

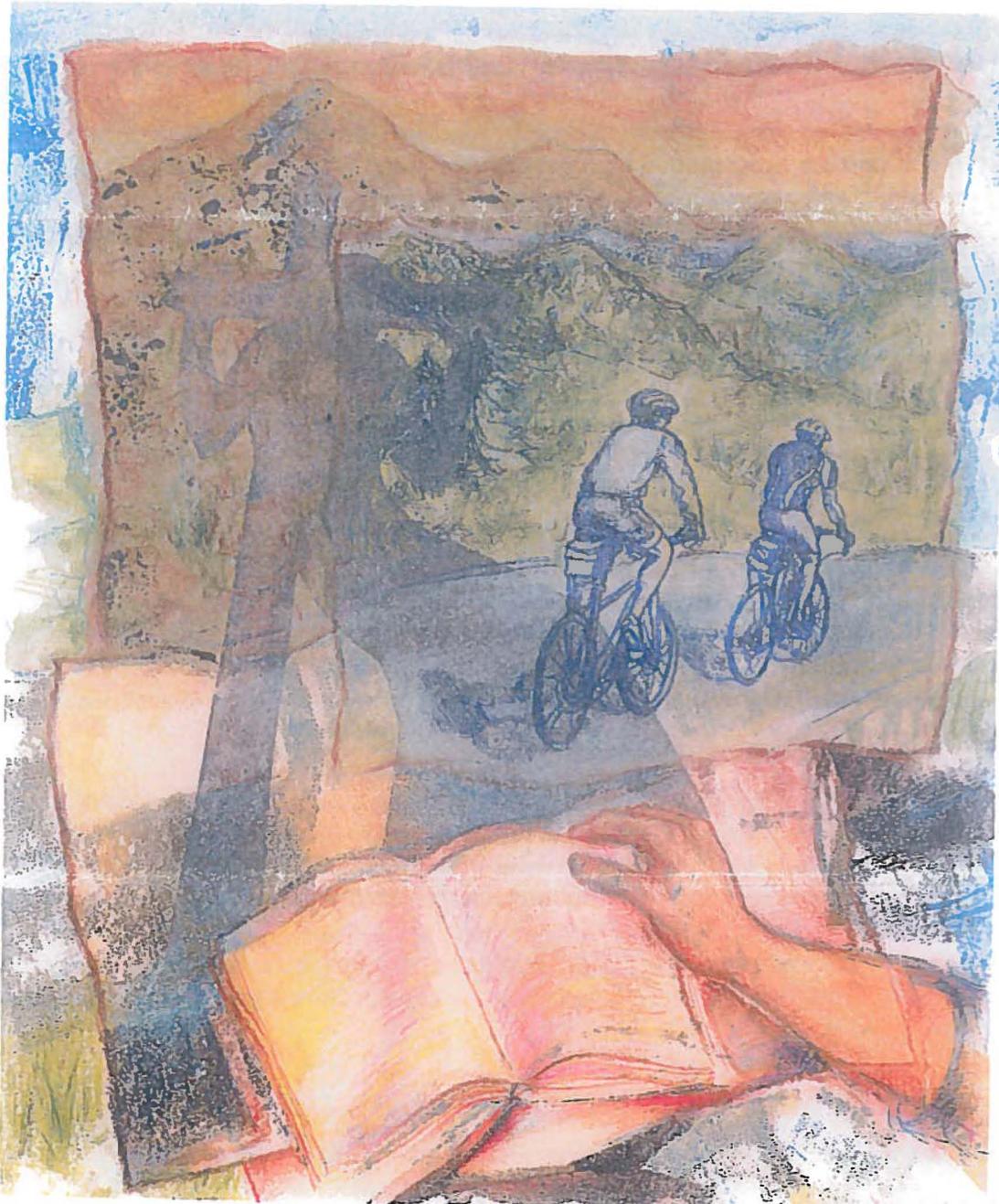
CHRISTIAN HERALD

WASHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Vol. 716 Number 116

Rev. Laddie J. Benton

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



Then Jesus said to them all, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23).

