



# The PARAKLETE

A publication of BARNABAS MINISTRIES, 135 Mitchell Road, Gallipolis, OH – Denny Coburn –Director

OFFICE OR FAX: 740/446-6929, Residence: 740/446-7318

Email: [barnabasohio@att.net](mailto:barnabasohio@att.net), Web page: [www.barnabasohio.com](http://www.barnabasohio.com)

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## ARE YOU AN INFANT IN CHRIST?

Immaturity personified: A forty year old married man told his friends at work, "My wife walked in the bathroom unannounced and sank all my boats. I'm thinking about telling her mom on her." Does that sound too ridiculous to be true? Well, yes, but read what the Apostle Paul wrote to some Christians about their level of immaturity.

He called them "infants in Christ," that feed on "milk," that they were "worldly." As evidence he wrote they were jealous, quarrelsome and acting like "mere men." The last remark inferred they were only living like a child who is only interested in their own being. In other words, like animals, only acting on emotion rather than rational beings.

All of this is in the third chapter of the First Corinthian letter. Paul drew the difference in three levels of being: the lost he listed as those without the Spirit, the immature, and the mature. We all know the lost are those outside of Christ or simply those "without the Spirit." So I want to address only the last two which he called the "worldly" and the "spiritual." The first he also called infants, or in some versions they are referred to as carnal, the second or spiritual he called mature, 1 Cor. 3:1ff. The spiritual were those who had advanced in Christian growth. They were the ones learning, growing, and doing service for the Master. But Paul's greatest concern was for those he referred to as "infants" or "worldly."

He referred to both groups as "brothers" but included the women as well. Much as we do when we speak of the "brotherhood" we refer to both genders.

From that reference on there was a vast difference between the infants and the mature. For example the one was spiritual minded, the other "men of flesh," the first were "mature" and the latter "babe" or "infants." The mature were eating solid food (deeper scriptural meaning) while the babes were still on milk, weren't sufficiently advancing in the Word majoring on simplest truths. He told them, "You need milk, not solid food. Anyone who lives on milk being still an infant is not acquainted with

*the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil,"* Heb. 5:13-14. If we grow "Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming," Eph. 4:14.



Signs of infant Christians are (1) Concerns for the physical more than spiritual, (2) Constantly feeding on simple truths rather than deep truth about righteousness, (3) Jealously concerned about what others do or don't do, (4) Quarrelling with others, and (5) Easily led astray by the cunning and craftiness of false teachers, usually by some "new things."

On the other hand the mature saw themselves as nothing with nothing to quarrel about. This is revealed when we compare ourselves with others. The mature see themselves as simply "fellow laborers," too busy to quarrel with others about their status in the Kingdom. The mature are servants with assigned tasks while the immature acted like "mere men" only interested in themselves. What a contrast!

We all need to grow up spiritual. Paul also wrote in the same letter "When I was a child, I talked like a child I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man I put childish ways behind me," 1 Cor. 13:11. "Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to the maturity, not laying again the foundations of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, instructions about baptism, the laying on hands, the resurrections of the dead, and eternal judgment," Heb. 6:1-2.

These are all very important but they should have been settled long ago. Most of them should have been established before these are truths which led us to our baptism. Maturing in righteousness is the obvious first step after our conversion, learning more truths concerning things such as suffering for Christ, endurance, character and hope, Rom. 5:3-4. These are areas in which we all must grow.

## ARE YOU AN INFANT IN CHRIST?

the place to begin maturing is reminding ourselves daily that the only way we can improve the world around us is to begin with self. As did Job in 13:23 ***“How many wrongs and sins have I committed? Show me my offenses and my sin.”*** That would be a wonderful start, but that is only a start David asked ***“Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind,”*** Psa. 26:2. Both David and Job were only men, but David’s sinful ways displayed for others to see down through the ages, and Job’s suffering was beyond anything we will ever have to endure and stands as examples for all time.

David asked God ***“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting,”*** Psalm 139:23-24.

