

## THAT WORTHY NAME

The writer James stated in James 2:7, “Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?” The context seems to be that of the wealthy, self-sufficient man looking down at the common person. It certainly seems that the worthy name he had reference to could be the name Christian. Three times that name is used in the New Testament Acts 11:26, Acts 26:28, I Peter 4:16. Each of these references reveal to us something that is involved in the name Christian.

Acts 11:26 reveals a change had occurred in those thus designated. The change that took place was repentance (Acts 11:18). The Gentiles were now included in their obedience to the gospel and were part of the church.

In Acts 26:28 you have a choice. King Agrippa needed to make a choice. “Almost thou persuades me to be a Christian.” He chose not to be one. Paul told him I want you and everyone else in my hearing to become a Christian.

I Peter 4:16 reveals a challenge to us. The challenge issued is that of suffering for Christ. By identifying in His sufferings, we glorify him as a Christian. If you suffer as an evil doer, you should be ashamed. If you suffer as a Christian, you are glorifying God on this behalf.

The name Christian is certainly a worthy name. It is glorious. There is salvation in no other (Acts 4:12). Are you a Christian? —L. Cole

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## LIFE'S OBSTACLES

When problems or difficulties come our way, we either profit from them or wilt under the pressure. We can count them as obstacles or as golden opportunities. Persecution can be a blessing if those moments are used to press on to nobler dedication and loyalty to a cause that is worth the tribulation and pain. If we suffer due to our own foolishness, the Bible makes it abundantly clear that only our suffering for Christ is profitable, productive and blessed by God. *“And if anyone suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter”* (I Peter 4:16). A happy person is not someone in a certain set of circumstances, but rather is a person with a certain set of attitudes. The happy person is:

1. Not ashamed of the gospel (Rom. 1:16)
2. Pure in life (Phil. 2:15,16)
3. Not discouraged by hardship (Rom. 8:31).
4. Deeply loves others (Gal. 5:14)
5. One who puts the kingdom of God absolutely first (Matt.6:33).

The very opposition that Satan sent their way made the servant of the Redeemer stronger in their journey toward heaven. Obstacles deepened their resolve to be what Jesus said of them *“You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men”* (Matt. 5:13).

When our fervent desire is to follow the Lamb of God, our lives are so much richer and meaningful than those who pursue earthly fame and temporary wealth. If we would ever eliminate the pessimism so many members of the church drag with them throughout their lives and fortify our daily conduct with optimism, we would be much more like zealous children of God depicted in the book of Acts.

A great poem by Edgar A. Guest captures the commitment:

There are thousands to tell you  
it cannot be done,  
There are thousands to prophesy failure.  
There are thousands to point out  
to you, one by one  
The dangers that wait to assail you.  
But just buckle in with a bit of grin,  
Then take off your coat and go to it;  
Just start to sing as you tackle the thing  
That "cannot be done" — and you'll do it!

—Johnny Ramsey, from *Focus on Findlay*

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## OBEDIENCE TRUMPS SACRIFICE

Many times we come up with ideas about what might be a good sacrifice to make for God. It may be that we want to build a great cathedral. Perhaps we think giving up something we like to eat for a certain time period would be a good sacrifice. Is this what God wants us to do? Does He want us to try to figure out what to do on our own?

The Old Testament account about King Saul gives us insight into this question (1 Samuel 15:1-31). In this narrative, Saul is returning from defeating the Amalekites and he and the people have planned to make a sacrifice to the Lord. For this reason they have not destroyed the best of the sheep and oxen but have instead brought the animals back with them (vv. 9,15). As Saul encounters Samuel along the way, he is very happy with himself for coming up with this grand idea. However, God is not pleased with Saul. Samuel points out that he has not followed the commandment of God. Saul was commanded to destroy everything the Amalekites had (v.3). They were not supposed to bring anything back with them. Yet Saul had not carried out this command given to him by God and God is not pleased. Samuel instructs Saul that God does not delight in sacrifices as He does in obedience, for it is better to obey than to make sacrifice (v.22). We should heed the words of the prophet as well and realize that what God wants from us more than anything is our obedience to His word. We can say we believe in God and then go our own way and not obey His commands. However, if we do not obey, then we do not truly believe. No matter what sacrifice we may think is appropriate for God, this account clearly shows obedience to God trumps what we think we can sacrifice for Him.

