

Farewell Message Morgantown, Ky.
June 26, 1983

Script. acts 20:17-38 Song P. 18
Rept V. 32 "and now brethren Higher ground.

I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

We notice in V 22 Paul is departing from Ephesus to go to Jerusalem. He said he didn't know what would befall him there except the Holy Ghost said bonds and afflictions would be his.

I "and now brethren I commend you to God."

think of the song "Be not dismayed whatever be tis
God will take care of you. I know your burdens and
your heartaches.

Paul had spent 3 years V 31 in which he crossed not to wear every one day and night with tears.

II God is able to make His grace abound toward you

Grace is a wonderful thing it holds us steady in the storm, ^{John Wesley in the stormy moorings} it sustains us in the trying hour.

- A. When friends misunderstand
- B. When Jesus was misunderstood
- C. When Jesus never fails & will not fail
- D. To be patient

III This grace is able to build you up. I pray you up on the living side. Strong tower of Jesus.

- A. Grow in grace Jesus said, my grace is sufficient, I make your stumbling blocks stepping stones.
- B. Carry your cross with a smile.
- C. Kept eyes should find you further up the road spiritually

1. Paul said "None of these
things move me." V 21b

IV of intentions among those
who are sanctified

We will someday be
gathered home, where
partings come no more.

V. 26, 27. Paul said: I am
pure from the blood of all
men. For I have not
shunned to declare unto
you all the counsel of God.

Song God be with you

P. 206

Seven Steps to Backsliding

Trace Jan 12/58
Fevermore 1-6-95

Text: "But he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man of whom ye speak" (Mark 14:71).

Intro: Backsliding is a process. Eve, first "saw" then "desired", then "took".

So we may trace Peter's fall step by step. Let us examine our own hearts in the light of the tragic events in Peter's downward descent.

I. Step one: *Conciet*

a. Self-confidence. Peter said, "although all should be offended yet will not I" (v.29)

II. Step two:

A. Boasting. "If I should die with thee, I will not deny thee, in any wise" (V.31). "So said they all, but Peter spake the more vehemently."

III. Step Three. *Lass*

A. Unwatchfulness. He said unto Peter, "Simon, sleepest thou" (V. 37). Sleepy souls are easy marks for Satan's temptations.

IV. Shame. "Peter followed him afar off" (V. 54)

A. Christ was now less popular with the crowd, Peter follows but not near enough to be identified with Him. Ashamed to bear the reproach of Christ.

V. Step five: *Evil associations*

A. Worldliness. Peter sat with the servants, and warmed himself at the fire (V.54). After falling out of step with Christ, it now becomes natural to "Warm" at the fire of the "world."

VI. Step six

A. Denial. The natural consequence of self confidence, boasting, lethargy, and worldliness is "Denial."

The world and the Devil will surely put the pressure on. and force you to confess or deny Christ.

VII. Step Seven:

"Heb begin to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man." Back to the old life return to the house that is now swept and garnished. the devils return.

Conclusion; The cure for backsliding.
He went out and wept bitterly.
Repentance and confession.

after pentecostal baptism
he became a rock.

He was courageous and
immovable

A MESSAGE FOR THE NEW YEAR Owensboro, Kentucky
Jesus said to his disciples "I tell you the truth, if you have faith even the size of a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." Calvary Wesleyan
12-28-86

Leavenworth 12-29-94

The old year is almost past and soon we will begin a new year. I sometimes think of when I used to hand out report cards to the kids in school. Some students had done very well and others had failed. I often told the ones that had failed not to despair you cannot change what you have already ~~have~~ done but now you have the chance to make good before the next report card is made out. We cannot change the past year but by God's grace we can make this the best year of our lives.

Rise above your past mistakes and go forward bound. Let your feet stand on higher ground.

The apostle Paul has a scripture for us this morning: Philippians 3:10-14 " That I may know Him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the High calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Verse 13 says "Forgetting those things which are behind" In order for us to be at our best for God there are somethings we must forget:

First of all we need to forget injustices done to us.

We may have been mistreated and falsely accused but just remember Jesus was too and we are not greater than our Lord.

He set an example for us by going about everywhere doing good in spite of his many enemies. He said "Love your enemies do good to them that hate you and despitefully use you." He sends the rain on the just and the unjust.

What a wonderful example for us to follow. as Christian workers we have to expect persecutions. Jesus said "All that live Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." We all like to have all man speak well of us but know matter how good you are there will be some people that will give you a hard time, because they are led by their father the devil and his job is to accuse the brethren day and night.

*Heart aches take them all to Jesus
He will take your heartaches all away*

Let us follow the example of Jesus who even when hanging on the cross saved a poor thief hanging beside Him.