We all know, or at least should know, that every relationship, and congregation has its problems. In light of this and the scriptural admonition, we need to ask ourselves if we are part of a problem or part of the solution to problems. Maturing will help us always ask ourselves such things.

After self-examination we are able to move to the next step. In Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus tells His disciple that second only to loving the Lord with all of their heart, soul and mind was ***“...like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”***

The mature Christian never blames others for their own failures. We can be faithful to God even when others are bad examples and display discouraging attitudes. God will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we can bear...so don’t blame others as the famous counselor, Carl Rogers, encourages. We are believers in God not men.

Maturity in Christ will brighten your day as it allows you to be happy as you ignore distractions, insults, and things meant to discourage. Christian maturity can possibly stop the tongue of someone in the world because you give them nothing to criticize, legitimately. It will also encourage others to do the same thing.

We have influence even if we are not aware of it. To the world you might be one person, but to one person you might be the world.

As the comedian from Canada, Red Greene often says, “Remember we are all in this together so keep your stick on the ice.” Since Christianity is more important than hockey, keep your mind on Christ.

## DENNY’S SCHEDULE FOR JULY-AUGUST

Gallipolis, OH 740/446-6929

## DANNY’S SCHEDULE FOR JULY-AUGUST

Huntington, WV 304/633-5908 (c) 304/736/2677

Both Denny and Danny’s schedules are slim as the

Coronavirus fear still looms heavy

## DON’T DROWN IN A MUD PUDDLE

A godly man who was talking about the spirituality of life said, “If you’re going to drown, don’t do it in a mud puddle.” He simply meant that he could understand why a person would struggle with his faith as a result of going through difficulty, pain or grief. But he considered it utterly absurd that a believer would allow his testimony to be marred and his service useless because of resentment over a small hurt or great disappointment.

King Uzziah let pride and envy cause him to break God’s clearly prescribed law regarding worship. He apparently resented the fact that he, as king, could not perform the tasks assigned to the high priest. So he presumptively intruded into the sanctuary, as only the high priest was to do and God afflicted him with leprosy. After nearly 50 years of rule he had “drowned in a mud puddle.”

Today we all fall into similar “puddles.” A deacon lost the respect of his unsaved neighbor because he started a conflict with him over a bush on the line between their properties. Another man was hurt and left the church because the class he had been teaching for a long time wanted another teacher. Both men allowed little problems to cause them to spiritually “drown in a mud puddle.”

How about you and the way you handle rebuffs, grief, and irritations that are common to all? Be careful of the little “mud puddles” that are in the lives of all of us.

Reworded from *Our Daily Bread*

I love this country. Since I was a child, I have loved America and am proud of this nation. I know, as well as anyone, that there are and have been many things in our past to be ashamed of and I too am ashamed of slavery as a big one, but even that is only one of them.

I am ashamed of the transgender behavior, killing the unborn, the dishonesty of our government and other things. In spite of these and more, I still love America. How long our Creator will tolerate our ungodly acts before He completely abandons it, I don’t know. Maybe he has already. But I can still pray He has not.

## **- .DOTS AND DASHES FROM DANNY. -**

Three elderly gentlemen were talking about what their grandchildren would be saying about them in fifty years. The first said, "I would like my grandchildren to say, 'He was great fun to be with.'" The second man said "I want mine to say 'He was a loyal and loving family man.'" Turning to the third man, they asked him, "What do you want them to say about you in fifty years?" He replied, "I want them to say, 'He looks really great for his age!'"

Fifty years from now it doesn't concern me what people will be saying about me, what my greatest concern is what the people say about me now. An even greater concern to me is what the world is saying about Christians today. In order to know if a person is a Christian in our society you almost have to have a program, such as at a ballgame. I often wonder if the world is looking at Christianity and scratching or shaking their head saying, "who are these people anyway, and what are they doing? They have such diversified beliefs, one group believes one way and another believes something different." The real alarming fact is that the world's question is a correct one.