From the Pastor's Desk
The Rev. Laddie J. Benton

"We Are Singing a New Song to the LORD"

*Serve the LORD with gladness:
come before his presence with singing.
(Psalm 100: 2 – King James Version)*

Psalm 100 is one of the most beloved and read psalms for calling congregations to worship. Verse 2 reminds worshipers as to how they should conduct themselves..."Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing." During this month of October, Washington Presbyterian Church (USA) will celebrate its "188th Anniversary," and we will continue to..."Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing," because God's love for this congregation is ever faithful.

God has kept the doors of this congregation open by placing dedicated and faithful men and women throughout and within the congregation who served/serve the "LORD with gladness," and came/comes before his presence "with singing." The present congregation is also blessed to have dedicated men and women who "Serve the LORD with gladness," and come before his presence "with singing."

As we celebrate our "188th Anniversary," let us not forget those who came before us and how they made a difference through their faith in God, even when the congregation faced hardships and difficult situations. Following is a tribute to one of the church leaders who kept the faith and served the "LORD with gladness," and came before his presence "with singing." This short biography is documented in the *Washington Presbyterian Church (USA) History* through the dedicated research of the 175th Anniversary Committee (1998).

"...in 1850, Hiram Fry was elected Sunday School Superintendent and served, except for one year, until his death in 1878. He was an official in this church for forty-four (44) years. He served the school in every capacity from elder to janitor. He was one of the first trustees and one of the first two elders. As Sunday School Superintendent, he was faithful and loyal. In the absence of a pastor, he led the services and exhorted the people to righteousness. Through many disappointments, his diligent oversight, patience, cheerful earnestness and unwavering faith gave coherence and hope to the small band of worshipers.

Hiram Fry came from a family of furriers and was described as a tiller of the soil. Like Elisha he could utter the prophetic message. Mr Fry stood in the church on one occasion and preached the Gospel so powerfully that his son ran to the front of the church. Falling before his father's feet, he sobbed out, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight am no more worthy to be called thy son.' That occasion prompted one of the most wonderful revivals in the history of the church. He was so devout that he held prayer meetings even when alone. When no one came out for prayer meetings, he sang a hymn and prayed as though he had an audience. He was perhaps the most outstanding layman this church has known."

Your Brother in Christ,


Rev. Laddie J. Benton, Pastor

STAND UP FOR JESUS!
STAND UP FOR WPC!

SICK, SHUT-INS AND BEREAVED FAMILIES

Harold and Pauline Jackson, Margie Walker, Joan Marshall, Alex Auston, Jordan Johnson, Donald Lewis, Faith Morrison, Nathan and Marquise Phelps, Jean Rudolph, Sharon, Davis Kim Scott, Alfreda Overton, John Fletcher, Feleicha Davis, LaKeshia Green, and family, Demerik Weglinski-Benton, Teondre' Morrison-Cooper, Aaron Randall, Damien Randall, Stephen Randall, William (Tune) Davis, Janet Arms, Ruth Jenkins (Barbara Davis' mother), Rafaella (April's granddaughter), Sylvia Winfrey, Jean Nelson, Ann Conboy, Joseph Cooper, Claudette Carter (Alberta's daughter), Lada Key, Katrina Boykin, (Joan Reppert's niece), Brian Ellison, Doris Appling, Alix Gregro, Bea Beverly, and daughters Nina and Joyce, Anne Lennox, Edward Randall (Blair's dad), John Haynes Persis Owens (member of Joan Reppert's extended family), Viola Jefferson, Freida Carter, Denise Wilson, Vivian Key Barbara Davis, Joan Bates, Christine Gottschall, Loretta and Ronald Settle (NC), Paul Owens, Rev. Leroy Bailey and Rev. Bernice Bailey's mother.

