

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY REMINDER

Volume XXIII

January 14, 2018

Number 2

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: LeAnna White
Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Charity Crawford
Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
Wed. Evening Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

- Week of January 7, 2018 -

Sunday School ----- 13
Sunday Morning Service ----- 33
Sunday Evening Service ----- 18
Wed. Eve. Service, 01/10/18 ----- 15

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

- Week of January 7, 2018 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,398.36
Christmas Missionary Offering, Dr. Greg Waller - \$ 80.00
Total Received for Week of 01/07/18: \$ 1,478.36

- Week of December 31, 2017 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 966.55
Total Received for Week of 12/31/17: \$ 966.55

- Week of December 24, 2017 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 706.00
Total Received for Week of 12/24/17: \$ 706.00

- Week of December 17, 2017 -

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 926.05
Total Received for Week of 12/17/17: \$ 926.05

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed to operate the church EACH WEEK, as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



Please Remember To Be Faithful To Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

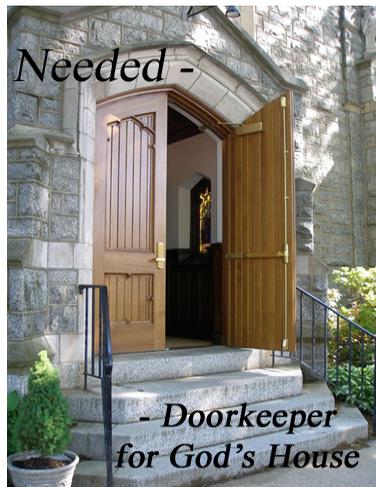
We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today* - OK? Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianist/ Organist
NEED VOLUNTEER!!!! ----- Greeter
Shayne Hooper, Brian Crawford, Charity Crawford, LeAnna White -- S.S. Teachers
Larry & Mary Byars, ----- Outreach
Bertha Segebart ----- Custodian
Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford



Dr. John R. Rice
(1895-1980)

At The Last

by Dr. John R. Rice

K Alcoholic drink:

' "At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder" (Proverbs 23:32).

K The harlot woman:

' "But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a twoedged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps take hold on hell" (Proverbs 5:4, 5).

K The man of ill-gotten riches:

' "...at his end shall be a fool" (Jeremiah 17:11).

K Worldly pleasure:

' "...the end of that mirth is heaviness" (Proverbs 14:13).

K Morality and religion without the new birth:

' "...but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12).

K The final end of sin:

' "Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:15).

Satan is a murderer and a liar, said Jesus in John 8:44. To the Pharisees He said:

"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

Satan's object for the human race is death - death to the body and death to the soul. He means to bring death to beauty, to youth, to love, to happiness, to purity, to every immortal soul. His object is murder. The Bible warns again and again that: *"the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23); "The soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezek. 18:4,20); and, "Sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death."*

God said to Adam and Eve, *"In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."* When Satan tempted them he meant to bring death to them and to the race, and damnation to their souls and all the souls who should follow them. Satan's object is murder!

And Satan's method is to lie. *"There is no truth in him,"* Jesus said. *"When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."*

Satan is a liar because he can accomplish his purpose in no other way. If Satan told the truth about sin when he tempts people, no one would ever sin. Every person who ever sins is deceived into it.

Depraved men now love sin, have a longing for sin; but if men realized how sin would end, they would hate it and flee from it.

(continued inside)

If Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden had believed God when He said, “Thou shalt surely die,” and had not believed Satan when he said, “Ye shall NOT surely die,” they would never have eaten of the forbidden fruit.

Suppose Satan had said to Adam and Eve, “I want to damn your souls. I want to bring hate, a curse on every child who will ever be born. If you eat of this fruit, if you turn away from God and disobey Him, defy Him, disbelieve Him, it will mean eternal death for all. It will mean the curse of physical death, the taint of disease, the sorrows of crime, divisions, strife, murder, adultery, lying, stealing, deceiving; if you take this step in sin, you are stepping toward eternal Hell and torment.” If Satan had said that, he would never have gotten Adam and Eve to eat of the forbidden fruit.

It is only by lying that Satan gets people to go his way toward death. Murder is his object, to lie is his method. He is a murderer and a liar, Jesus said.

Sinner, look before you leap! Before you go into sin, learn how it will end! Satan’s ways start sweet but end bitter. Satan’s promises sound good but are a lie. Satan’s pleasures end in sorrow. Satan’s riches end in poverty. Sin’s ways end in death!

On a narrow road approaching a hill a reckless motorist dashed out to go around the car in front of him. Just as he came to the crest of the hill and parallel to the other car, he saw too late a car approaching from the opposite side. In the two-lane highway there was no room for three cars parallel. The man who tried to pass another car on the hill careened head on into the approaching car and was killed. He was a fool because he raced on when he was not able to see what was in front of him.

But anyone is a fool who takes a course of action without considering how it will end. Anyone is a fool who starts headlong down a long hill before considering whether he has any brakes.

Ten miles from Elmira, New York, a man got in his car and started down an icy hill toward the highway. At the foot of the hill ran the Erie Railroad. He did not see the approaching train until he was already headed down the hill. He tried desperately to stop but couldn’t. The car slid onto the railroad track, and the man was instantly killed. How foolish not to have looked for the train before he started down the hill!

In that tragedy there is a double lesson. The man lost his life because he did not look ahead to see how his trip down the hill would end. But the same man the preceding Sunday heard me preach. I pleaded with him to take the Saviour, but he wouldn’t. Although he was a middle-aged man, he decided to risk it longer on Satan’s side.