That brings me to an issue that is problematic in the New Testament Church today. However, this matter is not new. It began around the 1800's or perhaps before. The issue is **BIBLICAL LIBERALISM**. This problem has been destroying the credibility of the Church for years. The dictionary defines "liberal" several ways, but I want to concentrate on only one of them: "**BROADMINDED** – Especially not bound by authoritarianism, orthodoxy, or traditional forms such as: One who is open-minded or not strict in the observation of orthodox, traditional or established forms or ways."

What does it mean to say that a person is a liberal, or to say that someone may be so described? The answer, as is often the case with, "it depends." "Liberal" shares a root with the word "liberty" and can mean anything from "generous" to "loose" not literal or strict, to "broad-minded." Politically, liberals and conservatives are against each other daily. For one it has taken on negative connotations when used in a political sense, and has been this way for years.

What does all this have to do with the Body of Christ? In modern Protestantism it emphasizes freedom from tradition and authority, the adjustment of religious beliefs to some scientific beginnings, and development of spiritual abilities.

One definition of liberalist is, "a person who believes that government should be active in supporting social and political change." I believe some allow government to introduce changes in our churches that may be politically correct but are 100% contrary to the Bible.

Liberalism embraces the thought that everyone should be allowed to live with no restraints, viewing the Bible as just another good book with man as the authority. Conservatives believe in preserving biblical values literally. Liberalism sees the Bible as interpreted by secular science and modern thinking. It has no authority to them and the teaching of Jesus and the apostles should be taken with a grain of salt. After all, the Bible was written a long time ago and doesn't apply today. The social gospel is much more conducive to living in peace and with love.

However, man has sin and the penalty for sin is separation from God. But liberalism says "all we need is love, sweet love" and many have accepted this false teaching which results in the belief that: 1. The Bible is good but is full of error. It isn't God-breathed and man has the right to choose what to follow. God is a god of love and it's alright if you believe some of the Word. (See 2 Timothy 3:16-17). 2. The virgin birth of Christ is a myth. (See Isaiah 7:14 and Luke Chapter 1) 3. Jesus didn't really die nor resurrect on the third day. (This contradicts all of the New Testament). 4. Hell is not real and man can achieve peace simply by being good and a loving neighbor. (See John 14:6). 5. The Bible is a good book but is just a book full of stories and there were no miracles. If there are no miracles then there is no Christianity. (See 1 Corinthians 15).

Biblical liberalism instructs people to pick and choose what they believe and what they "feel" is right while denying parts that just don't fit their way of thinking. Liberalism has infiltrated the church today by the teaching and preaching of men who want to make it appear that the Bible is relevant, credible and beneficial in some way, yet not the ultimate authority. As a result Christianity is being divided and Satan is having a hay day.

In closing may I encourage you to read 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Every word that makes up the Old and New Testaments is from God. The Father has given us His Word so we can be found faithful. We are not to alter or change God's Word to make ourselves feel good or to make our actions more politically correct. Faithfulness to God is what gets us to heaven. Revelation 2:10.

**Danny Evans is an associate and trustee of Barnabas Ministries**

## WHY?

**TEXT:** Romans 8:18-28

**INTRO:** Did you ever wonder why? What I mean is why bad things happen to good people or why good things happen to morally bad people. I think, even the most spiritual of us have asked this at some point. I had this question pop into my mind a lot when I was younger, but not now. Not even when suffering, death, and tragedy strike. The reason I don't question such things any more is due to the content of our text. Some translations have this section of the Book of Romans headed "Future Glory."

### I. ALL THINGS FOR GOOD

#### A. NOT GOOD

1. They are "For good" not good in themselves
2. God has a purpose for all things
3. He is God in bad times as well as good

#### B. HARD TO SEE

1. Life is easy when health and happiness are ours
2. But bad things "break in"
3. Hope helps us see vs. 24-25
4. It's not in us to direct our paths, Jeremiah 10:23

#### C. HIS PURPOSE IS

1. To keep man's soul from the pit, Job 33:28
2. To bring man's soul to enlightenment, Job 33:28
3. With God bad things have good results, Rom. 5:3-6
4. Things, good and bad, can backfire without Him

### II. SEE HIS HAND

#### A. EVERN WHEN OTHERS INTEND OUR HARM

1. Story of Joseph "You meant for evil... God meant it for good," Gen. 50:20
2. Daniel, in prison, God brought him into favor with the authorities, Dan. 1:9
3. Mordecai – The gallows built for him was used for his enemy Haman, Esther 7:1ff.