PRAYER FOR THE BEREAVED:

The families of Daniel Lee, Dr. Robert Greenberg, George Stamm (Keith's father) and Jean Nelson.

SCRIPTURES:

| | | |
|------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| October 2 | Psalm 118:1-9 | Genesis 12:1-3 |
| October 9 | Psalm 105:1-7 | Ephesians 1:3-10 |
| October 16 | Psalm 111:2-9 | Ephesians 1:15-23 |
| October 23 | Psalm 116:1-11 | Daniel 9:3-10 |
| October 30 | Psalm 91:1-8, 14-16 | Proverbs 3:1-12 |

STANDING COMMITTEES

Christian Concerns—Sharon Davis
Christian Education—Alexis Green
Evangelism—Yvonne Lewis
Finance—Toni Brooks
Property—Stephen Greer
Stewardship—Sharon Davis/Yvonne Lewis
Worship Committee—Pauline Johnson/Alexis Green

BIBLE STUDY Wednesday 6:30 PM

LECTIONARY READINGS

Matthew 21:33-46
Matthew 22:1-14
Matthew 22:15-22
Matthew 22:34-46
Matthew 23:1-12

SESSION

Pastor—Rev. Laddie J. Benton
Clerk of Session—Oliver Carter
Church Treasurer—Toni Brooks
Benevolence Treasure—Oliver Carter
Club Fund Treasurer—Winnie J Burden

ORGANIZATION

Men's Fellowship—Oliver Carter
Pastor's Aid—Toni Brooks/Winnie Burden
Personnel—Stephen Greer
Presbyterian Women—Alexis Green/LaKeshia Green
Sunday School—Sharon Davis

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Senior Choir Thursday 6:00 P M—Director—Mrs Janet Arms
Children Choir Sunday (after Church Service)—Director—William Kinkaid

REBA TEMPLETON ENRICHMENT CENTER Resumes in September

Activities include Reading Comprehension, Computer Skills, Problem Solving, Journalism, Fun Crafts and Games.

EVENTS

****Congratulations!!** September 27, 2011 Rev. Laddie J. Benton was installed Vice-Moderator of Lehigh Presbytery.

OCTOBER: HOME COMING MONTH

October 2, 2011 Fond Memories on Rev. Chester Gloucester and Rev. William Templeton.

October 9, 2011 Fond Memories on Mildred Templeton, Mable Davis Music of the Church.

October 16, 2011 Memories Daisy Patience and Joan Marshall and the Praise tTeam from Rehoboth Seventh-Day Adventist.

October 23, 2011 Memories: Alberta Carter and Elizabeth Reese, Church Missions and senior Choir.

October 30, 2011 Memories: Agnes Snead and Oliver Carter, Children's Choir and Drama Team—Dinner.

October 2011

* Denotes Birthdays

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|-----------------------|--|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | October 1 Enrichment Center 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon |
| 2 Talia Jefferson * World Communion Sunday Service | 3 | 4 | 5 Bible Study -- 9:30 AM Midweek Svc.-12:45 PM Bible Study - 6:30 PM | 6 Senior Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM | 7 Tammy Marshall * Yom Kippur begins at sunset | 8 Enrichment Center 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon |
| 9 Marquis Phelps, Jr. * Domestic Violence Awareness Sunday Service | 10 Presbyterian Women Meet - 12:00 Noon Columbus Day Observed | 11 Lyra Talarico * | 12 Bible Study - 9:30 AM Midweek Svc.-12:45 PM Bible Study - 6:30 PM | 13 Senior Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM | 14 | 15 Mussa Benton * Berks Heim-Family Get Together |
| 16 Joan Marshall * World Food Day Sunday Service Joash Chest | 17 Session meets-7:30PM Bosses Day | 18 | 19 Bible Study - 9:30 AM Midweek Svc.-12:45 PM Bible Study - 6:30 PM | 20 Senior Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM Oliver Carter * | 21 T. J. Scott * | 22 Enrichment Center 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon |
| 23 World Mission Sunday Sunday Service | 24 Stephen Greer * Taleshia Dunkan * United Nations Day | 25 | 26 Bible Study - 9:30 AM Midweek Svc.-12:45 PM Bible Study - 6:30 PM Peter Reppert * | 27 Senior Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM | 28 | 29 Enrichment Center 9:00 AM-12:00 Noon |
| 30 Reformation Sunday Sunday Service | 31 Amber Auston * Halloween | | | | | |

POTATO CAKES

Delicious little fried morsels of potato and Greek feta cheese, flavored with dill and lemon juice.



