

## Your Joy Shall Be Full

by Tim Dooley

Darkness brings sin and heartache (Psalm 107:10–12), but God is light (1 John 1:5) and brings joy to all those who walk in his light (v. 7). The key to faithful Christian living is to walk in His light. This doesn't mean that we will not sin, for all have sinned and continue to fall short of God's glory (Romans 3:23), but it means that we do not give ourselves over to sin (Romans 6:12–14). Every day we give in to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, or the pride of life (1 John 2:16). But do not get up in the morning and say, "Well, I am going to sin anyway so I might as well do it." No! The faithful Christian realizes that he has a Savior who paid the price for our sins and when we sin we acknowledge it, repent, and ask God, through His Son, to forgive us.

Every morning we ask God to help us be faithful to Him today and when we lay down at night we ask Him to give us the strength to be more like His Son and to live faithfully for Him tomorrow. Knowing Him means keeping his commandments and walking even as He walked.

Walking with God as Enoch did, being obedient and walking by faith (Genesis 5:24; Hebrews 11:5–6), on a daily basis, is the only way to ensure that Jesus takes us home to live with Him for eternity when He returns. What does

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*The faithful  
Christian realizes  
that he has a Savior*

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that look like? Continuing to study and grow in your knowledge of His Word, being ever vigilant in prayer, worshipping regularly, associating yourself with other faithful brethren, loving God and each other, sharing the Good News with those who are lost. How are you doing in these areas. Where is there room for improvement? Are you faithful?

## One Sin is Serious

by Robert Notgrass

One does not have to have every disease known to man to die because just one disease can kill. It is not necessary for one to have a thousand heart attacks

knowing that just one can kill a man. A criminal does not need to break all the laws in order to find himself in jail, one violation can lead to punishment. Therefore, since we are able to see consequences like this in the physical world, why is it that we cannot see them in the spiritual?

Sin often starts out small but does not remain small for very long. A "little" sin can produce the same result as a "big" sin. James said that, "... sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:15). What about just one sin? Well, if sin is sin and it brings forth death, how many sins does it take? The apostle Paul tells us that, "the wages of sin is death..." (Romans 6:23). Therefore, just one sin that is unrepented of and unforgiven brings separation (death). The Old Testament warns man that, "the soul that sinneth, it shall die" (Ezekiel 18:4, 20). Therefore, *how many sins must one commit in order to be separated from god?* Can we conclude to say that, "One will be enough?"

Now, it is quite easy to recognize that sins in abundance are destructive. The world prior to the flood was filled with wickedness. The abundant sinfulness of the antediluvian world led to God's decision to destroy man (Genesis 6:5-7). The "exceeding wickedness" of the people of Sodom brought about the destruction of the city (Genesis 3:13; 18:20). The many backslidings and iniquities of the Israelites testified against them (Jeremiah 14:7). When one reads the catalogue of Israel's sins recorded in 1 Corinthians 10:5-11, is it any wonder that Jehovah God was not well pleased with them? We must realize that sin is just as destructive today and man ought to be alert to the danger.

In addition, the seriousness of one sin is a recurring theme of the Bible. The transgression of Adam and Eve in the Garden was not to be overlooked by God as "just one little sin." It was given proper and appropriate punishment and its effect has been felt by man down through the centuries. The record of the man who violated the Sabbath law (Numbers 15) gives further testimony to the way God looks at failure and one failure in the life of an individual. For, punishment for the one sin was death by stoning with the sentence given by God himself with all the congregation as executioners.

Now, could we be so relaxed today that we forget about the sentencing by God because of our sin? Do we not know that Solomon said, "...one sinner destroyeth much good" (Ecclesiastes 9:18)? I mean, look what happened to two sinners according to Leviticus 10:1-3. The sons of Aaron had the right incense, the proper desire, they were the right men, in the right place, at the right time, with the right utensils, but there was one wrong: the strange fire which the Lord commanded them not. Is there any wonder that when they were being consumed with fire, that their own father spoke not a word about it to God?? Do we not realize that they were punished for doing one wrong and their father held his peace because he understood the seriousness of one sin?

Examples could be multiplied as proof of the truth being emphasized. Moses testifies that one sin is serious and can keep a man out of the promised land (Numbers 20:10-12). Achan acknowledges that one sin in the camp can cause victory to be withheld till it is properly punished (Joshua 7). Judas would never say that "one little sin" is not so bad. The apostle Peter had the fact impressed upon him that the one sin of denial was an awful transgression. In the early church, it is revealed that God disapproves of one sin as evidenced in the case of Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5). So, why have we become so use to sin and the compromising of Truth that we do nothing about sin when it is being practiced all around us? Are we really scared of losing our friends, family or Christians because we may stand in front of them trying to help them see the error of their ways? Is pacifism really the answer or do we not know that *just one sin can keep you out of heaven?* You know, it is amazing to note that when discipline was given it did not tear the church up, but apparently influenced its growth in numbers (Acts 5:11, 14).