#### B. NOT JUST GOOD BUT THE BEST

1. God never abandons the righteous, Psa. 37:25
2. Affliction sometimes keeps us near God, Psa. 119:67
3. Affliction is an aid to our learning, Psa. 119:71
4. We look to physical and now, He spiritual and eternal

### III. GOD'S WHOLE PURPOSES FOR OUR GOOD

#### A. THINGS WE LEARN FROM "BAD" THINGS

1. God's authority – Nebuchadnezzar as an example
2. Obedience – Learn the meaning of "no" or "not now"
3. Reverence – Illustrated by Paul and the high priest
4. Forgiveness – Remembering our own sins.
5. Gratefulness – Recognizing the benefits of His love
6. Truthfulness – The truth will out
7. Patience – Waiting on Him to reveal ultimate blessing
8. Loyalty – Accept as our own His schedule
9. Wisdom – Seeing things through His eyes
10. Self-Control – Leaning on the Spirit's power

#### B. IF WE DO NOT LEARN

1. There is no final success
2. We do not draw near to Christ
3. Things seem to have no purpose in life

**CONCLUSIONS:** Our text states "...all things work together for the good of those who love him and who have been called according to his purpose." Notice two "great qualifies:" 1. All will turn out for the good of those who LOVE HIM. "If a man loves me he will keep my words," John 14:23. 2. If we are called according to HIS PURPOSE. God loves us and asks us to just "get even with Him" and love Him back. But the second qualifier is that we yield our lives according to His purpose, not our own.

*"For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. Therefore, he who rejects this instruction does not reject man but God, who gives you his Holy Spirit,"* 1 Thess. 4:7-8.

Worry and frustration is in reality a failure to trust God because He causes all things to work together for our good. Peter and Judas both sinned. Judas didn't see the good, Peter eventually did.

## INTELLIGENT DESIGN

A couple of years ago my eldest son was visiting and I wanted him to view a DVD I had received, and for the life of me I can't remember from who. Anyway the conclusion of seven scientists, all claiming they were not practicing Christians concluded after and in-depth study of DNA that life came from "intelligent design." That is what the Bible teaches. An intelligent God designed us as intelligent human beings and has taught us through Scripture to act intelligently.

DNA is a nucleic acid that carries generic information in the cell that is capable of self-replication. The volume of information contained in DNA staggered their collective minds. A single human cell has enough information capacity to store the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, all 30 volumes, three or four times over.

Where did this information come from? Somebody (God) had to program that complex information into DNA. Just because we can name it ("DNA") does not mean we know all about it. When those scientists said they had concluded it was from "intelligent design," my son said, "What did they say?" He heard correctly.

The complex code in DNA requires the involvement of a super-intellect and the only candidate that fits the description is the God of the Bible.

### FAIR IS FAIR

Bubba: "God, I was wondering, how long is a million years to you?"

God: "Son, a million years is like a second to me."

Bubba: "God, how much is a million dollars to you?"

God: "Son, a million dollars to me is equal to just one penny."

Bubba: "God, can I have one of your pennies?"

God: "Sure, in a second, son."

### POSITIVE BELIEVING

If you believe you can, you can.

If you think you are beaten, you are.

If you think you dare not, you don't.

If you think you can't win, you won't.

For out in the world we find that success begins with a fellow's will; it's all in the state of mind.

Life's battles don't always go to the strong or fast, but sooner or later the man who wins is the one who thinks he can.