1¼ pounds potatoes
4 ounces feta cheese
4 scallions, chopped
3 tablespoons chopped fresh dill
1 egg, beaten
1 tablespoon lemon juice
salt and ground black pepper
all-purpose flour for dredging
3 tablespoons olive oil

SERVES 4



1 Boil the potatoes in their skins in lightly salted water until soft. Drain, then peel while still warm. Place in a bowl and mash. Crumble the feta cheese into the potatoes and add the scallions, dill, egg and lemon juice and season with salt and pepper. (The cheese is salty, so taste before you add salt.) Stir well.



2 Cover the mixture and chill until firm. Divide the mixture into walnut-size balls, then flatten them slightly. Dredge with flour. Heat the oil in a frying pan and fry the cakes until golden brown on each side. Drain on paper towels and serve immediately.

MISREADING REVELATION

Revelation must be the most misread book in the Bible, particularly when it is read solely through an "end-of-time" lens. Some people use Revelation as a crystal ball to predict the future. It is a fact that every faithful Christian who has predicted the end of the world based on Revelation has been wrong. But the greater problem is that if we read Revelation solely as the basis of something that will happen in the future, we miss the way John's visions spoke to the first-century Christians and might speak to us today.

A young pastor named Chad Holtz made me think about what it might mean to read the Book of Revelation in relation to the U.S. Independence Day (the Fourth of July). While teaching Revelation in the small congregation he pastors in rural North Carolina, he pointed out that for the early church Revelation's central theme was the tension between them and the Roman Empire. Holtz writes, "At nearly every turn...we find John, the Pastor, asking his churches, 'where does your allegiance lie? With Rome or with the Lamb?'"

The early Christians were being persecuted because of a perceived lack of patriotism. Rome could not have cared less about how many gods a person worshiped, so long as they held a place in their worship for the emperor. The problem was that the Christian claim "Jesus is Lord," was a direct contradiction of Rome's claim, "Caesar is Lord."¹

Holtz imagined people asking John, their pastor, "What if we just offered a small offering...to one of the temple gods? What if we just attended a festival now and then honoring Caesar? What if we just blended in a little bit...so that we don't get in trouble with Rome?"² But John declares that giving an uncompromising yes to Christ means giving an equally uncompromising no to the empire. Holtz wrote, "John's thrust throughout revelation is an attempt to shock the church out of her complacency while also reassuring them that God, not Caesar, is on the throne."³

Holtz went on to draw a line between "love" and "allegiance." I find that a helpful distinction.. I love many things including my country, but my ultimate allegiance is to Jesus Christ. When I was a teenager, our youth fellowship's motto was "Christ Above All." I assumed that "all" really meant "all."

It's risky to make too direct a comparison between the first-century Roman Empire and the U.S.A. in the 21 century. The tension is not as clear for us as it was for the Roman Christians. American culture is both connected and confused with Christian faith in complex ways. But the issue confronted our congregation with stark clarity when the 4th of July fell on Sunday. Celebrating Holy Communion on that day reminded me to ask whom or what we really worship. Where does our ultimate allegiance lie? Which holds the highest priority—the cross or the flag?

Lest I be as misread as John's Revelation, let me be clear: I love my country, the United States of America, even when I acknowledge its weaknesses. I love the ideals on which this nation is built, even as we continue to wrestle with how we live them. I love our history, even when I am forced to say with Thomas Jefferson, "I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that His justice cannot sleep for ever..." I honor the sacrifice of our military personnel, even when I disagree with the politicians who send them into conflict. I am overcome with awe when I climb the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, and I am brought to tears when I touch the names cut into the black stone of the Vietnam Memorial.

