



## Our Prayer List

- ◆ Sarah Adams
- ◆ Dawn Copes
- ◆ Bill Cyrus
- ◆ Dottie Daniels
- ◆ Ann Egan
- ◆ Tom & LaVonne Haines
- ◆ Keith Hodges
- ◆ Beulah Keppler
- ◆ Bob Meiers
- ◆ Gaylin Miller
- ◆ Liz Miller
- ◆ Mike Miller
- ◆ Janice Ortman
- ◆ Hallie & Don Phillips
- ◆ Cora Shrake
- ◆ Rene Whitaker
- ◆ Mark Young
- ◆ Shirley Young
- ◆ Geco "Hannah's Aunt"

Health

## Encouragement

- ◆ Bill Copes
- ◆ Don Craig
- ◆ Matt Wood

Order of Service

### Morning

Song Leader	Doug Cyrus
Prayer	Don Craig
Table	David Craig
Assist	Arnold Miller
Assist	Bob Calvert
Assist	Eric Whitaker
Lesson	Shawn Daniels
Prayer	Charlie Bryson

### Evening

Song Leader	Bob Whitaker
Prayer	Bob Calvert
Lesson	Men's Night
Prayer	Don Craig

# The smallest good deed is better than the greatest good intention.



## This Morning Sermon

### "Dealing With Discouragements"

(Job 14:1) "Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble."

(James 5:16) "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Weekly Memory Verse

Let us look at the extent of her problems. Verse 6 tells us that "the Lord had shut up her womb." Many today may not find this to be such a burden, but for her and especially in that time it was her purpose. She was tormented by not being able to accomplish her purpose in her life. She was plagued with a great feeling of worthlessness.

If you have ever been frustrated with the results of your labors, you have experienced these feelings of Hannah. If you have seen barrenness in the fruits of your efforts, you have experienced this feeling, you can relate.

We need to remember that the abundance of fruit that we reap in our efforts is not in our control. Look at the farmer when he plants the corn. One year he could work just as hard and toil just as many hours as he did the year before, but if the weather doesn't cooperate and he has a drought, the fruit of his labor will be dramatically reduced. This is what we need to realize in dealing with these troubles.

We need to focus our attention on the work at hand, the labor in the field, and not on the harvest; that is God's job. Paul said, "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." (1 Cor 3:6)

Verse 6 also tells us that "her adversary also provoked her sore, for to make her fret." Hannah not only had to deal with a feeling of worthlessness, she also had a woman hurling her barrenness back in her face at every chance she could get. This woman was Peninnah, her husband's other wife.

Verse 8 tells us that she couldn't even turn to her husband for help. He loved her very much and hated to see her in such a state, but the solution of her problem was outside his power to help.

Then to add insult to injury, while she was praying in the place of worship at

Shiloh, Hannah was accused of being a drunkard and evil woman by the high priest Eli. (1 Samuel 1:14)

You can see the extent of her discouragement and troubling situation. How did she deal with this trouble?

First, we see no retaliation by Hannah. Hannah did not throw the fact that she was favored by their husband, (vs. 4, 5) Hannah did exactly as we should today. Jesus said,

"But I say unto you, 'Resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.'" (Matt 5:39) If Hannah would have retaliated against Peninnah, it would have just grown bigger, escalated and become even

worse and harder to deal with than it was at the beginning.

Second, we see that Hannah went to the one that had power to correct the problem; she went to God. This is what we must do when troubled. God wants you to ask, and if you are a child of God, if you have been obedient to the gospel of Christ, you can come boldly to the throne of God and ask in the time of need. (Heb 4:15-16)

Third, we see that Hannah asked for Eli to pray with her. This can be a great comfort for each and every one of us when dealing with troubles and problems. James tells us, "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

Fourth, and I believe this to be the place that a lot of people fail, Hannah left the problem with God. The record tells us, "So the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad." (1 Sam 1:18) We need to leave our request with God and ask that His will is accomplished. With that we should know that we are in good hands.

gospel is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth." I ask,--Is it the power of God to save the obedient believer to day? Is it invariably his power every day to the believer! None will deny it. Now should I be taught that the gospel loses its power to save me, though I believe and obey it, until God by some non-descript operation makes it powerful to this effect, should I not view this means inadequate to the end, and wait in death for this operation? Should I not be disposed to neglect the means, believing they cannot benefit me, till they are made more powerful by the power of God? Should I reasonably feel guilty that I am carnal, lifeless, and dead, believing that the means ordained by God were able to meliorate my condition? This faith, and the legitimate fruit of it, appear evidently the reason, why true' revivals of religion are so rare, or rather why they do not always continue.