—author unknown

**Thinking is a function of the mind which cannot exceed its input. Positive thinking is just trusting God.**

# BARN-a-book (a Barnabas Ministries study series)

## A series of studies in encouragement by Denny Coburn Study Number One Hundred Seventeen – Claiming the Grace of God

Around 40 years ago, I met a gentleman from Hungary, named of Frank Kunsabo. At the time I was preaching for a new congregation and working in the local medical clinic. He was my counterpart working in the hospital and both the clinic and the hospital were housed in the same building sharing the same cafeteria. On one of my breaks and sitting alone at a table, I noticed this distinguished looking man who also sat by himself. After a short while one of the ladies near me asked if I knew the man. I replied that I didn't and she informed me that I talked to him often because we shared information on the phone daily. So I decided to introduce myself because he only knew my voice.

After a few introductory words I asked what he was reading. He said it was a book on reincarnation. I asked Frank rather bluntly, "You don't believe that stuff do you?" He laid the book closed on the table and replied in broken English, "No, not really, I was raised Roman Catholic, but know I need to search for truth." His reply gave me a great opening so I said, "Frank, I preach every Sunday at a congregation not far from here. I'd love it if you came to hear what I believe to be the truth." He indicated that he might, and I accepted that as "I probably won't but thanks." To my surprise and gladness he showed up with his wife.

He attended the following week and to my great joy he came forward for baptism. After his immersion as we stood before the congregation, I asked if he had anything to say. I will never forget his comment. He said, "Now I know what it is to be in a state of grace." He quickly grew in his understanding of the Bible, as I and others could see, he certainly did know what it was to be in a state of grace.

Many people have fallen into discouragement because they, unlike Frank, do not know or have forgotten the grace of God that not only saves us but also sustains us...even in bad times. There is no greater encouragement to the soul of a person than to know we are saved by the grace of God.

What does it mean to be "saved by grace?" Suppose you were a king in conflict with the king of a neighboring kingdom and he had you surrounded with an army many times more powerful than yours. Further imagine you were doomed to die. Both you and the other king knew it but then with a white flag of truce in his hand, the other king's son approached with a plan whereby you would not only be spared but also granted an honored place at his table. Now wouldn't you call that offer grace? Also ask yourself, "Wouldn't your seat at the table be considered a "state of grace"?" Frank did. He trusted the message he heard and by faith obeyed that Gospel message.

Obedience is included in faith, but I do not agree that it follows that such logic makes every act of obedience necessary for salvation. There are acts of faith that we incorporate into our lives as we grow in grace. But, I have found that there are people who become discouraged because they have failed in some area. Read carefully the following illustration which distinguishes the difference between being saved by grace living a perfect life of grace.

If you wanted to enter a golf tournament you would find there were differences between the rules for entering the tournament than rules for playing the game of golf. Let's say two of the rules for entering the tournament were that you were to be a recognized pro, and have a sponsor. These are the basis to get into the tournament. Once in the game you break a rule that will not cost you the game, but will cost you a penalty. To equate baptism with "*praying without ceasing*" or never saying or doing something that is condemned in Scripture is ludicrous. There is a vast difference between being in grace and living graciously. The two should present in our lives but it is sad but true they do not always. Standing in grace and living a life of gracious living should go hand in hand...but they don't always

So, why do some people abandon their trust in the grace of God and become discouraged and wander from the faith? The problem is us, not God. A short study of the meaning of grace will answer the “Why question. The fact that the grace so freely given by our Father is not translated into gracious living is the cause for some to not “feel” they are standing in a state of grace. This is in the mind of His children not in the Father. The promise of the peace is not enjoyed by His grace because of our disobedience. “Grace” is not a word that is translated into “license.” For example the grace God extended to Noah was predicated on him building the ark, Genesis 6:8. In that passage we are told, ***“By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.”*** Faith must be demonstrated by our actions or it is dead faith, ***“As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead,”*** James 2:26.

The root word for “faith” is translated various ways in the Bible. For example it is translated “persuaded” 22 times, “trust” 8 times, “to have confidence” 7 times and “obey”. Both the Greeks and Hebrew understood faith to mean both trust in God and obeying God. In the Hebrew letter the third chapter is an illustration of this truth. In verse 18 and 19 we read ***“And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed? So we see that they were not able to enter because of their unbelief.”*** The word translated “disobeyed” is the same word translated “unbelief.” Why, because the one is inferred by the other.

