

## 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 August will be posted on the bulletin board so the men can see what their responsibilities are for the month.

**SERVICE TIMES:** Thankfully, we have been able to resume our normal schedule of assemblies.

**STAYING IN:** As a result of the seriousness of the Corona Virus outbreak some members have been staying at home and may continue to do so, as a result of underlying health issues or just precautionary. We respect their decisions.

**SICK AND SHUT-INS:** Dottie Henderson is doing well. Alice Hamm continues to do well following knee replacement surgery. Zola Basham could not have her hip surgery, so she is still dealing with pain and discomfort. Remember her sister, Sula Maxey, who had shoulder surgery. Donna Criswell has some health issues. Neither her aunt, Nell Barrett nor her brother-in-law is doing well. Donna provides most of her aunt's care. Telford Hamm is in rehab with his back and hopes to have the surgery on his leg rescheduled. Remember Telford's brothers and brother-in-law. Jack Elliott has some new medication that seems to be helping and is hoping to be able to have a different kind of heart ablation in the future. Remember Jack's niece. Nancy Summerford's mother is in last stages of Alzheimer's. Virgie Waddle is doing some better and hopes to return to services soon. Remember Virgie's sister-in-law, Jean Malone in the nursing home in Golden.

**TEACHING EFFORTS:** Our teaching bulletin, the **EASTSIDE EXAMINER**, was in the **Red Bay News** this month. Copies of this issue are on the table in the foyer for those who do not receive a paper. This is a teaching bulletin and may also be used to give to a friend or neighbor. When these are depleted, more can be printed. There is also an ad in the local paper once a month offering a free Bible correspondence course. There are DVD copies of past TV programs available. The radio program on 95.5 FM at 10 AM each Sunday continues. Please pray that these efforts will reach people interested in studying God's word.

**GOSPEL MEETINGS / SINGINGS:** All the meetings that I knew about have been cancelled. If you know of meetings or singings in the area, please tell the one making announcements.

## POINTS TO PONDER

- If you want to do something to make a better world, improve yourself.
- Many people fret because they must do without what their parents never had.

# 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. IV - No. 13 – July 26, 2020

Editor: Jerry L. Henderson: Send comments to: The Editor, 1205 Hwy 24 East; Red Bay, AL 35583  
Phone: 256-333-0017 or 662 - 542-3170 - email: [jerry@hendersons.net](mailto:jerry@hendersons.net)

**Editor's Note:** Below is an article from the "pen" of Larsen Plyler who was supposed to preach in our Summer series this past Thursday. Hopefully, I can get an article from Drew Entrekin for a future bulletin.

## MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

By Larsen B. Plyler

In Genesis 1:26-28 we read, "Then God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

What does it mean to be made in God's image? In this immediate context, being made in God's image was to be entrusted with authority, rule, and dominion over the created order. David reflected on this incredible honor given to humanity in Psalm 8. In order to carry out that responsibility, humanity had to be able to reflect the character and nature of the one who made them. So, they were given the capacity for free will, love, and creativity. They were also

made to have a relationship with God. Only then could they really reflect His character.

However, sin marred, scarred, fractured, and darkened the image. When Satan tempted Eve, he offered her the opportunity to be like God (Gen. 3:5). The ironic thing is that Eve was already made in God's likeness and in His image. What Satan was offering was for Eve to be in the place of God, define good and evil on her own, and thus, be in her own image. Humanity, according to David in Psalm 8, was "crowned with glory and honor," but sin causes humans to fall short of the glory of God. The image of God was not lost (Gen. 5:1-3; 9:6), but it was garbled, faded, and blurred by our sin.

But, God was intent on having a people in His image and in His likeness. So, Jesus, God in the flesh, came and displayed the perfect image of God. Several New Testament passages use this language: Colossians 1:15 describes Jesus as the "image of the invisible God," Heb. 1:3 calls Jesus the "exact representation of [God's] nature," 2Cor. 4:4 refers to Jesus as "the image of God." Jesus showed the world what it looks like to bear God's image. In Christ, we see what God made us to be in the very beginning.

In Christ, those who have fallen short of God's glory and who have failed to bear the image of God can be renewed to look like Jesus, who was the very image of the invisible God. The New Testament speaks of our transformation in this light. In Colossians 3:10, Paul explains that we are being "renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator" as we put off sin and as we put on the Christ-like characteristics he mentions in the succeeding paragraph. When we consider that in chapter 1 Paul describes Jesus not just as the "image of God" but also as the one by whom all things were created (Col. 1:16), we understand that what Paul is saying is that as we put off sin and put on godly qualities we are being transformed to look like Jesus, the image of God, and thus living up to what we were designed to be in the very beginning. From the very beginning God wanted people to look like Jesus. Sin kept us from bearing the image of the

one who created us. But, through the gospel we are being conformed to "the image of His Son." This is God's purpose for all who are in Christ. All things will work together for that goal for those who love God and who are called in accordance with His eternal purpose (Rom. 8:28-29). By becoming like Jesus, we are becoming what we were always meant to be. We do that as we gaze upon Jesus in the word. As we contemplate, meditate upon, and imbibe His thoughts, words, actions, reactions, attitudes, loves, hates, ambitions, goals, and ideals we are "transformed from glory to glory" (2Cor. 3:18).

However, we are all aware that being like Jesus is a continual struggle. Though it is a perfect process, because God designed it, we don't always make perfect progress. But, the great hope of the one who strives to be conformed to Jesus' image is that one day we will be transformed. Several New Testament passages encourage Christians to hope for that day. In 2Corinthians 15:49, Paul explains that we all bear the image of the man of dust, Adam, in our frailty and weakness, but one day "we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven," Jesus Christ, in our glorified, immortal, imperishable body. In Philippians 3:20-21, but looks forward to the day when Jesus will transform our "lowly body" into conformity with His "glorious body." John says that when we see the Lord, we will be like Him, even as He is (1Jhn. 3:2). But, in order to have that hope, he reminds us to continually purify ourselves (v. 3).

This is one of the main lines in the narrative of Scripture. God made us to bear His image. We fell short. But, in Christ we see the perfect display. Now, as Jesus' disciples, we can be transformed to reflect the One who made us. Though our struggle with sin means that we will not attain that perfectly in this life, God has promised us that in the day of eternity we will be transformed to look like Jesus in glory. If that is what you long for, continue to pursue the transformation into Christ-likeness made possible by the powerful word of God. Place your hope in the One who will work all things together for that purpose for those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.