

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

GUEST SPEAKERS: We enjoyed having Joe Hamm with us last Sunday afternoon. Today we will have three guest speakers. Dan Henderson, whom we help support, will speak during the Bible class period and Ruben Prevost, Dan's son-in-law will present a lesson during the morning worship. At the Sunday afternoon worship period, Jonathon Henderson will be speaking for us. Then Wednesday evening the 25th Ben Hall, whom we help support, will be speaking for us.

NEW LIST: There is a new list on the bulletin board to sign up for preparing the Lord's Supper

SICK AND SHUT-INS: Donna Criswell's aunt, Nell Barrett is not doing very well. Donna's brother has moved in with Aunt Nell, but Donna is providing most of her care. Donna's brother-in-law, Sam Livingston, is not doing well. Jane Edwards continues physical therapy. Zola Basham's sister, Mary Hall was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Brother Butz's sister has a mass in her chest that may be cancer. Remember Telford Hamm's brothers and his brother-in-law. Remember Jack Elliott's niece. Nancy Summerford's mother is in last stages of Alzheimer's. Virgie Waddle's sister-in-law, Jean Malone is in the Red Bay nursing home. Alice Hamm spent a few days in the hospital, but is home now.

OUT OF TOWN: Marvin Butz is visiting his daughter in North Carolina and will not be back until sometime in January.

TEACHING EFFORTS: Our teaching bulletin, the **EASTSIDE EXAMINER**, will be in the **Red Bay News** the first or second week in January. There will be copies of the new issue on the table in the foyer for those who do not receive a paper. 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.

POINTS TO PONDER

- When the prayers of the righteous ascend, the blessings of God descend.

THE EASTSIDE REMINDER

2Pet 1:12-15

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HE WILL COME AGAIN

By W. Bruce Tooley

Just as surely as Jesus came into the world the first time - He will surely come again. When Jesus was trying to prepare His apostles for His departure, He assured them "I will come again" (John 14:3). On the occasion of His ascension two angels said, "this same Jesus... will come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:9-11). As an assurance of the second coming Paul encourages Christians when he writes "the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with a voice of an archangel and the trump of God" (1Thessalonians 4:14-16). John writes about Jesus' second coming "every eye shall see Him" (Revelation 1:7).

It is interesting to note that Jesus considered the faith that His apostles had in Him and the Father would give them the assurance in that He would "come again to receive you to myself" (John 14:3). So, he could urge them "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me" (John 14:1). Hence, our confidence in the certainty of His coming depends upon our faith in Him and the Father. If our faith in Them is unwavering, then our confidence that He shall come again will be without question.

IT'S YOUR LIFE, YOU KNOW

By Dee Bowman

Life is filled with perplexities, puzzlements of various sorts. It has odd turns: seemingly insignificant things sometimes turn out to be terribly significant; things that aren't supposed to work out, but sometimes do; and things that seemingly should work out, but don't. Life is a tangled web, a knotty, mostly inexplicable web. Man seeks to describe it, to explain it, and he can't. All he can do is live it.

But don't despair. There is more to life than just an inexplicable maze of un-related and un-controllable events. Actually, God made life, and it is to Him that we must turn for information concerning its proper management. Life can be a zesty, fulfilling experience, even in the face of difficulty or adversity, if it is lived in accordance with the designs of the Maker. Otherwise it's just an empty shell lived without meaning and with little genuine happiness attached to it.

First, let it be carefully observed that a life divorced from God has little meaning. Solomon paints a sordid picture of life in Ecclesiastes. He says that the sun rises and goes down over and over. He says that one generation comes and another passes away. He says that the weather forecast really doesn't change that much—that one cold front follows another, that “that which is crooked cannot be made straight and that which is wanting cannot be numbered” (Eccl. 1:15). Paul the Apostle echoes the same sentiment when he exclaims, “if in this world only we have hope, we are of all men most miserable (1Cor. 15:19). So, let it first be noted that a good life begins by getting in touch with God.

Life has meaning when it generates service. Service is the essence of life. To put oneself at the disposal of others is to bring meaning to life, to be a part of society, to bring honor to the Creator. We are “all members one of another” (Rom. 12:5). That means that we are joined

in service to one another. We don't all have the same talent, but we all have some talent with which to serve. Want a fulfilling life? Put yourself at the disposal of others. Get out of yourself and get involved in serving others.

Life has meaning when it is motivated by love. Love is the divine energizer. It brings things about. It generates the motion necessary for everything from good marital relationships, to good congregations of God's people. Actually, what is not motivated by love is of little value in the ultimate reality. Love broadens, softens, actuates, disciplines, clarifies, joins, repairs, and is behind every sort of human happiness. Love and you'll be loved. Love and you'll be blessed—even when things go wrong.

Furthermore, life has meaning when it is pointed in the right direction. “I am the way, the truth, and the life,” is Jesus' way of saying “point your life toward me or it will have no real meaning.” The Hebrew writer must have had this concept in mind when he said we should run the race “with patience, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.” To look in the wrong direction is disastrous, folks! You'll have a wreck for sure.

Finally, faith is the substance for giving life real meaning. A life that has been lived without any connection to the life hereafter is foolish indeed. More than that, it's a terrible waste! Even the light afflictions are made easier to bear, the disappointments easier to shoulder if there is faith in the Eternal. “Our light affliction worketh for us a far greater and eternal weight of glory, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal” (2Cor. 4:17-18). You should know by now that “faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Heb. 11:1). Our faith is the basis for our hope. If we look in the right direction, we will see it—off in the distance there—eternal life. Now that's a life worth living!