When we fail to live up to the high calling in Christ Jesus, we “feel” abandoned by God. The fact is that we have abandoned God and internally we sense the loss of joy and peace and that causes us to lose hope. The loss of hope is often devastating and we do not “feel” we stand in a state of grace. As Roger Chambers so eloquently pointed out, we are saved in the mind of God...not our mind.

In Galatians 5:7 Paul asked ***“You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?”*** Often the answer to that question is “it was I, myself that caused me to not obey the truth.

We must drum it into our heart and mind that we are SAVED BY GRACE. Trust in the grace of God can be short circuited in our thinking. It is not grace that is short circuited but our thinking.

Everyone experiences disappoint or sadness to some degree, sometimes because of circumstances or just something in ourselves. In Psalm 13 David demonstrated what it means to trust God in tough times. Feeling forgotten, forsaken, sorrowful, and subdued, David cried out to God for illumination of the grace of God. He asked God how long the Lord would forget him, and how long would the Lord hide his face from him? He concluded with the words, ***“But I have trusted in your steadfast love; in my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord because he has dealt bountifully with me,”*** Psa. 13:5-6.

It is the opinion of every writer of the New Testament, all inspired by the Holy Spirit to write the truth as God has revealed the truth that we can’t save ourselves and must be saved by grace. The free gift is grace. Our acceptance is by faith. ***“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith and not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast,”*** Eph. 2:8-9. A careful reading of this passage will reveal that the gift is “grace” received by faith (which carries with it obedience). The gift is not faith, the gift is grace and we receive it by faith.

If you “feel” you have lost your standing, examine your faith revealed by your behavior. If you think you are not standing in grace, the cure is in you, not God. He wants you to KNOW you are loved and He extends grace daily.



## LEARNING with Larry

Our English word "liberty" comes from the Greek word ελευτηρια (ELEYTGERIA). It is found in Gal. 5:1 *"It is for freedom (liberty) that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."* This Greek word is also used in verse 13, *"You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom (liberty) to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love."*

We choose in Christ to either be slaves to sin or righteousness. In Romans 6:20-23 Paul writes: *"When you were slaves to sin you were free from the control of righteousness. What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are not ashamed of? Those things result in death! But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

In this passage the Greek word for freedom is the adjective ELEYTGERIA. This means that in Christ we get to choose to be free from sin, death and hell, or to be slaves to those things that lead us to eternal separation from God or be unseparated from God for all eternity. I am blessed to receive the FREE gift of eternal life in Christ! Until next time enjoy your freedom in Christ.

- Larry Boggs

Larry is a Barnabas Trustee and Evangelist at three different congregations, two in the a.m. one in the p.m.

### WHAT ABOUT TIME?

We have time clocks, time tables so we can tell time.

We can make time, take time or save time. We can work overtime and get time and a half.

We can have a big time, beat time, but shouldn't waste time.

We can have time in or time out in a game or we can watch time fly and can even lose time.

We can play in our leisure time but in a short time it will be time to get busy again.

Some have tried to make a time machine but that just time consuming and time waits for no one so it's time to give up on that.

We better make the best of the time we have because we will spend time in heaven or hell and for some it will be crying time.

To the rest of us it will be a glorious time.

### THE FICTIONARY DICTIONARY

**STAGECOACH** – What you call the director of a play. "The actors followed the instructions of the stagecoach."

**BOOMERANG** – The topping on a pie made by a ghost. "In that haunted house the meringue topping for a pie is called boomerang"

**DECREASE** – A sharp ironed fold in a pair of pants. "De fold in de pants decrease."

**EXTREME** – The part of an egg yolk that drips. "Look what you have done! See the extreme down the side of the stove."

**FOUNDER** – What the rescue party for a little girl said. "They search all night but they founder.

(From *The Fictionary Dictionary* by Jim Marbles.)

