

Service Opportunities

Announcements: Ted Wheeler
Usher: Delbert Leavens

RECORD

Attendance: **80**
Contribution: \$ 2968.00
Weekly Budget: \$ 2820.00

Thought for The Day

"The joy and peace of believers arise chiefly from their hopes. What is laid out upon them is but little, compared with what is laid up for them; therefore the more hope they have the more joy and peace they have."

HENRY

Church of Christ of Venice

4301 SR 776
Venice, FL 34293

MORNING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Kerry Keathley
Songs: Joe Austin
Sermon: Ted Wheeler
Closing Prayer: Bill Burnside

EVENING SERVICES

Opening Prayer: Wayne Vowell
Songs: Joe Austin
Sermon: Ted Wheeler
Closing Prayer: Marty Wingo

COMMUNION

Mike Weber Tim Simmons
Kaden Simmons Troy Wheeler

Church of Christ of Venice

"A friendly church, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ"

April 8 2007

Volume 17, Number 14

A LIVING HOPE

There are towns scattered across our land that bear the name "New Hope." We do not know why such a place would receive such a name, but we do know it says something that was good. You had rather see a town called that than one that would be called "No Hope."

In your New Testament, you will find some people in situations where there was *"no hope."* This is said of those who were Gentiles (Ephesians 2:12).

Peter would speak of a "living hope" when he says,

Blessed be the God and Father of our lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope (I Peter 1:3).

Here is a hope that would be said to be alive. There was a time when despair and disappointment would grip the hearts of these men but not anymore. They had seen the Lord since His resurrection. That fact revived their hope. It was alive and well. They were looking forward to something to come. There were things they expected to see and enjoy because

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

Please fill out a blue visitor card so that we might have a record of your visit. If needed, there is a **nursery** available at the rear of the auditorium. **Bible classes** for all ages are available Sundays at 10:00 am and Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We hope that you will join us for these studies. Please come and worship with us again soon.

Elders

Delbert Leavens
Wayne Vowell
Ted Wheeler

Minister

Ted Wheeler

Sunday Services

Bible Study-10:00 am
Worship-11:00 am
Evening Worship-6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 pm.

Church of Christ

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Christ had been raised from the dead by the power of God.

LOOK AT THE BASIS OF THAT HOPE

Peter would say it rests squarely upon the fact of the Lord's resurrection. In the resurrection, one has the proof that God endorsed what Jesus said and did while on earth. Also, there is proof that His sacrifice was accepted for the sins of men (Matthew 26:26-28). In the shedding of His blood, sins would be taken away (Hebrews 9:22). We have no doubt about the power of Jesus for the resurrection proves it (Romans 1:4).

LOOK AT THE VALUE OF SUCH HOPE

It comforts us in times of stress and bereavement. Wasn't this the case with Mary and Martha? Wasn't this the assurance that Jesus gave them? It is the thing that braces us up in times of opposition and persecution.

LOOK AT THE FUTURE OF SUCH HOPE

There are some things "*hoped for*." There is the return of Christ. The messengers gave this word of cheer to the anxious disciples in Acts 1:11.

"Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, 'shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.'" There will be the resurrection of the dead (I Thessalonians 4:13-18).

Out of this will come the reunion of the saints and the safe. What a day that will be! Then will come the rewards that are to be given. Remember what Jesus had to say about this when He said, "*great is your reward in heaven*" (Matthew 5:12).

J. Winfred Clark

EXPOSITIONS OF "THE EXPOSITOR", pp.487-488

Kind of Nail Are You?

Romans 12:4-5



Here is a parable of a nail that teaches a great lesson: A new place of worship had just been completed. People came from near and far to see it. They admired the beauty of its windows, the walls, the carpet on the floors. Preachers were carried away with the handsome pulpit Bible. On the roof a little two-penny nail held down a shingle. This little nail heard the people praise everything else, but none mentioned the shingle nail or seemed to be conscious of its existence. The little nail became very angry and said, "*If I am that insignificant, nobody will miss me if I quit.*" So, the little nail pulled out, raced down the steep roof and fell on the soft ground below. That night a big rain came and the shingle nail was buried in the mud.

The difference between being buried in the mud and holding down the shingle is this: before the nail was obscure but useful. Furthermore, it was protected under the shingle. Now it will soon be eaten up by rust. The worst of the story is yet to come. The shingle that the nail held down was now loose, and without the cooperation from the nail, it blew away, leaving a hole in the roof. The same big rain that buried the nail leaked in through the vacant spot where the shingle was, running into the beautiful auditorium. The water ran down the walls, leaving them all marred. It leaked upon the Bible and stained its pages. It leaked upon the carpet and the beautiful rug was stained. All because one little nail failed to do its job. Paul says in Romans 12:4-5 that we are "*many members in one body, and all members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another*" ^(NASB). We have a world to win to the Savior and each of us has a responsibility to that task. WHAT KIND OF NAIL ARE YOU? One that does his part and is essential to the glory of the Lord or one that fails to do what he is capable of and has the ability to do? EVERY NAIL IS IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL.

Remember in Prayer

JEANNE SHERMAN
FRANCES LEAVENS
DONNA YOUNGBLOOD
JANET WEBER
DORIS WHITE
CLARENCE RIGGENBACH
PATRICA SMITH
FRANK SMALL
IVA & LEM TURNER
PATRICIA FORD
JEANETTE THOMPSON

Mark Your Calendars

- ✓ Apr 13: Movie: *The Silencing of God* #4
- ✓ Apr 29: Song Service @ 6 pm
- ✓ Jun 3-9: Bible Camp @ Weeki Wachee
- ✓ Jun 14-Jul 9: Ghana Campaign 2007

Sermons:

**The Resurrection Can Lift
You Up**
Matthew 28:1-10
Satisfaction
Mat. 5:6