It is true that God will forgive a multitude of sins (Isaiah 1:18). It is likewise true that a person guilty of one sin stands in need of forgiveness (James. 2:10). Paul told Timothy, "Them that sin rebuke before all" (1 Timothy 5:20). We might wonder how many sins one would have to commit before a rebuke would be in order. None are sinless, it is true (1 John 1:8). Yet, to have forgiveness through the blood of Christ, we must confess our sins and comply with the conditions of pardon (1 John 1:9; Acts 8:22). Otherwise, that one sin may just keep us from Heaven. Are you serious enough to correct your sin?

# Correspondence/Encouragement

## Inmate Correspondence:

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### **WVBS Online School**

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### **Gene and Shirley Wardlaw**

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## Mission Works

### **Westhill Works**

Benevolence Program

### **Local Works**

Cherokee Children's Home - www.chc4kids.org

House to House, Heart to Heart

In Search of the Lord's Way

Preaching Students - Southwest School of Bible Studies

The Truth in Love - www.ttil.tv

WVBS Online School - school.wvbs.org

### **Prison Works**

La Poynor Prison Ministry - Steve & Carrie Handley

### **Foreign Works**

Four Seas Bible College, Singapore - Peter & Pooi Fun Chin

New Zealand Harvest Missions - James & Emily Cammock

## Leadership

### **Elders**

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Paul Slaughter - 903.872.1228

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Darwin Thomas - 903.695.0176

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### **Ministers**

Sam Dilbeck - 903.229.8415 (Pulpit)

Cory Myers - 512.627.6672 (Youth & Family)

Tim Cooke - 903.641.5515 (Seniors)

# Prayer List

**James Welch** is home and recovering after having neck surgery.

**Meagan Gould** is still scheduled for more tests.

**Ed Garrett** is still scheduled for heart surgery in October.

**Lori Mosley** is scheduled for surgery on Sept. 14th at Medical City.

**Besse Bell**, one of our benevolence customers, would like our prayers and could use our encouragement. She is suffering from a lot of arthritis pain and diabetes complications. Her info is on pg 3.

**Continue to Remember:** James and Yvonne Ainsworth, Gayle Garner, Velma M<sup>c</sup>Dougald, Bud Moore, Carrie Gibson, Henry & Eula Parrish, Patty Williams, Meagan Gould, Myrna Haufe, Connie Ivie, Iris Ramsey

**Service Men:** Clay Bayes, Jason Book, Alston Compton, Robert Johnson, Ryan Payne, Douglas Ramsey, Ryan Stewart

# Announcements

**To all the Benevolence Volunteers,** Carroll Elementary and its wonderful students wish to thank you for your generosity and gift of time and supplies. We are forever grateful to you. These supplies not only help our students, but our teachers, staff, and school. God bless you all! Carroll Elementary

**Lads to Leaders** kicks off today. Following our morning services participants may sign up for the events available.

**WOW Ladies Retreat** reminder that the dates are 9/23-9/24 and sign in is at 4:30 pm. Location is at Summer Mill Conference Center, Salado, TX. (Directions are on back table).

**Westhill Ladies** are invited to our monthly birthday lunch (Dutch treat) on Wednesday, September 14. Meet at Cotton Patch at 11:30. All ladies are invited, ESPECIALLY those with September birthdays. Please let Julie Dilbeck know if you can make it!

**Fall Lectureship** - October 9-12 "Righteousness Exalts A Nation".

## Birthdays This Week

September 11 - Dickie Russell

September 12 - Marcus Ford

September 14 - Acie Mahoney, Sloane Slaughter, and James Welch

September 16 - Kayli Banks, Kay Donoho, and Cody Tomlin

September 9 - Ashley Jones and Dalton Shastid

## Next Week's Adult Class

"The Life of Paul"

## Records for September 4, 2016

Bible Class .....	194
AM Worship.....	243
PM Worship.....	160
Wednesday .....	165
Contribution .....	\$8,568.75

## Privileged to Serve

<b>Song Leader</b>	David Dilbeck
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	David Baumgartner
<b>Communion Leader</b>	Don Ivy
<b>Communion Servers</b>	
Darwin Thomas	Wade Braly
Wade Hall	Andy Parrish
Kyle Slaughter	Tanner Bearden
Bronny Watson	Thomas Saunders
David Shastid	Dan Gibson
David Dilbeck	Gene Steinkraus
Bryan Bearden	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Scott Barham
<b>Nursery</b>	Melissa Webster and Laura Haden
<b>Security</b>	Mark Blaylock, Mike Drain, Billy Roughton
<b>PM Song Leader</b>	Justin Mahoney
<b>PM Opening Prayer</b>	George Schmidt
<b>PM Closing Prayer</b>	Carter Bearden
<b>Wed. Song Leader</b>	Cory Myers
<b>Wed. Devotional</b>	Scott Barham
<b>September Contact Elder</b>	Darwin Thomas