Dare we say, that God does not will, and therefore does not continue revivals

Article taken from *The Christian Messenger*, Volume 7, Number 7, July 1833 <sup>BWS</sup>

### Word's From a Biblical Point of View continue from page 3

the virgin birth of Jesus, want to portray that Isaiah was prophesying an illegitimate birth by saying that the word virgin ought to be a maiden or an unmarried woman. This is everything but pure blaspheme. It cannot, however, be denied that 'almah' does not necessarily mean 'virgin'.

Matthew quotes this prophecy and applies it to Jesus in (Matt 1:23). Here the word translated to 'virgin' is the Greek word 'parthenos'. This word is unquestionably a virgin. Matthew by inspiration settles the argument of the Hebrew word 'almah' by this quotation.

Matthew also teaches the virgin birth by saying, "Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his

without ceasing? Dare we think that God is more willing at one time than at another to grant his favors, or give his Holy Spirit? Dare we impute the long, lifeless intervals between revivals to God's pleasure or will it should be so? Dare we impute to him the bondage, carnality and death experienced by his professed people--and justify these people in this state, because he willed it should be so? But few, if any, would be thus daring.

When in heart we believe and obey the gospel, God gives us his holy, quickening spirit; he gives us salvation, and eternal life--In this spirit we feel a tender concern for sinners, and are led to plead with them, and pray for them. They see our good works, and from conviction are led to glorify God--they see the light of Zion, and flow to it--they see the union of Christians, and are by this means led to believe in Jesus unto salvation and eternal life. God has ordained that the unbelieving world are to be saved by the means of this truth, shining in his church on earth.

wife: And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS." Notice, Joseph, in the preceding verses, was contemplating releasing his bride to be, supposing that she was unfaithful. The scripture teaches us that Joseph didn't know her till the child was born. That of course teaches that she was a virgin and Joseph was not the father.

Jesus knew this and taught this. The religious leaders did as these modern 'scholars' and said, "We be not born of fornication!" (John 8:41) Jesus said in verse 42, "I proceeded forth and came from God." Jesus knew who his father was and he knew it wasn't Joseph. This should settle the question to anyone that believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

GSD



## “Revivals”

By: Barton W. Stone

We have seen many things called revivals--great revivals. We have seen congregations greatly excited--many crying aloud for mercy, and many praising God for delivering grace. We have seen this state of things continue but a short time, and then disappear for years. We have seen many of these converts soon dwindle, sicken and die, and become more hardened against the fear of God, than they were before--many of them becoming infidels, by thinking that all professors of religion are like themselves deluded by strong passion and imagination. Others of them cling to the church, held there, not by delight in God, his service, or his people, but from other reasons than such as are approved of God. Others, and lamentable to tell, the fewest number by far, manifest by their holy walk and conversation, that they are truly pious and accepted of God. All must acknowledge that some good results from such revivals; but all must acknowledge that great evil also rose out of them. Those, who under strong affections, believed they were born of God, and who made a public confession

of faith, and fell from it, are of all people in the most pitiable situation, seldom do they ever after embrace religion--These by their example, discourage others, and fill their minds with prejudices against religion.

After a lapse of a few years, these scenes pass off forgotten, then another similar revival takes place, and similar events succeed--Such revivals are periodical--once in a few years; but of an evanescent nature; like a flash of lightning. Indeed, the people are taught by public teachers, not to expect their continuance--by experience and observation they have found them to be of short duration.

The general sentiment has been that these revivals depend on the sovereign will of God, who at certain seasons pours out of his spirit on the people, as the Angel at certain times troubled the waters in the pool of Bethesda. This sentiment we think of dangerous tendency. It teaches that the means ordained for salvation are not always on the same efficacy--of no efficacy at all, till God by special, almighty power makes them so. "The

Continue on page 6

## WORDS FROM A BIBLICAL POINT OF VIEW

### “Virgin”

By: Shawn Daniels

There are many that will not accept the virgin birth of Jesus Christ. Many will claim that Joseph was the father of Jesus, and that the Holy Ghost sanctioned it, thus making Mary morally a virgin, but not physically.

