

The Dover Dove



*May 2016 Newsletter of Dover Baptist Church Phone (804) 784-5681
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Dr. Todd Kube, Pastor*

Dear Church,

Grace and Peace to you in the Name that is above all names: Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior! I will continue in my quest concerning a deeper knowledge of the Constitution of the United States of America and its relevance for today. In particular this month, we will explore the role of the federal government in equality with regards to “property.” As in the case of many proper roles of the government, please note that our nation has changed dramatically from the understanding of our founding fathers. For this article, I will be quoting from *The 5000 Year Leap* by W. Cleon Skousen, 115-121.

Political philosophy, especially in Europe during the founding of our country, centered heavily on redistributive policies from the “haves” to the “have nots” in the name of equality. The founders thought the fallacy of this thinking was that it was allowing the government to do what the individual was not allowed to do. (Remember the slogan, “Of the people, by the people and for the people.”) Thus, it went against “inalienable rights” and natural law.

“For example, every person is entitled to protection of his life and property. Therefore it is perfectly legitimate to delegate to the government the task of setting up a police force to protect the lives and property of all the people.

“But suppose a kind-hearted man saw that one of his neighbors had two cars while another neighbor had none. What would happen if, in a spirit of benevolence, the kind man went over and took one of the cars from his prosperous neighbor and generously gave it to the neighbor in need? Obviously, he would be arrested for car theft. No matter how kind his intentions, he is guilty of flagrantly violating the natural rights of this prosperous neighbor, who is entitled to be protected in his property. (Of course, the two-car neighbor could donate a car to his poor neighbor, if he liked, but that is his decision and not the prerogative of the kind-hearted neighbor who wants to play Robin Hood.)

“But suppose the kind-hearted man decided to ask the mayor and city council to force the man with two cars to give one to his pedestrian neighbor. Does that make it any more legitimate? [No, in fact it makes it worse,] because if the mayor and the city council do it in the name of the law, the man who has lost his car has not only lost the rights to his property, but since it is the law, he has lost all right to appeal for help in protecting his property.

“The American Founders recognized that the moment the government is authorized to start leveling the material possessions of the rich in order to have an equal distribution of goods, the government thereafter has the power to deprive any of the people of their equal rights to enjoy their lives, liberties, and property. [And thus, people rights are not equal. Furthermore, it opens the floodgates] for the government to meddle with everybody’s rights.

Cont'd.

“It was realized, of course, that some would prosper more than others. That is inevitable as long as there is liberty. Some would prosper because of talent, some because of good fortune, some because of an inheritance, but most would prosper because of hard work. Hard work, frugality, thrift, and compassion because the key words in the American ethic. Within a short time the Americans, as a people, were on the way to becoming the most prosperous and best-educated nation in the world. They were also the freest people in the world. Eventually, the world found that they were also the most generous people on earth.”

It seems ironic today that one of our Founding Fathers, Samuel Adams, stated, “The utopian schemes of leveling [redistribution of the wealth], and a community of goods [central ownership of all the means of production and distribution], are as visionary and impracticable as those which vest all property in the Crown. [These ideas] are arbitrary, despotic, and, in our government, unconstitutional” (Wells, *Life of Samuel Adams*, 1:487.)

Benjamin Franklin, a onetime have not in society and while living in England, thought that the government welfare programs were counter-production compassion. The Founders “recognized that it is a mandate of God to help the poor and underprivileged.” However, it was a balanced approach, as Franklin wrote, “To relieve the misfortunes of our fellow creatures is concurring with the Deity; it is godlike; but, if we provide encouragement for laziness, and supports for folly, may we not be found fighting against the order of God and Nature, which perhaps has appointed want and misery as the proper punishments for, and cautions against, as well as necessary consequences of, idleness and extravagance? Whenever we attempt to amend the scheme of Providence, and to interfere with the government of the world, we had need be very circumspect, lest we do more harm than good” (Smyth, *Writings of Benjamin Franklin*, 10:64).

Thomas Jefferson once warned against the “big daddy,” “cradle to grave” government, “If we can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people, under the pretense of taking care of them, they must become happy,” (Bergh, *Writings of Thomas Jefferson*, 10:342).

Skousen lists some highlights of the Founders in their writings which he summarizes as follows.

1. Do not help the needy completely. Merely help them to help themselves.
2. Give the poor the satisfaction of “earned achievement” instead of rewarding them without achievement.
3. Where emergency help is provided, do not prolong it to the point where it becomes habitual.
4. Strictly enforce the scale of “fixed responsibility.” The first and foremost level of responsibility is with the individual himself; the second level is the family; then the church; next the community; finally the county, and, in a disaster or emergency, the state. Under no circumstances is the federal government to become involved in public welfare. The Founders felt it would corrupt the government and also the poor. No Constitutional authority exists for the federal government to participate in charity or welfare.

I believe it is obvious today that we do not follow the Constitution as originally framed and understood by our Founders. In fact, I do not believe there is a desire to go back to the Constitution as originally framed and understood by our Founders by the American people. Once you start going down a particular path, it is difficult and even painful to go back and start again.

