

DO WHAT IS RIGHT

John 19:16

So he then handed Him over to be crucified.

The greatest injustice of all time was the crucifixion of Jesus. That is true for a couple of reasons; one of them being that we should have been on trial, not Jesus. The other is because an innocent man was condemned and executed. Jesus was sinless (Hebrews 4:15) yet he was put to death.

How does such a thing happen? In this case, the answer is easy. For a moment, lay aside the fact that the crucifixion of Jesus was God's plan from all eternity. Think only of the trial itself. One man had the power to either release Jesus or crucify him. That man was Pilate, the Roman Governor of Palestine.

John's Gospel records three times when Pilate said of Jesus "I find no guilt in Him" (John 18:38; 19:4, 6). In other words, Pilate knew that Jesus was innocent. In spite of that, the Bible says "he then handed Him over to be crucified." Pilate lacked the courage to do what was right.

What happens when we fail to do what is right? In the worst of cases, innocent people suffer. In other cases, I may be the only one who knows that I failed to do what I should have done. The only scars are the ones left on my conscience. In all cases, the cause of truth and right suffers because I did not have the courage to do what is right.

I need to be less concerned about what is easy or convenient and more concerned about what is right. May God give us the conviction to be concerned for what is right and the courage to do it.

--Ron Harper--

A Mind to Work

Nehemiah 4:6

Perhaps one of the most dangerous threats to the Lord's church is complacent Christianity. This refers to those who just simply “punch the time card” and fill their three hours a week. People with this attitude come in, take their seat, and only half-heartedly engage in the worship service. Furthermore, they do very little for the spread of the kingdom by way of work outside the worship service. Do not misunderstand my intentions. As I write, I am also addressing myself. Complacent Christianity is a struggle we are either facing currently, have faced in the past, or will face in the future. How then can we get out of this muck?

At the time of Nehemiah, the Israelites were in Persian captivity due to their sin and rebelliousness towards God. Nehemiah was the cupbearer to King Artaxerxes during the captivity (about 446 BCE). This was a position of importance and prominence (see Genesis 40). At the news of the destruction of Jerusalem, Nehemiah's heart was saddened so much so that the king was able to see the sadness on his face (Neh. 2:2). The Israelites were God's chosen people, and their home and center for worship (i.e. their whole livelihood) had been destroyed. Today, should we as God's chosen people not be saddened at the destruction of our world due to immorality? Should we also not mourn the fact that this same immorality is entering the nation of God—his church? Nehemiah was moved enough to do something about it. He asked the king for permission to rebuild the city, namely the wall around the city.

Can one person make a difference? The answer obviously is YES! Nehemiah was able to rally the people of Jerusalem in such a way that the Bible says, “So **WE** built the wall and the whole wall was joined together to half its height, **for the people had a mind to work,**” (Neh. 4:6, emphasis mine). One man rallied the people and through a collective effort of motivated individuals, great work was accomplished.

In our own congregation, many people are hard at work. We have many great efforts that are currently taking place and even more that are in the process of becoming a reality. However, we cannot do these great works alone. James writes, “Faith without works is dead.” What are we doing to let our faith live and thrive? One thing we can and should do is have a mind to work, just like the people of Israel. May God continually bless all of the efforts we make to serve him!

Joshua Houston

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

SICK

Lester & Ann Clark, Ernestine Taylor

TAKING TREATMENTS

Lois Arnold, Carolyn Thomas, Janneil Brown

SHUT INS

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard

PRAYER REQUEST:

Shirley Bibb, Opal Jones, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Wayne Mobbs, Marie Fleming, Lorene Maddox, Imogene Bozeman, Selma Boyd, Janneil Brown, Gerald Wiseman, Jeanie Young, Oleta Bullard, Mabel Robertson, Ernestine Taylor, Melanie Martin, Mary Creech, Bud Mitchell

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

*MEMBERS

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann*

DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA: Jean Nickens*

NHC: Sue Reeves*, Lizzie Bush, Geri Melton*

STONES RIVER MANOR: Edna Vance*, Virgie Leonard*, Margaret Davidson*, Jeweldean Hall*, Laura Wiser*, Lillian Whitworth, Louise McKnight*, Martha DeVore

MILITARY

Please keep **Tony Berry** in your prayers, while he is stationed in California at Camp Pendleton.

***Visitors** - We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please fill out a visitor's card and place it in the collection plate.

The Visitor

BUILDING FUND

We have received donations to the Building Fund in memory of **Mary Jo Rogers** by the following:

*Bill & Brenda Hayes	*Ron Meers
*Yates Services, LLC	*Mary Loyd
*Katherine McQueen	*Jean Irvin
*Craig & Beth Buckner	*Peggy Gilbert
*Jeff & Karen Milstead	*Jennifer Melson
*Ken & Jo Anne Malone	*Hailey Melson
*Charles & Kathleen Kulp	

NEWS & NOTES

***WELCOME** to our New Members **Bill & Betty Driver**.

***Youth/college retreat** the deadline to sign-up is **March 16th** and the deadline to pay is **March 30th**. The cost is \$35 and checks can be made out to Salem Creek church of Christ. Also, be sure to get a medical release form from Joshua Houston.

***2nd Second Speaker – Ken Malone**

***Youth Devo-** Tonight - Jeff & Tammy Glidden

***Special Kid's Race** on Saturday, March 19th @ 7 a.m.

***Ladies Day** at East Main church of Christ on Saturday, April 30th. For more information, see flier in foyer.



A Bridal Shower is planned in honor of **Madison Pepper** on Sunday, April 10th from 2-4 p.m. Madison is registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond, Target and Wal-Mart. She is the daughter of **Alan & Agnes Pepper**.

March 13, 2016

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We're on the web!
www.salemcreekcoc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday	
Morning Worship	9:00 am
Bible Classes	10:15 am
Evening Worship	5:30 pm
Wednesday	
Ladies Morning Bible Class	10:00 am
Evening Bible Classes	6:30 pm

ELDERS

B.K. Ham
Jim Hatfield
Jon Holland
Andy Mitchell
Randall Phifer
Fred Rogers
Keith Short

MINISTER

Ron Harper

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

DEACONS

Larry Benson
Michael Bowman
Craig Buckner
Bob Hoover

Andy Melton
Brian Melton
Alan Pepper
Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

March 6, 2016

Sunday	AM worship	243
	Bible classes	185
	PM worship	201
	Contribution	\$6,215.00

Wednesday PM Bible classes 108

Wednesday AM Ladies Class (Sept-May) 14

**When county schools are closed due to inclement weather
AM Ladies Class will be cancelled**

GREETERS

Please be at the door 15
minutes prior to services!



March 13

Louise Smithson
Keith & Margaret Short

March 20

Chris Martin
Jeff & Karen Milstead

To Our Honored Guests...

We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back as often as you have opportunity!

We were honored by your presence!