I see no reason in why some that believe that there is a God would have a problem believing in a virgin birth. Why would this be such a great task for the one that created us out of nothing?

Isaiah prophesied, "Therefore the

Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." (Isa 7:14) The word 'virgin' is from the Hebrew word 'almah'. This word according to Strong's means "a lass (as veiled or private)." It is used 7 times in the KJV and is translated as 'damsel, maid, and virgin.' This word does not bound to mean only a virgin, but can also mean one that is not married and never had a child.

Modern scholars, in hopes of denying

Continue on page 6

# ALMOST PURSUADED

By: David Padfield

For two years Porcius Festus held Paul prisoner in Caesarea Maritima. When Felix succeeded Festus, "the high priest and the chief men of the Jews informed him against Paul; and they petitioned him asking a favor against him, that he would summon him to Jerusalem -- while they lay in ambush along the road to kill him" (Acts 25:2-3).

Unaware of the plot to kill Paul, Festus asked him if he would be willing to go to Jerusalem to be judged. Paul responded by saying, "I stand at Caesar's judgment seat, where I ought to be judged. To the Jews I have done no wrong, as you very well know. For if I am an offender, or have committed anything deserving of death, I do not object to dying; but if there is nothing in these things of which these men accuse me, no one can deliver me to them. I appeal to Caesar." (Acts 25:10-11).

By exercising his right as a Roman citizen, Paul appealed his case to Augustus Caesar. While waiting for a ship to take Paul to Rome, Festus asked King Agrippa to help him "specify the charges" against Paul (Acts 25:27). Agrippa, the great-grandson of Herod the Great, had been appointed ruler of Abilene, part of Galilee, Iturea and Trachonitis by the Roman Emperor Claudius.

King Agrippa permitted Paul to freely speak concerning the charges made against him by the Jews. Luke records the moving sermon Paul preached to Agrippa in the twenty-sixth chapter of the book of Acts.

While speaking of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ, Paul was interrupted by Festus and accused of being "beside" himself (Acts 26:24). Luke then records these words of Paul: "I am not mad, most noble Festus, but speak the words of truth and reason. For the king, before whom I also speak freely, knows these things; for I am convinced that none of these things escapes his attention, since this thing was not done in a corner. King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you do believe." (Acts 26:25-27). Agrippa uttered one brief sentence in reply to Paul. He said, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian" (Acts 26:28).

One of the saddest words heard at the judgment will be the bitter cry of "almost." To "almost" be a Christian is to be a child of Satan. To "almost" repent of your sins is to die in your sins. To "almost" be saved is to be eternally lost. To "almost" go to heaven is to be sent to hell. "Almost cannot avail; almost is but to fail; sad, sad, that bitter wail -- almost, but lost."

DP

Article taken from <http://www.padfieldconsulting.com/church/fellowship.html>

**READ AND STUDY YOUR BIBLE DAILY!**  
"A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels" (Prov 1:5)



# CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

## Announcements

### Birthdays this month:

Rene Whitaker	5
Joshua Cyrus	7
Shari Baker	10
Ike Wilson	15

### Anniversaries this month:

Don & Hallie Phillips	17
-----------------------	----

## Church Family News

- Brother Bill Cyrus is in need of blood platelets. Giving platelets is a good work, but especially if it can help a brother in Christ. If you would like to give, you can call (314) 362-1253. You can make an appointment seven days a week between 7:30 am and 5:30 pm. It will only take 1-2 hours plus travel to St. Louis.
- Sister Sara Adams is currently at St John's Hospital because of breathing problems. Please keep her in your prayers.



Center for Advanced Medicine  
4921 Parkview Place  
4th Floor, Suite 4E  
St. Louis, MO 63110  
(314) 362-1253  
[www.barnesjewish.org](http://www.barnesjewish.org)



**Hickory Estates Singing Night will be held on April 30, 2009 at 6:30 pm.**

**W**omen's Online Bible Study  
*Presented by the church of Christ in Parma, Illinois*

The Women's Online Bible Study was designed to give women, that perhaps cannot come to a traditional class, a chance to study the Bible with others. If you are interested in signing up or know others in the community or abroad that may be interested, please pass the word of this work.