Christian people in every nation may love their homeland, but that love must never be confused with loyalty to Christ, who reigns above every tribe, culture, king or nation. Rev. 1:5 reads: And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. (NIV) Rev. 7:9-10: After this I look and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰ And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Wherever we live, we pray for our nation in repentance and in hope. Here in the United States, we celebrate our freedom with fireworks and songs. But when we gather around the Communion table, we worship Jesus Christ, reclaim our identity as citizens of the kingdom of God, and affirm our primary loyalty to "Jesus Christ."

(By Rev. Dr. James Harnish from the Upper Room)

1. Chad Holtz, "I Pledge Allegiance."
<http://chadholtz.net/?p=1344>

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

O Holy God, we come to You out of a deep and pained ill need. We seek knowledge and understanding of how to live in accordance to Your will.

Father, each month is devoted to some kind of special idea or notion or even a federal idea we are to put forth. Most have nothing to do with You, Your Word, will, or way and yet we are expected to pay attention to them or support them. We are asking You Lord, God Almighty—how do You want us to act about Halloween?

You say in Your Word to have absolutely nothing to do with witches, warlocks, those who contact the dead or any of this sort, that they are to be stoned to death—and our children are dressed as such and parade around their schools. How do You wish us to bring up our children in Your way and how do we help them to understand why You are against these things?

Abba Yahweh, we are led to try many schemes to get around worldly holidays that may seem harmless but we are the church of God? What do we do with troublesome holidays that are so far from holy?

Father, the world is trying in so many ways to change the church and the way in which we worship You. It wants to change our music, our prayers, the way we conduct service— help, Lord!!

We feel as though we aren't to worship you anymore. And yet, we do know we are not to worship man or woman. They are not divine, perfect or holy. Will You help us to stay on the strait and narrow way?

Father God, we read in Your word that we would be subjected to many trials and temptations in this world but You told us not to fear, You had overcome the world. Sometimes we feel as though we are being whipped by the world. We need You to come teach us how to fight this battle and become the over-comers You say we are.

We do realize that You are not at fault, Lord. We are not obeying You or heeding Your word. Forgive us, Father. We really need to turn away from trying to keep up with other people and turn our eyes, ears, and minds wholly on You and Your Holy Book, the Bible.

We need knowledge that comes from above and is not earthy. Help us to so study Your word that we can and will be filled with the knowledge that comes only for above. You said to ask for wisdom and You would give it and graciously; and we don't have to be afraid to ask You. Help us to lose our fear of You and realize how very much You love us.

Cause us to know how much You love each of us and how much You want to give to us Your very best and greatest blessings. It is only by our drawing away from You and doing our own thing that we hinder Your loving kindness from being a daily part of our lives.

Please, Lord God, awaken us to our own folly and make us free to run after you. Cause us to so seek You that You will become the most important person in our lives; for that is the only way we will know always to choose right and not wrong, life and not death, You and not Satan. Then we shall know love, joy, peace, righteousness, and all the goodness Jesus is waiting to give us. Help us to reach You, Lord.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

