff May, Mon - Tues 7 pm. Kelly Spring Road (Harvest, AL) Sept 8 - 11 with Bill Hall, Mon - Wed 7pm. East Florence Sept 15 - 20 with Colby Junkin, Mon - Fri 7 pm. River Bend Sept 22 - 27 with Donnie Rader, Mon - Fri 7 pm. Phil Campbell Sept 29 - Oct 2 (speaker and time unknown). If you know of meetings in the area, please tell the one making announcements.

POINTS TO PONDER

- Love that doesn't understand the language of sacrifice is not love.

THE EASTSIDE REMINDER

2Pet 1:12-15

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APPLAUDING THE PRACTICE

By Joe Fitch

Long ago at the Olympic Games in Athens, it is said a feeble old man came in late. No seats were left. As he passed their seats, the Athenians laughed at him. Then he passed two Spartans. Quickly they rose to offer him a seat, for they had been trained to be modest and courteous. When the Athenians saw this, they cheered the Spartans. "Ah," said the old man, "The Athenians admire what is right; the Spartans practice it." (Story courtesy of that prolific writer, brother "Selected").

A godly man died suddenly. People were shocked -- stunned by the unexpected. Brethren in Christ felt keenly the loss of a dependable worker and companion. Men of all classes and persuasions gathered in small groups to sadly shake their heads, recall the past, and applaud a good man.

"He was sure a hard worker -- always tried to do more than was expected." That was true. He exemplified Paul's admonition: "...let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth" (Eph. 4:28). It was not the statement that was amazing but who said it -- a lazy fellow who did nothing he could get out of.

Another added, "He was surely honest -- as honest as the day is long." A thought flashes to mind: "Provide things honest in the sight of all men" (Rom. 12:17). No one disagreed, but these words of praise fell from lips skilled in lies wherever a dollar is at stake.

The applause continues: "He was a church-going man. Surely if there was ever a Christian, he was one." Heads nod agreement, but neither they nor the speaker are accustomed to filling a pew when people gather to worship. They are more in the habit of walking roughshod over the principles of Christianity than in keeping them.

A preacher spoke to mourners of his dead friend and the Bible he lived by. "What a beautiful eulogy." Yet many who were impressed by the words spoken refuse to live so that such can honestly be said of them.

When the applause subsides, an observer is compelled to add a final word -- "Go, and do thou likewise" (Lk. 10: 37). No greater tribute can be paid a good man than to imitate his devotion to good. "That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises" (Heb. 6:12).

I can't help thinking as a result of listening and observing:

Many people pay little attention in life to the things that are so important when it comes time to die.

We are so prone to compliment others for the very virtues which we carefully avoid cultivating in ourselves.

A godly man commands the admiration of all -- even the vile and irreligious.

There are far more people willing to applaud a good life than are willing to make the sacrifices necessary to live one.

Some folk are content with the office of spectator -- applauding good but not practicing it.

-- Via Plain Talk, vol. 6, no. 12, February, 1970

"FELLOWSHIP"

By Robert F. Turner

In 1John 1: John describes his fellowship with God as one dependent upon his walking "in the light" of God's truth. He had learned of Christ firsthand, and then wrote this truth for our benefit; so that we may have the same kind of fellowship he had, i.e., fellowship with God. There is no fellowship with God for those who walk in darkness - error and sin.

But in 3John (verses 9-10) John tells us of some of his brethren (evidently folk who had fellowship with God) who had been cast out of the church. Diotrefes had severed fellowship with them, and forbade others to have such

fellowship. This was wrong, undoubtedly; but the fact remains that it could and did happen. This is a case where God maintained a fellowship which men refused.

The opposite is true in 1Corinthians 5. Here, a member of the church in Corinth (whom we conclude to have had fellowship with God at one time) now lived in immorality. According to 1John 1: (and implied here) this man had now severed his fellowship with God. He walked in darkness. But the brethren in Corinth continued to keep fellowship with him. This too, was wrong - but it did happen. Men maintained a fellowship which God refused.

Thus, two types of fellowship are apparent - that with God, depending wholly upon our walking in truth; and that with men (even brethren), which is subject to man's approval or disapproval. Saying we should approve only that which God approves (with which I agree) does not change facts. Brethren sometimes approve that which they should not - or disapprove that which they should accept. God knows the difference, and judges accordingly; but the 'party' doesn't always act as God would have it act.

As we individually obey the gospel, we pledge ourselves to serve God. To Him we must individually give account when life is through (Matthew 16:24; Romans 14:4,12). Following this agreement of allegiance, and subject to these obligations, we join hands with others to work and worship together in a local fellowship, or congregation. God commands this union; the ties of this association are grand and its obligations real; but it remains the means of serving the Master, and must never become our Master.

Fellowship of men with men is an earthly tie which has an acceptable religious significance only when it complements our service to God. It is given divine regulations, but men do not always follow those regulations. One who counts on the outward bond of 'church' fellowship alone to guarantee his spiritual redemption, leans on a broken reed. No, I do not depreciate the importance of the church. I seek to emphasize the meaning of the true church, as God's people, we do God's work in God's way - praised for their allegiance and service to God, rather than for their faithfulness to the 'party'.

Brethren who are primarily interested in keeping their fellowship with God intact, will be drawn to one another by his common interest, and find a congregational fellowship that forecasts the sweetness of heaven.