Pastor Kube

Nursing Home Worship and Bible Study Ministry

Being committed to ministry responsibilities in two adult health care facilities I can bear witness to the truth revealed in the following article. I have seen residents who are unable to communicate with others yet will respond to familiar hymns in perfect understandable praise and worship. The hymns we have known as children like "Jesus Loves Me" transforms totally blank and unemotional faces into sunshine and joy. Simple prayers induce sighs of comfort and hope. God is still active today and "oh how He loves you - oh how He loves me - He gave His life what more could He do - oh how He loves you and me! Trust Jesus!

The Baptist Press article speaks volumes so I thought I would share it with you.

Alzheimer's considerations include Gospel

by Erin Roach, posted Monday, April 25, 2016

NASHVILLE (BP) -- Alzheimer's disease grips millions of Americans with fear and hopelessness daily, yet the Gospel can infuse a spiritual dynamic into the struggle, asserts a university psychologist and author. He suggests believers should prepare for the possibility that their lives could be upended by the increasingly common hardship.

"People will tell me beautiful stories of how their loved ones remembered the Lord even deep into dementia -- sometimes through singing well-known hymns, reading familiar Bible passages or praying together," Benjamin Mast, author of "Second Forgetting: Remembering the Power of the Gospel During Alzheimer's Disease," told Baptist Press.

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's -- a type of dementia that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior -- and it's the 6th leading cause of death in the United States.

An elder at Sojourn Community Church in Louisville, Ky., Mast is a board-certified geropsychologist and associate professor and vice chair in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the University of Louisville.

"It's clear in Scripture that God remembers His people and takes care of them even when they have trouble remembering Him," Mast said.

Tom James, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green, Ky., and a recent president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, told Baptist Press what it's like walking the Alzheimer's road with his wife Jan, a mother of three who is battling the disease at age 57.

DeeEdrah White, whose husband Kevin White is executive director of the Nevada Baptist Convention and whose mother died last year after a struggle with Alzheimer's, relayed some ways churches can minister to Alzheimer's patients.

The title "Second Forgetting" refers to the way people, when devastated by Alzheimer's, risk forgetting the hope and power of the Gospel and can forget God as their comforter, provider and redeemer. Mast wrote the book to help people in the midst of the Alzheimer's journey experience the grace and love of Christ.

Short-term memory is the first thing "to go" when a person suffers from dementia, Mast notes in the book, but a person's deepest and most treasured memories tend to stay with them longer. For this reason, believers need to hear the Gospel every day, he says.

"Despite the effect of the curse upon our physical bodies, [believers with Alzheimer's] remain children of God, created in his image, and their identity and their life is still rooted securely in Christ," Mast writes.

One particular man at a dementia day center, Mast recounts, became somewhat belligerent, believing he was being held against his will. "As the staff considered how to address this problem, one remembered that he was a Christian and suggested that someone read the Bible with him," Mast writes.

"... Though he was still not sure of who I was or what he was doing in this strange place, as I sat next to him and read the Bible, the anger melted away. Soon, he was nodding in agreement with the words of God, whispering, 'That's right ... mmm hmm.' ... For him, God's Word was an anchor in the storm of his confusion. Reminded of the Lord's goodness, he experienced peace."

Mast writes, "By choosing how to live now, we are making choices about how we will live in the future.... Do you have a habit of daily prayer and Scripture reading? In developing godly habits we make them a part of who we are and embed them in our souls and procedural memory systems. All of these are more resistant to the effects of Alzheimer's disease."

A caregiver's perspective

James, the Kentucky pastor, has met Mast and benefited from his medical knowledge combined with a pastoral perspective, James told BP. James and his wife have been married for 31 years and recently welcomed their first grandchild. Jan, who he described as the ideal pastor's wife, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's last year.

"They call Alzheimer's the long goodbye, and it's true," James said. "Each day it seems like you lose just a little bit of them, and if you're not careful you'll spend your time dwelling on all of the plans that have gone by the wayside. Everybody plans what retirement is going to be like, what grandkids are going to be like."

James has learned how important it is to minister to caregivers, he said, because "we have no idea what goes on when people go home." He prays for patience.

"What happens is you find yourself getting frustrated with the person with the disease and then you get frustrated with yourself because you recognize that they can't help it," James said.

Keeping up communication with an Alzheimer's patient is important, James advised church members. "Keep talking to them. Just accept that that's who they are. I think sometimes we're afraid that we'll ask something or say something that might hurt them. So what ends up happening is they get hurt because people treat them differently and nobody talks to them."

For a caregiver, don't ask. Just do something, James said. "If you ask a caregiver, 'Is there anything I can do?' they're going to tell you no or, 'I don't know.' Just find something that you can do for them -- cutting their grass, bringing them a meal, arranging for someone to sit with their loved one so they can go do whatever they want."

Since his wife's diagnosis, a church member has spent every Tuesday with her, taking her to the women's prayer meeting, taking her to lunch and just hanging out with her, James said.

Though the Alzheimer's trial is heavy and devastating, James emphasized that he made a vow to his wife and to the Lord when they married: "in sickness and in health" -- never thinking it would happen to them.