OUTSTANDING BILLS

As of August 22, 2011 9/22/11

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Janet Arms (travel invoices) | 78.66 | May 2011 travel | 9/22/11 | #6853 |
| | 65.55 | June 2011 travel | 9/22/11 | #6853 |
| J. C. Ehrlich | 57.00 | August service (due 8/31/11) | 9/22/11 | #6855 |
| Harold Green (grass cutting) | 50.00 | 6/23 and 7/14/11 | 9/22/11 | #6856 |
| Lawley's Disposal (church) | 63.00 | July/August due | 8/29/11 | #6843 |
| Lawley's Disposal (Pastor) | 63.00 | July/August due | 8/29/11 | #6843 |
| Lehigh Presbytery (10 Books of Order) | 80.00 | Due now | Paid 9/12/11 | #6849 |
| Met Ed | 106.58 | Due August 25, 2011 | 9/22/11 | #6857 |
| Stratix Systems (excess copies) | 382.30 | 191.15 due now | 9/19/11 | #6852 |
| SuperMedia LLC | 34.50 | Due 9/9/11 | 9/22/11 | #6858 |
| UGI Utilities, Inc. | 15.65 | Due August 25, 2011 | Paid 9/11/11 - #6848 | T. Peggues paid UGI |
| Verizon (combined 3 months) | 117.44 | Due August 29, 2011 | 9/22/11 | #6859 |
| Verizon (Pastor's home) | 105.64 | Due August 8, 2011 | 9/22/11 | #6860 |
| Verizon (Pastor's home) | 113.27 | Due September 6, 2011 | 9/22/11 | #6860 |
| Total | -0- | | | |

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|---|---------|-------|
| National Penn Insurance | 714.50 | 357.25 | 9/19/11 | #6851 |
| | 357.25 | final quarterly payment of 357.25 due 12/1/11 | | |

Anonymous donation of \$2,000.00 for the above-referenced bills

Board of Pensions -

| | | | | |
|---------------|----------|------------------------|---------|-------|
| June | 1,121.17 | June paid | 9/22/11 | #6854 |
| July & August | 2,242.34 | Past due | | |
| September | 1,121.17 | Due September 30, 2011 | | |

E. G. SMITH (fuel oil)

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Church - Statement date 7/27/11 | 5,144.17* |
| Annex - Statement date 7/27/11 | <u>5,353.47*</u> |
| Total | 10,497.64 |

* Finance charges will continue to accrue until accounts are paid in full

A THOUGHT TO PONDER

Verse of the Month

You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand. John 13:7
Blind unbelief is sure to err and scan His work in vain
God is His own interpreter. And He will make it plain.

SUFFERING FOR DOING GOOD

1 Peter 8:8-17 Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another, be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.

Peter lists five key elements that should characterize any group of believers; (1) harmony—pursuing the same goals; (2) sympathy—being responsive to others' needs; (3) love—seeing and treating each other as brothers and sisters; (4) compassion—being affectionately sensitive and caring; and (5) humility—being willing to encourage one another and rejoice in each other's successes. These five qualities go a long way toward helping believers serve God effectively. NIVLASB

⁹Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Peter, remembering Jesus' teaching to turn the other cheek (Mat. 5:39), encourages his readers to pay back wrongs by praying for the offenders. In God's kingdom, revenge is unacceptable behavior, as is insulting a person, no matter how indirectly it is done. Rise above getting back at those who hurt you. Instead of reacting angrily to these people, pray for them. NIVLASB

¹⁰For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. ¹¹He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it.

To often we see peace as merely the absence of conflict, and we think of peacemaking as a passive role. But an effective peacemaker actively pursues peace. He or she builds good relationships, knowing that peace is a by-product of commitment. The peacemaker anticipates problems and deals with them before they occur. When conflicts arise, he or she brings them into the open and deals with them before they grow unmanageable. Making peace can be harder work than waging war, but it results not in death but in life and happiness. NIVLASB

¹²For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayers, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil."

¹³Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." ¹⁵But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

Rather than fear our enemies, we are to quietly trust in God as the Lord of all. We must believe that Christ truly is in control of all events. When He rules our thoughts and emotions, we can not be shaken by any thing our enemies may do.

Some Christians believe that faith is a personal matter that should be kept to oneself. It is true that we shouldn't be boisterous or obnoxious in sharing our faith, but we should always be ready to give an answer, gently and respectfully, when asked about our faith, or life-style, or our Christian perspective. Can others see your hope in Christ? Are you prepared to tell them what Christ has done in your life? NIVLASB

⁶Keep a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

You may not be able to keep people from slandering you, but you can at least stop supplying them with ammunition. As long as you do what is right, their accusations will be empty and will only embarrass them. Keep your conduct above criticism! NIVLASB

⁷It is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

IESUS PRAYS FOR ALL BELIEVERS

John 17:20-23 My prayer is not for them only. I pray also for those who will believe in Me through their message.

