

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 is posted on the bulletin board so the men can see what their responsibilities are for the month.

SICK AND SHUT-INS: There is no current news of the sick due to the editor being on a preaching trip and taking some vacation time.

OUT OF TOWN: Jerry and Dottie are out of town for Jerry's meeting work and some vacation time to see some grandchildren. They plan to be home on Tuesday.

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: If you know of meetings in the area, please tell the one making announcements.

POINTS TO PONDER

- Moral excellence comes about as a result of habit. We become just by doing just acts, temperate by doing temperate acts, brave by doing brave acts.
- A long habit of not thinking a thing wrong gives it a superficial appearance of being right.
- Reputation is what men and women think of us; character is what God knows of us.
- Holding on to anger is like grasping a hot coal with the intent of throwing it at someone else; you are the one who gets burned.

THE EASTSIDE REMINDER

2Pet 1:12-15

Published by the Eastside church of Christ Red Bay, AL
Meeting at the corner of Hwy 24 East and Meadow Dr.
Web Site: <http://eastsidechurchrb.com/>

Vol. III - No. 20 – September 15, 2019

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RESIST THE DEVIL

By Joe Fitch

Resisting the devil is the demand of both James (4:7) and Peter (1Pet. 5:8). But how do we do that?

We must have the will to resist. Some so love the world and pleasures of sin that they simply do not want to resist. "...and the lusts of your father (the devil) ye will do"-- you wish to do (Jn. 8:44). Such people do not resist: they give up--quickly--easily--gladly. God works successfully in man by getting him to "will and do after His good pleasure" (Phil. 2:13). Nothing replaces "want to."

We also need a confident spirit--a "can do" attitude. We seldom rise higher than our expectation. Remember Peter? He said, "Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended...Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee" (Matt. 26:33,35). He did deny and that before morning. Yet we should not expect him to renounce his claim. Later, Jesus called for him to reaffirm that bold commitment. He told Peter that in the final scene, he would measure up to it (Jhn. 21:15-19). And remember Paul's "I can do...through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13). And we "can do" too.

We also use scripture to resist. The Bible is not a charm that scares the devil away, but its truth in man enables man to intimidate him. Jesus met the devil with "It is written" and the devil left him (Matt. 4:1-f). It is our "sword" to fight the devil (Eph. 6:17). The devil's strong

delusion overcomes only those who "love not" and "believe not" the truth (2Thes. 2:10-12).

Prayer helps us resist. The Lord prayed for Peter in his crisis (Lk. 22:32) and told him later to "watch and pray, lest ye enter into temptation (Mk. 14:38). The Lord spent the night before his arrest in prayer. Paul asked brethren to pray for him that he might boldly preach as he ought" (Eph. 6:18-20). Ask God for help; he knows how to deliver (2 Pet. 2:9).

We need wisdom to help us resist. James recommended prayer for wisdom in time of trial (1:5). This is no fool's game! Good judgment is absolutely necessary if we are to defeat the cunning of the devil. Successful resistance demands that we be "not ignorant of his devices (2Cor. 2:11).

It takes character to resist the devil. That means being "strong in the Lord" and "putting on the whole armor of God." The result? We will stand against the wiles of the devil" and "withstand in the evil day" (Eph. 6:10-13). The weak are devoured by Satan. Good character rejects sin. Even in the stress of hot anger, good character will "sin not...neither give place to the devil" (Eph. 4:26,27). Paul sent to "know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you" (1Thes. 3:5). Therefore, we are urged to "resist steadfast in the faith" (1Pet. 5:9).

Good associations help our resistance to evil (Gal. 6:1) as surely as evil companions corrupt (1Cor. 15:33). Good brethren, "provoke unto love and good works" (Heb. 10:24).

-- Plain Talk, vol. 19, no. 9, November, 1982

WATER IN GOD'S PLAN

By Robert F. Turner

In the very long ago God chose to use water as the means of destroying a sin-cursed world (Gen. 6). I do not know why He did it this way. I'm sure there were many other means at His disposal--but God sent a great flood upon the earth, by which He removed the corruption, and saved Noah and his family (1Pet. 3:20-f). Thus, water became a "dividing line" between the filthy and the cleansed.

When God delivered the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage, He led them to the Red Sea. This was not the regular route out of Egypt. Not far to the north was a dry-land route. But God led them to the sea and made for them

a path between walls of water. They were immersed in cloud and sea (1Cor. 10:1-f). When Pharaoh's army sought to follow them, the sea closed on it, destroying this enemy. Thus, water became a "dividing line" between bondage and freedom. I do not know why God did it this way.

When Naaman, captain of the Syrian army, came to God's prophet for healing of his leprosy, he was told to "wash in the Jordan seven times (2Kings 5:). It does seem a strange requirement! Naaman said "I thought" the prophet would do differently. He reasoned that his homeland streams were better than Jordan--if water was all that was needed. But of course, water was only the medium chosen by God for this miracle. I do not know why God did it this way.

But I know that when Naaman submitted to God's command, and dipped seven times in the Jordan, he was healed of his leprosy. Some may ask, "Was there anything in the water that contributed to this healing?" I answer, "Yes!! Naaman was in the water, where God told him to be." The healing was by God's power, but it was applied to an obedient subject only. Thus, water became the "dividing line" between sickness and health.

When Jesus healed the man born blind (Jn. 9:1-f) He used water as the "dividing line" between blindness and sight. He anointed the man's eyes with clay, then said, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam."

I do not know why He did it this way. I only know that the man was blind until he did what the Lord told him to do--and when he washed, he could see.

God, with divine power, cleansed the world, freed Israel, healed the leper, and gave sight to the blind. In all these manifestations of His power He used the element water. He asked the subjects to use that water as He directed; and He withheld the blessing until their faith was thus demonstrated. I do not know why. It has not occurred to me to question.

And it is difficult for me to understand why people who claim to have faith in God, will question His command to be baptized "for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38; 22:16). Is it so strange that God would choose to use water as the "dividing line" between the old life of sin and the new Christian life? (Rom. 6:3-f) The more puzzling question is how a true believer could "reject the counsel of God against himself?" (Lk. 7:30)

-- Plain Talk, vol. 3, no. 1, February, 1966