

Romans 14:19 - ...Let us pursue the things which make for peace & the things by which one may edify another

THE LENEXA EDIFIER

January 19, 2014

thelenexaedifier.com

lenexachurchofchrist.org

PRODUCED BY:
THE LENEXA CHURCH OF CHRIST
7845 Cottonwood Drive
Lenexa, Kansas 66216

TELEPHONE
913-764-9170

EDITOR:
Jim Stauffer

EXPRESSING LOVE FOR BRETHREN

by Jim Stauffer

Meeting Times:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Sunday Bible Classes | 9:30 am |
| Sunday Morning Worship | 10:20 am |
| Sunday Evening Worship | 5:00 pm |
| Wednesday Bible Classes | 7:00 pm |

A young man and woman are joined in holy matrimony until death brings departure. They are in the early years of their lives together when a young son is born of this union. Not too much later the husband and father is called overseas to join comrades in arms to defend his nation.

The horrible news comes one day in a letter from the Defense Department that he was killed in the line of duty.

The wife is devastated at losing the one she loved so deeply and the father of her very young son. The entire family mourns. Not only do they mourn, they personally pledge their services to this young mother and widow. Whatever she needs, they will gladly provide. This, of course, is as it should be.

A child of God has been added to the church, the Bride of Christ. He immediately is called into a different kind of warfare. The weapons of this warfare are not of the flesh and the enemy, directed by Satan, are 'the strongholds, imaginations and every high thing exalted against the knowledge of God'. **(2 Cor 10:4,5)** This person also succumbs to enemy fire. As a result he is separated from God due to

his sin. **(Isa. 59:1,2)** The result is his spiritual death. **(Rom. 6:23)**

His brethren are to love him just as the young soldier's family did in the physical warfare. **(John 13:34,35)** They are commanded to love him not only in word but in deed. **(1 John 3:18)** Therefore, the appropriate response should be similar to the physical death of a loved one. His brethren should mourn. They should do all they can to rescue him from the clutches of Satan. **(Jude 3)**

The sad thing about this second scenario is many of his brethren are ashamed of him and disrespect him for his weakness and elect to have little if anything to say or do with him.

Rest assured there is a time when we are to withdraw ourselves from such a one who walks disorderly. **(2 Thess. 3:6)** But the same apostle in the same context explains this action is to bring him to shame that he might return to the Lord. But he also defines the proper attitude by saying, "And yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother." **(2 Thess. 3:14)**

Brethren, brokenhearted over this brother's falling away from the living God, we must love him for our admonition to return to succeed.



Monument To Masses

In the annals of history are recorded the infamous deeds of the masses. A monument should be erected to mark their works. An eternal epitaph should be chiseled to describe their deeds that when men are inclined to garnish the tombstone the words should warn as do the sun-bleached bones beside the poisoned waterhole.

Eight righteous souls loved and served the Lord amongst the multitudes whose every imagination of the thoughts of their hearts were only evil continually. A preacher proclaimed God's righteousness, but to no avail. There! There beneath the mire we see the mass of human flesh. ***With muddy finger inscribe for all to see Fallen man is lower than the beasts of the field.***

And a righteous man's soul was vexed daily as men burned in their lust for men. We see a bargain made with God to spare the cities, but sin is heaped upon sin. ***With the stench of burning human flesh in our nostrils we gingerly lift a smoldering, charred stick from amongst the ashes and ashamedly write, There were not even ten righteous souls here.***

A leader temporarily departs and the mob which has murmured and complained against God clamors for gods which shall go before them. Submission to the masses means that a golden calf is born. Swords flash and blood is shed. Later, 23,000 died, and eventually only two of the original ones over the age of twenty enter into the promised land of rest. ***Their epitaph must be written with blood-stained sword in hand — Rebellion, murmuring, idolatry, fornication, and unbelief.***

Religious multitudes who shouted Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest, later cried, Crucify him, crucify him! Blood seeps from his wounds and an agonizing cry is wrenched from his lips — Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, My God why hast thou forsaken

me? Will they not spare him? ***But with nail in hand we sadly write — Murderers !***

But this righteous one is raised from the dead that repentance and remission of sins might he preached in his name. Surely the multitudes will believe and obey now, But apostles are beaten and told not to preach in his name. And when a preacher speaks plainly of their uncircumcised in heart and ears condition, they gnash on him with their teeth and beat his defenseless body to death. ***Mark it well with stone chisel —As your fathers did. so do ye.***

Man thinks of following the crowd and doing because others do it , but Jesus said. *Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.* Here lie the masses beneath the epitaph of murmuring, immorality , idolatry, hate and murder which have always characterized public opinion ***We must not live as they lived; we dare not die as they died .***

—J. R. Everett

Predictions For 2014

This is the time of year when several events have taken place. Many have observed Christmas and are now preparing for the new year. This brings reflection and therefore a desire to make improvements in our lives. We make New Year's resolutions.

