

The Robison Reminder

Robison Street church of Christ
Edna, Texas

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What Would They Say?

by Greg Gwin

The Bible tells us about the intense persecution that was endured by early Christians. We know that many were imprisoned, and a large number were put to death (Acts 26:9-11). Uninspired historical accounts give us additional information about the terrible trials and sufferings of those first disciples.

We are told that Christians in the city of Rome faced great danger when they assembled together for worship. Because of this they were often forced to hold their meetings in secret places. It is also said that at the height of this persecution members of a family would leave for worship at different times so that they would not generate suspicion. They even changed their meeting place and assembly time each week to avoid being discovered.

Did you ever wonder how these early saints would react if they were able to comment about

the practice of their modern day brothers and sisters? Do you not imagine that they would be shocked to learn about the things that keep some Christians from attending all the worship assemblies and Bible studies? What was it that kept you from the assemblies last week? Too tired? Too busy? A school function? A vacation trip? Relatives from out of town visiting? A fishing trip? A round of golf? A minor snuffle or headache? Too sick to worship (but not to sick to go to work)?

Stop for a minute to think what those persecuted Christians of the first century would say if they heard YOUR excuses. Why did those people take such risks and suffer so much? The answer is obvious: they loved the Lord and were committed to His service. What about YOU?

- *The Gospel Teacher*, 1/17/10

Hebrews 10:24-25 - Not Forsaking the Assembly

by John Gentry

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching” (Heb. 10:24-25, KJV).

In the previous context of this passage (cf. 4:14-16 and then 5:1-10:18), the writer of Hebrews discusses reasons why the blood and sacrifice of Jesus supersede and are superior to the sacrifices under the First Covenant, the Law of Moses. “Therefore” (10:19), he says, “let us draw near [to God] (v. 22; cf. 4:16; 7:19; 10:21) ...let us hold fast the confession of our hope (v. 23; cf. 3:6; 6:18) ...and let us consider one another” (v. 24). This third call to action is one that we would all do well to heed.

The apostle says Christians have the responsibility to give continual care to the spiritual well-being of fellow Christians. It is the job of every Christian toward every other Christian to prompt and provoke, incite and induce, stir up and stimu-

late them to greater faithfulness to God in love - of God, His Word, fellow saints, and sinners - and good works - as revealed in the word of God (Eph. 2:10; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).

The means or method to which the apostle gives emphasis in carrying out this responsibility is the “*assembling of ourselves together.*” This is not the only way to fulfill this responsibility, but it is one we must not forsake. In our current, country-club, let-me-sit-here-and-be-entertained environment of food, fun, and frolic, the concept of assembling with God’s people so that we can serve others as we encourage and edify them is a foreign concept. As a result, attending an assembly of the church every time the doors are open is mocked and berated as a Pharisaical, legalistic practice of some old-fashioned prude who doesn’t have a life. Let us get back to the Book and realize that we cannot fulfill our responsibilities toward God and fellow Christians if we “*forsake the assembling of ourselves together.*”

- <http://ChurchOfChristInGalena.com>

Try These Excuses

The following list of excuses is presented for your use the next time you miss work and need a good reason. These are some of the excuses that brethren have used thousands of times in the past. Obviously, if the Lord will accept them, they should satisfy your boss:

- I'm sorry I wasn't at work yesterday, but some friends came by unexpectedly.
- I'm sorry I wasn't at work yesterday, but we went to visit family and didn't make it back in time.
- I'm sorry I wasn't at work yesterday, but I was with you in spirit.
- I'm sorry I wasn't at work yesterday, but I decided to make my traveling plans during the time I was supposed to be at work and just could not make it.
- I'm sorry I wasn't at work yesterday, but I don't like getting out in the rain.
- I'm sorry I wasn't at work yesterday. I thought I would go work someplace else for a day, you know, just for a change.

These excuses won't work with either your boss or with God!

- *The Voice of Truth*, 7/30/2000

Are You Ready With An Answer?

Last Sunday night, in our study of 1 Peter 3:15, we talked about the importance of always being ready with an answer to the questions that we are sometimes asked concerning our beliefs and practices.

Did you know that we have some Bible Reference Bookmarks available in the back of our auditorium? These helpful cards provide a list of Scriptures that address a variety of Bible subjects, and thus answer a variety of Bible questions. One bookmark covers basic subjects, another is for young people, and the third provides information in the area of "Christian Evidences." We also have a small tract that contains the plan of salvation. Feel free to make use of these tools.

News and Notes



Wayne Haney had exploratory surgery on Thursday morning as a part of his treatment for mouth cancer. He had some tissue and a few teeth removed. The biopsy came back "pre-cancerous," which means that no chemo is needed at this time.

Addie Lawrence has been added to the shut-in list. She has also been scheduled to have her pacemaker replaced on Wednesday. It will be a day surgery at DeTar Hospital.

Lois Starling, of Victoria, is undergoing radiation treatments for her cancer. Prayers are requested on her behalf.

Keep our shut-ins in your thoughts and prayers.

Stonewall Jackson, Wayne Johnson, Addie Lawrence, Tommy Smith, Jason Thompson, Herman Villarreal and Marie Wilkerson.

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Times of Services
- Sunday -
Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning 10:30 AM
Evening 6:00 PM
- Wednesday -
Bible Study 7:30 PM

elders:
Sherrel Mercer - 782-5678
Steve Wilson - 782-2274
evangelist, editor:
Heath Rogers - 782-2844