

NSD

NEWSLETTER

Sunday, September 7, 2008

BIBLE STUDY..... 10 a.m.
"Gospel of Luke"

MORNING WORSHIP..... 11 a.m.
Speaker: Earnest Peoples

EVENING SERVICE.... 6 p.m.
Speaker: Dan Austin

WEDNESDAY MEETING..... 7 p.m.
"The Parables of Jesus"

Psalm 2:11-12

Serve the LORD with fear,
And rejoice with trembling.

Kiss the Son, lest He be angry,
And you perish in the way,
When His wrath is kindled but a little.

Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

NKJV

News & Notes

Welcome Visitors. If you are a visitor in our congregation today we welcome you and invite you to stay for a while after service so we can get to know you.

Please pray for **Sam Barton** who is still deployed.

The **Harper** family is due back from North Carolina this week; please pray for their safe return.

Please continue to pray for those who are sick or ailing: **Martha Holloway, Dema Franklin**, Marie Adams, Benjamin Hoskins (**Daniel's** father.)

The **Women's Bible Study** meeting will be held this Tuesday September 9th. Please see **Meredith Hoskins** for directions.

Peace, perfect peace
In this dark world of sin
The blood of Jesus whispers peace within

Peace perfect peace
By thronging duties pressed
To do the will of Jesus, this is rest

Peace, perfect peace
With sorrows surging round
On Jesus' bosom naught but calms is found

Peace, perfect peace
With loved ones far away
In Jesus keeping we are safe, and they

Peace, perfect peace
Our future all unknown
Jesus we know, and He is on the throne

It is enough
Earth's struggles soon shall cease
And Jesus call us to heaven's perfect peace

Edward H. Bickersteth/George T. Caldbeck

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where the Bible is the source of faith, where Jesus is Lord, where Christianity is a way of life!

The Futility of Fighting Against God

Brent Lewis

One of the lessons which man must learn during his earthly sojourn is that God is supreme and man is finite. The power of God is something that has been observed since the creation of the world (**Romans 1:20**), and the one who does not recognize and submit to it is without excuse.

Psalm 2, this great Messianic psalm concludes by saying, "*Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way.*" (**verse 12**). The man who fights against God or His Son is fighting a losing battle.

In Acts 5, when Peter and John were called before the Sanhedrin for preaching in the name of Christ, they were considering putting them to death. "*Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while. And he said to them: "Men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what you intend to do regarding these men. ... keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God."* (**Acts 5:34-39**)

Man is, for the most part, filled with pride and a desire for independence. He wants to go his own way, do his own thing. But in doing so, he finds himself at variance with God. He can persist and follow his own devices, or humble himself by submitting to God. Men are more inclined toward the former than the latter.

What we must come to realize, however, is that to rebel against God and insist upon going our own way is a futile path. Jesus gave a parable in Luke 14 which illustrates this principle. He asked, "*Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace.*" (**verses 31-32**).

If we see that we can't win the battle, we would do well to inquire as to the conditions by which we may have peace. So it is in our dealings with God. He is infinitely more powerful than we and He is sure to have His way. Why would we be so foolish as to fight with Him? We cannot possibly defeat Him.

The Hebrew writer adds that we must recognize that God is awesome and, thus, we must submit ourselves to His will. "*See that you do not refuse Him who speaks. For if they did not escape who refused Him who spoke on earth, much more shall we not escape if we turn away from Him who speaks from heaven ... Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire.*" (see the whole context of **Hebrews 12:18-29**).

Fighting against God is surely an exercise in futility. It is a battle that we are bound to lose. How much better to show faith in God, to bend our wills and to bow our knees to the Almighty, and to send a message of peace. "*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*" (**Romans 5:1**) Thanks be to God that we don't have to meet Him in judgment based upon our own merit, or as a rebel. For, if we accept Him and His Son, then, "*having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.*" (**Romans 5:9**)

I don't want God's wrath—and neither do you. Let us, then, put this psalm into practice and never be found fighting against God.