Psychics sometimes make bold predictions of events that could happen. Usually these are nothing more than educated guesses. But for many people, it offers them something to look forward to, like a better economy or a new job. But let us remember that there are some things that are predictable, and will come to pass if the Lord does not come first. Knowing that the Lord could return at any moment should cause us to pause and reflect upon our own spirituality, not ***continued on page 3***

continued from page 2

just at this time of the year, but continually. I was recently sent an e-mail titled 2014 predictions, and some of the predictions are pretty accurate and worthy of your consideration.

1. The Bible will still have all the right answers. We just need to get people to ask the right questions. So far the Bible has not been wrong on anything. Perhaps we can attribute this to a living God, and His Holy Spirit.
2. Prayer will continue to be the most powerful thing known to man. Mankind can observe volcanoes and earthquakes and hurricanes, and tornados. Man can assume that weapons of mass destruction are powerful. But not one of those things has the power to wash sins away. But the blood of a man who died nearly two thousand years ago still has the power to cleanse our souls.
3. The Holy Spirit will still move about the earth. God's word will continue to impact people when they see faithful Christians doing good, and letting their light shine. Some people will read the Bible for the very first time, and realize how much they need the Lord's guidance.
4. God will continue to honor the praises of His people. The effectual prayer of a righteous man avails much. When people pray according to the will of God, great things will happen.
5. There will still be God-anointed preaching. In other words, there will still be preachers who will speak the truth even while it is not popular.
6. There will still be people happy to sing praises to God. Singing is one of the best forms of enjoyment that we can participate in, and it is one of the few acts of worship where everyone shares and participates in the same efforts. Singing of the saints is probably the purest form of worship known to mankind.
7. God will still pour out His blessings upon His people. Yes and when we benefit, others will

benefit as well. When we share the blessings of God, we help people to see what being a Christian is all about. But remember, that each person must obey God to receive the spiritual blessings that are only found in Christ Jesus.

8. There will still be and always will be room at the cross. Jesus died for everyone, and God's grace is offered to everyone. Anyone who chooses to obey God will be welcomed by God and Jesus, no matter what they may have done in the past.
9. Jesus will still love you. His great love provides the hope of our salvation. His is a love that on His part is unconditional. However if we are to benefit from His love, we must meet certain conditions. Trust and faith in Christ, and obedience to His word is necessary to receive His blessings.
10. Jesus will still save the lost when they come to Him in obedience. It does not matter what one has done in the past, as long as a person is alive, they have the free will choice to serve God and be obedient to the Christ. Nobody has sinned so much that God cannot reach and aide them. With all the uncertainty and problems facing our world today, the best thing we can do is realize who is really in charge of things. We can appreciate these because the word of the Lord abides forever, and does not change. Let us work together to allow more people to see these blessings and help them find true happiness this year as well as every year to come.

Those who are Christians should take inventory and realize that we have most likely failed in helping people see the Christ in us. Let us resolve to let our light shine, and assist all we come in contact with to learn what the benefits of serving Christ has in store for them. Things will not be so bleak and depressing when we come to the realization that God is in control. Let us trust Him.

by Carey Scott

News & Notes

by Jim Stauffer

Eph. 2:19-21 “So then ye are no more strangers and sojourners, but ye are fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God, being built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief corner stone; in whom each several building, fitly framed together, groweth into a holy temple in the Lord.”

1 Pet. 2:9 “But ye are an elect race, royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:”

Psalms 1:1-6 “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scoffers; but his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by

streams of water, that bringeth forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also doth not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous; but the way of the wicked shall perish.”

News and Notes:

Let us remember the instruction of our Lord by visiting in whatever way we can, **Jan Patrick, Alma Baumgartner,** and **Candiss Cason. J.R. Daniel** continues his recovery at Indian Creek Care Center. Please provide whatever help **Meredith** may need. **Mary Czirr** has returned home and is recovering from her surgery.

The Church at Lenexa is a congregation of brethren who have been “justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” (**Romans 3:24**).

As a result of this justification we have been “delivered out of darkness and translated into the kingdom of the Son of his love, in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of sins” (**Colossians 1:13-14**).

We therefore respect the inspired Word of God that will

completely furnish us unto every good work by speaking only as the oracles of God (**2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 4:11**).

EVANGELIST & EDITOR:
Jim Stauffer

THIS BULLETIN PRODUCED BY:
The Lenexa Church of Christ
7845 Cottonwood Drive
Lenexa, Kansas 66216
913-764-9170



WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

- **HEAR** the gospel, **Romans 10:17**
- **BELIEVE** in Jesus Christ, **Hebrews 11:6**
- **REPENT** of sin, **Acts 17:30**
- **CONFESS** Christ as Lord, **Romans 10:9-10**
- **BE BAPTIZED** for the remission of sins, **Acts 2:38**