"You always assume the best," he said. "A pastor friend made a statement to me one time: You love your spouse based on their position, not their performance."

White, whose mother was married to a Southern Baptist pastor for more than 50 years, said she was more able to see that her mother was created in the image of God as the disease took its toll.

"As she became less herself the more clearly I could see that she was His creation, not for what she could do but for who she belonged to," White told BP. "The last time we saw her, we wheeled her into the day room where they were having a church service and singing. She was trying to participate, and that image brought that thought to mind."

White commended her mother's church, Bethel Baptist Church in West Plains, Mo., as a great example of how to minister to a person with Alzheimer's.

"They really worked at including her. They brought her into Sunday School class," White said. "Of course, she wasn't combative or given to outbursts, but what she said didn't really make sense. They just would let her talk and then go to the next person. They would let her read out loud if she could. They kept her involved and integrated her into their lives. They made visits and sent meals and tried to help with cleaning and things that she had given up doing."

Shortly before her mother died, White got the idea to put up a bulletin board in her room at the assisted living facility to show some of the things her mother did before she was sick.

"I feel like the caregivers need to know that's a person who did all of these things and not just a bed to clean and a bother," White said. "That's an important thing to honor."

For more information on walking the Alzheimer's path from a Christian perspective, visit benjaminmast.com.

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Our May 2016 Schedule For Lexington Court is:

Sunday Worship and Praise Service

15 May 2016 at 2:30pm.

Friday Bible Study

13 May & 27 May 2016 at 10:30am.

Visit The Rooms At The End Of The Hall

Spontaneous visits on an as needed or as requested basis.

No particular schedule

Our May 2016 Schedule For Ashland Convalescent Center is:

Worship and Praise Service

Every Wednesday (Except the 2nd Wednesday) at 10:00 am.

'You shall rise up before the grayheaded and honor the aged, and you shall revere your God; I am the LORD.' (Leviticus 19:32)

In His Name,
Bob Gearheart

KID'S STUFF
By Donna Martin
Youth & Children's Director

Thanks to you all for your love and prayers as I travel to Greece. There are many inspiring stories shared when bringing refugees to Christ. Please pray for them as they will not have the same love and support from their friends.

In preparing for the next mission trip with the youth we will have a car wash fund raiser on May 21st from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. I hope you can come out.

Our next outing for children and youth is roller skating on 5-22. We will meet at church at 1:30pm.

God bless, and I will see you when I return.

God Bless,
Donna

WMU

The **WMU** will have their next meeting on Tuesday, May 10th at 11:00 am in the church Library. All are welcome to attend. Come for an inspiring missions message, and bring a favorite covered dish to share for lunch.

**Goochland Food Pantry
and Clothes Closet**

Don't forget the Food Pantry. Share non-perishable items with those in need by placing them in the shopping cart across from pastor's study. As you do your 'Spring Cleaning' remember those in need by bringing gently used clothes and household items to church to be given to Goochland Clothes Closet.

DEACONS' MEETING

Deacons will meet on Sunday May 1st at 12:15 pm after Worship Service.

DEACON OF THE MONTH

GLORIA BENNETT

COMMUNION SERVERS

Margaret Hill	Chad Hammack
Jennifer Napier	Rob Martin
#Todd Vance	*Juanita Deck

BELL RINGERS

May 01	Katie Roberts
May 08	Regan Davis
May 22	Lelia Parker
May 29	Dakota Higgs

NURSERY WORKERS

May 01	Maye Higgs
	Jean Eyrolles
May 08	Virginia Parrish
	Amanda Team
May 15	Pat Heffinger
	Tom Heffinger
May 22	Gail Cochran
	Mishelle Lawler
May 29	Joanie Collins
	Sara Rowe



May 2016

Denver Baptist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship & Communion Service 12:00 PM Deacons' Meeting</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30 PM Fellowship Meal 6:00 PM Prayer & Bible Study 6:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir & Team Kids</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>11:00 AM WMU Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 PM Prayer & Bible Study 6:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir & Team Kids</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service 2:30 PM Nursing Home Ministry</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00 PM Prayer & Bible Study 6:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir & Team Kids</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:00 PM Prayer & Bible Study 6:30 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir & Team Kids</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayer Service 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>				



I TURN TO JESUS

Sometimes I get discouraged,
And a tear comes to my eyes.
Sometimes life doesn't seem fair,
And I can't understand why.

Sometimes I want to give up,
When things aren't going right.
Sometimes it seems like a waste
of time;
Not really worth the fight.

Those times are when I turn to
Jesus,
He listens to my prayers.
And suddenly the way is easier,
The problems not so hard to
bear.

He is a comfort when the way
is rough.
Through His word I find relief.
I'm reminded that He's ever near.
On His name I have believed.

He doesn't promise earthy treasures,
If we follow in His way.
He does promise to fulfill our needs,
Each and every day.

So let me walk a little closer, Lord.
I know You love me so.
When problems are overwhelming,
I have a Friend who knows.

Author: Sharon K. Shubert