He lost his life by starting in his car down the hill without looking ahead, but he lost his soul forever because he turned down Jesus and neglected his opportunity without looking ahead to see where it would end!

Dear sinner, look before you leap! Find out how sin ends before you indulge in it.

I will show you from the Word of God how certain sins end. Before you go into these sins, consider whether or not you want to land where they will eventually take you.

I. The End of the Sin of Drink -

There is a fascination about alcoholic drink! The sense of the luxury of expensive, bubbling champagne! The hilarity of the cocktail party! The pleasant warmth of the toddy, the stimulation of brandy, the convivial sociability of beer!

Fortified by liquor, the timid man becomes bold. The wallflower becomes, she thinks, the wittiest conversationalist! After a few drinks, every joke is funny, every remark is brilliant. The casual stranger becomes a bosom friend. Sorrows are forgotten for the moment.

Conscience troubles no more. Marriage ties, holy vows, honest responsibilities lose their hold under the influence of drink. So one seems to be more carefree. People seem friendlier. Life seems gayer. Satan offers many attractions in alcoholic drink.

But wait! How will it end? Think it through. No sensible person should embark on a course of action that may have disastrous results. See what the Word of God says about alcoholic drink:

“Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.”

- Proverbs 23:31, 32

True enough, the red wine is beautiful in the tall-stemmed glass. True enough, there is a thrill, a “kick” in the first stages of intoxication.

But wait! The wine is the color of blood, and that ought to warn you that it ends in death. ***“At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.”***

Alcohol is a poison, so the human body naturally rebels against it. The stomach, not accustomed to drink, vomits out the poison which has no place nor use in the body.

Just as the body has a natural tendency to vomit out poisonous food, so it has a natural tendency to reject alcoholic drinks. Many a man does not have as much sense in his head as he has in his stomach!

Alcohol is soon absorbed into the blood and is slowly oxidized, the odor coming out through the breath. Alcohol first stupefies the higher brain centers. The brain relaxes control in the area of moral inhibitions. What was profane a few minutes ago now sounds funny. The indecent suggestion a while ago now seems, to the brain which is beginning to be stupefied by a very small amount of alcohol, to be very reasonable.

The man who drinks would commit adultery under the influence of liquor when he would not commit the same sin sober. The girl who drinks will permit familiarities that would make her shudder if she were sober.

The higher brain centers that control moral sense and responsibility are deadened first by alcohol.

Then muscular control begins to slacken. A man cannot see accurately. Tests show that one with two glasses of beer is not nearly as good a marksman with a rifle as he was before he drank.

The man with two or three glasses of beer in his stomach becomes a very unsafe driver. He may feel that he drives better, but actually, he drives much worse. He has no sense of danger, no sense of moral responsibility. His foot is slower on the pedal, and his hand is slower on the steering wheel.

Next, alcohol may deaden the brain enough to bring unconsciousness, and the man is dead drunk. Or if he has a little more alcohol, he has enough to deaden the involuntary muscular reactions of the body. A certain percentage of alcohol in the blood stupefies the nerve centers that control breathing; the drunk stops breathing and dies.

But many a man or woman may drink only moderately for years. Many drink who have never been drunk. Are such people to deny themselves what pleasure they get out of drinking, when they do not lose control of themselves as some others do and become drunkards?

The answer is not as simple as that. If it takes eight glasses of beer to make a man drunk (less for some people), then the man who has one glass is one-eighth drunk.

The man who has two glasses is one-fourth drunk. And no man one-fourth drunk is safe as an engineer of a passenger train, as a pilot on a plane, nor is he safe to drive an automobile down the road or safe to handle a steam shovel or a drill press or a welding torch.

No girl one-fourth drunk is safe in the presence of sexual temptation.

He who would not gamble without drinking will gamble when he is one-fourth drunk. He who never intended to take more than two glasses of beer can be tempted to take more when he is already one-fourth drunk!

One lie is not as bad as eight lies, but it is still a lie! And a man with one glass of beer in his system may not be in as great a danger as the man with eight glasses; but he is still drunk enough to kill somebody with his car, to say things he would not say if he were sober, to make the wrong decisions, and to take another drink if the temptation comes strongly.

Wine is still ***“a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise” (Proverbs 20:1).***

No doubt Lot was a moderate drinker while in Sodom. Only when calamity came—when his wife turned to a pillar of salt, when his married daughters burned to death in Sodom, when his property was all destroyed—did Lot succumb to temptation. His worldly daughters then could get him drunk.

But the only people who ever become drunkards are the moderate drinkers. So, as chapter 19 of Genesis tells us, Lot the

moderate drinker became Lot the drunkard. Guilty of incest with his own daughters, he brought upon himself unspeakable shame.

Besides the danger to the one who drinks, there is the danger to his loved ones. Many a man has kept whiskey in his home and has drunk a moderate toddy daily without many immediate bad effects. But such men often find later that their sons turn out to be drunkards. They do not have the protection of strong convictions against drink, and the example of their fathers leads them into the clutches of this terrible temptation.

You don’t think you are likely to become a drunkard? Let me ask you, Do you suppose anyone ever expected to become a drunkard? No! “Wine is a mocker.” It is deceiving.

If Satan told you, “I am going to make you into a drunkard, with the loss of all that life holds dear; I will take away your power to hold a job, the love of your wife, the respect of your children, your means of support, your health; I will cause you to be buried in a pauper’s grave and wake up in a drunkard’s Hell”—I say, if Satan told anyone that, he could never get him to drink.

So I beg you in Jesus’ name, stop and think! Consider how drink ends before you begin it! Remember, “At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.”

- more next week