—Dale Babinsky, *SEIBS 07/17*

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**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE**

**WORSHIP—SUNDAY AM Aug 13, 2017**

Coordinator . . . . . Glen Reece  
Announcements . . . . . George Clay  
Scripture Reading..Rom. 10:11-13 Austin Clay  
Song Leader . . . . . Adam Jolley  
Opening Prayer. . . . . Jacky Carver, Sr.  
Lord’s Supper-Preside: Mitchell Brooks  
Serve: Steve Anderson, Brian Smith  
Ted Russell, Ethan Leonard

Closing Prayer .....Ben Silcox  
Greeter— Dallas & Paige Eddie  
Greeter— Roger & Cynthia Draper

**[Greeters, please be here by 8:40 to greet before services]**

Count Offering. . . . . Dallas Eddie  
. . . . . Kaleb Bush  
AM Sermon —Calling Upon the Name  
PM Sermon —Let Us Take Our Fill of Love

**WORSHIP—SUNDAY--6:00 PM**

Announcements . . . . . George Clay  
Song Leader . . . . . Adam Jolley  
Scripture Reading..Pro. 7:24,27 . Austin Clay  
Opening Prayer . . . . . Jacky Carver Sr.  
Lord’s Supper . . . . . Robert Hackett  
. . . . . Addison Halliburton  
Closing Prayer . . . . . Steve Anderson

**BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY---7:00 PM**

Announcements . . . . . George Clay  
Song Leader . . . . . Jacky Carver, Sr.  
First Prayer. . . . . Mitchell Brooks  
Opening Prayer . . . . . Dallas Eddie  
Closing Prayer . . . . . Justin Draper

Prepare Communion for **AUG**

Vickie Cole

## **MONTROSE BULLETIN BOARD**

### **NURSING HOME:**

Opal Agee-Kindred  
Pearl Anderson—Knollwood Manor,  
Kasel Dillehay—Overton Co. Nursing Home  
Idella Spurlin—McFarland Rehab

### **THOSE ON THE SICK LIST;**

W. A. Gibbs, Gladys Bowling,  
Jimmie Faye Cole, Sawyer Cole,  
Arnold Rich, Sue Buckner,  
Carolyn Clay, Opal Green,  
Diana Preston

### **OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST**

08/06/17

Wednesday. . . . .	40
Worship Sunday AM . . . . .	86
Bible Study Sunday AM . . . . .	65
Daily Bible Readers . . . . .	30
Worship Sunday PM . . . . .	44

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Month of August.** Collecting School Supplies

**Aug 18-24th.** Polishing the Pulpit

**Aug 27th.** Fellowship Meal

**Sept. 2nd.** Women's Breakfast

Gabrielle Armour will graduate from MTSU **Aug. 12th.** at 10:00 AM. with a BS in Biology.

### **READING SCHEDULE FOR AUG**

01 Isa. 18-20	12 Isa. 53-57	22 Jer. 21-23
02 Isa. 21-23	13 Isa. 58-60	23 Jer. 24-26
03 Isa. 24-26	14 Isa. 61-63	24 Jer. 27-29
04 Isa. 27-29	15 Isa. 64-66	25 Jer. 30-32
05 Isa. 30-34	16 Jer 1-3	26 Jer. 33-37
06 Isa. 35-37	17 Jer. 4-6	27 Jer. 38-40
07 Isa. 38-40	18 Jer. 7-9	28 Jer. 41-43
08 Isa. 41-43	19 Jer. 10-14	29 Jer. 44-46
09 Isa. 44-46	20 Jer. 15-17	30 Jer. 47-49
10 Isa. 47-49	21 Jer. 18-20	31 Jer. 50-52
11 Isa. 50-52		