

PAUL AND THESSALONIANS

Paul, Silas and Timothy left Philippi and made their way to Thessalonica (Acts 17:1). Thessalonica was the largest city of Macedonia, so there was naturally a Jewish colony with its synagogue. Paul and his companions went to the synagogue every week for three weeks expounding the scriptures to the congregation, The material for Paul's reasoning was the scriptures. The material he presented was the suffering and resurrection of Christ. "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ" (Acts 17:3). There was a number of them that believed what Paul preached, but the Jews believed not. Those Jews so aroused the people against Paul, that he had to depart. They made their way to Berea where they enjoyed a good work for a period of time. When the Jews of Thessalonica heard that the word of God was preached in Berea, they came there and also stirred up the people. Paul would leave there and make his way to the city of Athens. In spite of all the difficulty Paul had in the city of Thessalonica, he wrote two letters to the brethren there. In the first letter, he states "We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ..." In the beginning of the second letter he talked about how their faith and love had grown. You never know what can become of the work you do. *L. Cole*

HEAVEN

For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our house which is from heaven (2 Corinthians 5:1-2)

I love all those grand old songs we sing about heaven. I don't really know why, maybe it is because I have reached what we usually refer to as the "twilight years" but I believe the most beautiful songs we sing are those that speak to us of heaven.

By the same token, I have reached the conclusion that the most beautiful words of the Bible are those that speak to us heaven (John 14:1-3; 1 Thess,4:13-18; Rev. 21:1-7, 23-27; Rev. 22:1-5; Rev. 14:13; 1 Cor. 2:9).

Thoughts of heaven are never gloomy or sad. They are thoughts full of joy and happiness bringing comfort and cheer to our weary bodies. They are words full of hope that lift our spirits, put a smile on our face and a bounce in our step. Today we are but one step closer to the day in which we will step out into eternity to stand face to face with our God and give an accounting to him for how we have lived in this life (Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10). What will it be, O what will it be?

Heaven is the promise of a better day only if you have obeyed the gospel (Rom. 1:16; Matt. 7:21; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; 2 John 9); only if you are in Christ (Acts 4:12; Col. 1:13-14; 1 John 5:11; Gal. 3:27); only if you are in the Lord's church (Acts 20:28; Eph. 5:23-25 and only if you are proving faithful (Rev. 2:10; Col. 3:1-2; 1 John 2:15-17; 2 Pet. 3:18; 2 Pet. 1:5-11; 1 Cor. 15:58; Phil. 4:1; Phil. 1:27).

*"When our days shall know their number,
When in death we sweetly slumber,
When the King commands the spirit to be free;
nevermore with anguish laden,
We shall reach that lovely Aidenn,
When they ring those golden bells for you and me"*

--Dion De Marbelle

Charles Hicks, White House, TN, 12/04/17, Thought for the Week

THE GREATEST GIFT OF ALL

A long time ago in Persia, a benevolent ruler named Shah Abbis reigned. To get to know his people better, he wore disguises to mingle among them.

One day, he went as a poor man to the public baths, and sat by the fireman tending the furnace. At mealtime, he shared his food, and talked to the poor man as to a friend. Again and again, he visited the fireman until the man grew to love him. Finally, the emperor revealed his identity to the fireman. The emperor expected the fireman to request a gift of him. However, the fireman requested nothing.

With love and wonder, the fireman declared, "You left your palace and your glory to sit with me in this dark place, to partake of my coarse fare, and to care whether my heart was glad or sad. On others you may bestow rich presents, but to me you have given yourself."

Of course, we know a ruler far more benevolent than this Persian monarch. We know a ruler who left the ivory palaces of heaven to come and to live among us (Psalm 45:8). We know a ruler who was clothed with flesh and took upon himself the form of a servant (Philippians 2:5-8). We know a ruler who became poor that we might be made rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). We know a ruler who was such a friend to us that He gave His life for us (John 15:12-13). Of course, the King is Jesus Christ

HOUSE TO HOUSE, Bob Prichard

**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
WORSHIP—SUNDAY AM**

Dec 17, 2017

Coordinator Steve Anderson
Announcements Kaleb Bush
Scriptures Reading.. Rom. 1:14-16... Dallas Eddie

Song Leader Jacky Carver, Jr.
Opening Prayer. George Clay

Lord's Supper-Preside: Roger Draper
Serve: Glen Reece, John Leonard
Gavin Spurlin, Billy Halliburton
Closing Prayer.....Jacky Carver, Sr.

Greeter— Jacky & Jacqueline Carver
Greeter— Glen & Patsy Reece
Count Offering. Dallas Eddie
. Kaleb Bush
AM Sermon— I Am's of Paul
PM Sermon— What Is Man?

WORSHIP---SUNDAY---6:00 PM

Announcements George Clay
Song Leader. Jacky Carver, Sr.
Scripture Reading...Psa. 8:4-6. . . Dallas Eddie
Opening Prayer Mitchell Brooks
Lord's Supper Roger Draper
. Billy Halliburton
Closing Prayer Glen Reece

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY---7:00 PM

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

Prepare Communion for **DEC**
Vicki R & Dianna D.

MONTROSE BULLETIN BOARD

NURSING HOME:

Opal Agee-Kindred
Pearl Anderson—Knollwood Manor,
Kasel Dillehay—Overton Co. Nursing Home
Carolyn Lankford—Mabry Health Care

THOSE ON THE SICK LIST;

W. A. Gibbs, Gladys Bowling,
Jimmie Faye Cole, Sawyer Cole,
Ramelle Cole, Carolyn Clay
Jere Andrews, Shirley Hailey,

OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST

12/10/17

Wednesday.	38
Worship Sunday AM	70
Bible Study Sunday AM	70
Daily Bible Readers	28
Worship Sunday PM	46

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 14th. Budget Meeting
Dec. 31st. Fifth Sunday and Young Men conduct services

Pantry Item: Jelly

READING SCHEDULE FOR DEC

01 Gal. 6; Eph. 1,2	11 Titus 1-3;	21 I John. 4-5; II John 1
02 Eph. 3-6	Phil. 1	22 III Jn. 1; Jude 1
03 Phil. 1-4	12 Heb. 1-3	23 Rev. 1-3
04 Col. 1-4	13 Heb. 4-6	24 Rev. 4-6
05 I Thess. 1-2	14 Heb. 7-9	25 Rev. 7-9
06 I Thess. 3-5	15 Heb. 10-13	26 Rev. 10-12
07 II Thess. 1-3	16 Jam. 1-5	27 Rev. 13-15
08 I Tim. 1-3	17 I Pet 1-2	28 Rev. 16-18
09 I Tim. 4-6	18 I Pet. 3-5	29 Rev. 19-21
10 II Tim. 1-4	19 II Pet. 1-3	30 Rev. 22