### Henry and Sweetie Together again



Bob Creamer (Henry) went to be with the Lord and to be reunited with Marlene (Sweetie). Bob passed from this life April 10 this year. One year, one month and one week after Marlene passed. Bob will be remembered for his service to Glen Alice church in Rockwood, TN, as a firefighter and peace officer in Cedarville, OH, as an elder, preacher, loyal friend to many, a loving father and husband. We remember him for those things and as the portrayer and writer of the Henry and Sweetie skits. Bob loved gardening, canning, and freezing what he grew at his home and loved sharing with his friends and neighbors.

Memorial services were held both in Glen Alice church and Jeffersonville Church of Christ. The later was attended by many friends as well as the Governor of the State of Ohio.

Bob gave us many things, the greatest being fond memories of a good example of a Christian man.

## OPPORTUNITIES

**July 26-29** – Hillsboro Family Camp, Person to Person, Hillsboro, OH, Alex Eddy, Director  
**July 11-15** –Delmarva Family Camp, Laurel, DE, Contact Shawn Shot – 302-945-0610

### WORDS FROM THE PAST

“In my many years I have come to a conclusion: that one useless man is shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress.” -John Adams

~

“Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But then I repeat myself.” -Mark Twain

~

“I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.” -Winston Churchill

~

“A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.” - George Bernard Shaw

### MINI THOUGHTS

1. What other people think of you is none of your business.
2. Time heals many things...give it time.
3. How good or bad a situation...it will change.
4. Growing old beats dying young.
5. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up.

### IS IT RIGHT?

#### (First – Is It Scriptural?)

I realize the Bible doesn't say you shouldn't go to see certain shows, but I'm talking not about specific verses, but over-all the Bible written for all people and all cultures in all parts of the world, of all feeling, by brethren, and isn't it wonderful and marvelous and unbelievable that one book could even today, thousands of years later, apply, my brethren, to a relevant society in which we live. It doesn't refer to specifics often times, and when it does, I think it's meaning business

Our Lord didn't make mistakes. He talked in generalities, yet he talked about specifics. Is it scriptural? Is it in harmony with Christian living? Is it in harmony with a separate life? Is it in harmony with the principles of holy living...the Christian life? – from Treasures from My Basement by Wayne Smith.

### QUOTE FROM A RABBI

“We Jews seem to be smarter than most other religious groups. We don't eat pigs so we don't worry about cholesterol, and we don't bet on horse so have more of our money left.”

## DO YOU CHARGE TO FORGIVE?

A sign in a convenience store read, “Check Cashing Policy: To error is human, to forgive, \$10.” It was a funny way to recognize the fact that we make mistakes, but it is also evidence of the way many people think about forgiveness.

To forgive is to accept within yourself the consequences of the sins of others. It means to accept the pain, the problems and the burden that comes when someone sins against you. Forgiveness is neither easy nor a frequent gift.

That is what God did for us. *“For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect,”* 1 Peter 1:18-19. *“He made him who knew no sin to be made sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him,”* 2 Cor. 5:21.

This old world needs more forgiveness. It is not easy to pay for what others do. But it is easier if we reflect on the forgiveness we received through Christ Jesus.

### GOLF

Alfie got off work early one day and planned to get in nine holes of golf before he went home. When he was about to hit off the first tee an elderly gentleman asked if he minded if he joined Alfie.

“Of course not,” Alfie replied. And so they teed off. To his amazement the old man didn't slow him down and played a decent game.

On one hole Alfie's ball landed behind a pine tree between the ball and the green. As he studied the next shot, the old man said, “You know once, years ago, when my ball was just where your ball is I hit the next shot right over that tree.

Alfie thought “If he did, I can”. But his shot rattled in the tree top and landed at his feet. The gentleman said, “When I played that shot years ago that tree was only six feet tall, I don't think I'd try that now.”

### DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

What **BARNABAS MINISTRIES** believes

**BIBLE:** The only inspired record of God's revelation to us

**SIN:** The only thing standing between God and man

**JESUS CHRIST:** The only perfect One who paid for sin

**THE GOSPEL:** The only record of Jesus' life

**SALVATION:** The only hope of man

**FAITH:** is only “saving faith” if it includes repentance, confession of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and being baptized for the remission of sin.