Jesus prayed for all who would follow Him, including you and others you know. He prayed for unity (17:11), protection from the evil one (17:15), and sanctity (holiness) (17:17). Knowing that Jesus prayed for us should give us confidence as we work for His kingdom. NIVLASB

That all of them may be one, Father, just as You are in Me and I am in You. May they also be in Us so that the world may believe that You have sent Me. ²²I have given them the glory that You gave Me, that they may be one as we are one: ²³I in them and You in Me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved me.

Jesus' great desire for His disciples was that they would become one. He wanted them unified as a powerful witness to the reality of God's love. Are you helping to unify the body of Christ, the church? You can pray for other Christians, avoid gossip, build others up, work together in humility, give your time and money, exalt Christ, and refuse to get sidetracked arguing over divisive matters.

Jesus prayed for unity among the believers based on the believers' unity with Him and the Father. Christians can know unity among themselves if they are living in union with God. For example each branch living in union with the vine is united with all other branches doing the same. NIVLASB

THE WEAK AND THE STRONG

Romans 15:1-7 We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. ²Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up.

If we merely set out to please our neighbors, we will be people-pleasers. Paul was opposed to that (see Galatians 1:10). But we are to set aside willfulness and self-pleasing actions for the sake of building others up for good. Our Christian convictions must not be a disguise for cold-hearted treatment of our brothers and sisters. NIVLASB

³For even Christ did not please Himself but, as is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." ⁴For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

The knowledge of the Scriptures affects our attitude toward the present and the future. The more we know about what God has done in years past, the greater the confidence we have about what He will do in the days ahead. We should read our Bibles diligently to increase our trust that God's will is best for us. NIVLASB

⁵May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

To accept Jesus' lordship in all areas of life means to share His values and His perspective. Just as we take Jesus' view on the authority of Scripture, the nature of heaven, and the resurrection, we are to have His attitude of love toward other Christians as well (have a "spirit of unity"). As we grow in faith and come to know Jesus better, we will become more capable of maintaining this attitude of loving unity throughout each day. Christ's attitude is explained in more detail in Philippians 2. NIVLASB

RULES FOR HOLY LIVING

Colossians 3:15-17 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

Our hearts are the center of conflict because there our feelings and desires clash—our fears and hopes distrust and trust, jealousy and love. How can we deal with these constant conflicts and live as God wants? Paul explains that we must decide between conflicting elements by using the rule of peace—which choice will promote peace in our souls and in our churches? NIVLASB

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Doing "all in the name of the Lord Jesus" means bringing honor to Christ in every aspect and activity of daily living. As a Christian, you represent Christ at all times—wherever you go and whatever you say. What impression do people have of Christ when they see or talk with you? What changes would you make in your life in order to honor Christ? NIVLASB

Psalm 133:1

¹ How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!

David states that unity is pleasant and precious. Unfortunately, unity does not abound in the church as it should. People disagree and cause division over unimportant issues. Some delight in causing tension by discrediting others. Living in unity does not mean that we will agree on everything, there will be many opinions just as there are many notes in a musical chord. But we must agree on our purpose in life—to work together for God.. NIVLASB

We all are one in mission, We all are one in call, Our varied gifts united By Christ, the Lord of all. A single, great commission Compels us from above To plan and work together That all may know Christ's love. We all are called for service To witness in God's name; Our ministries are different, Our purpose is the same; To touch the lives of others By God's surprising grace So every folk and nation May feel God's warm embrace. Now let us be united And let our song be heard. Now let us be a vessel For God's redeeming Word. We all are one in mission, We all are one in call, Our varied gifts united By Christ, the Lord of all.