The apostle Paul had a wonderful spirit of forgetting wrongs done to him and reaching out to the needs of others. Some people say well I will forgive but I can't forget. We remember what we dwell on in our mind. There are some things that may be hard for us to understand and it may take some effort on our part to forget, but it can be done by God's grace to the extent that it doesn't bother us any more and we don't waste time and energy mulling over it in our mind. The fact of the matter is we must forgive and forget if we want to have a healthy mind, spirit and body. Harboring injustices and grudges brings about self destruction.

We need to forget to feel sorry for ourselves. The Devil harps on this tune all the time. Like a song we heard several years ago, "Sing me one of those some one done somebody wrong songs". Feeling sorry for your self has wrecked more homes and churches than anything I know of. Not only that but it makes the person who feels sorry very unhappy and depressed. If we will think of the needs of others more we will have less time to pity ourselves.

We need to forget past failures. It's true we learn by our failures, but we can also be defeated by our failures. Many great men and women have had lots of failures but have not let them get them down. Thomas Edison while working to make an electric light bulb filament that would not burn out quickly tried a thousand different materials before he found the right substance. One of the men who worked with him asked him why he didn't quit, he said well I have tried all these things that haven't worked so now we are closer to succeeding than we were when we started. His secret for success was, lots of hard work and courage to not give up.

Some things about this past year may have seemed to you a complete loss but tomorrow will be a new day and a new year.

today is

We need to forget to doubt and fear. Jesus said many times fear not. Remember if God be for us, who can be against us. There is nothing to fear if God is on our side, and we know He is on our side if we love and obey Him. Doubt and fear brings unbelief and unbelief brings sin.

~~Be not afraid, only believe.~~

Jesus said to his disciples, Why are ye so fearful, how is it that ye have no faith. He also said "Without faith it is impossible to please God. We can be so paralyzed by fear that it is impossible to work or enjoy life at all. ~~He that feareth ed~~ ~~not made perfect in love~~

There is something else Paul brings out in this passage of scripture, in verse 14 he says "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. We cannot live in the past we must keep pressing on, like the song "I'm pressing on the upward way, new heights I'm gaining every day. still praying as I onward bound, Lord plant my feet on higher ground. My soul has no desire to stay, where doubts arise and fears dismay, tho some may dwell where these abound, my prayer my aim is higher ground. Lord lift me up and let me stand, by faith on heavens table land, a higher plain than I have found, Lord plant my feet on higher ground."

There are several ways we need to keep pressing on toward the Glory land.

We need to press on in greater faith in 1987 our faith should be stronger than in 19~~86~~⁸⁵. Lets keep pressing on and believe God for faith brings the victory. "This is the victory that overcomes the world even our faith".

~~You cannot be a good Christian without a strong faith~~

We need to press on in love and devotion, In the 13th ch. of I Cor. Paul writes, about many thing that will fail but he says Love never faileth. We may not have as much natureal ability as other people have, but we all can show love to God and others, Real love for others is what has the best results in winning others to the Lord, without real love we are sounding brass or a tinkling symbol. In order to have this Godly love we must spend time in prayer and meditation with the Lord, Only God can help us to love others as we should.

The last way I want to mention we should keep pressing on is in greater sacrifice for the Lord and His gospel. Romans ch. 12 says we are to present our bodies a living sacrifice wholly acceptable unto God which is our reasonable service. How much have we really sacrificed for the Lord this past year. So many people want God to do great things for them but they never seem to realize that Gods work suffers unless they are willing to give of their time talents and money for the precious gospel.

Let us follow the example of Jesus who even when hanging on the cross said exhorting the betrayer and his master God has promised that if we would give to him he will bless us abundantly.

Lets make this the best year we have ever had by obeying God and letting Him lead us every step of the way. We know not what the future holds, but we know God holds all the future. and we know that all things will work together for our good if we love and obey him praise His wonderful name.

Read Psalm

New Year's Prayer

A whole new year is mine today, . . .
May I be wiser, Lord, I pray!

I'd strengthen friendships, old and true
And learn to cherish new ones, too;
To keep on learning and to grow
A little better as I go.

To cast aside each grudge and grief,
And hold fast to a firm belief
That life is joyous, gracious, good,
When lived in terms of brotherhood.

To welcome fun, and play a while,
To lighten work with happy smile!
To thank the Lord and every day
Remember Him, and kneel to pray,
In gratitude for strength and health
And blessings which are all my wealth.

This year's a gift from God to me
To spend, or use, or set me free. . . .

A whole new year is mine today
May I be wiser, Lord, I pray!

I will. . .

like Paul, forget those things which
are behind, and press forward;
like David, lift up mine eyes unto the
hill from whence cometh my help;

Holy Determination

MT 74

Geneises 12; 1-5

text "And they went forth to go into the land of canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came

silverware 10-27-93

Song - 326 X7

Introduction

MT. 75

Abrahan was not only called of God but He went. 77

I. He went out He went forth. What was the cost.

Had to leave his kinfolks only lot went.

Illustrate Leaving folks. his son - his nephew

A. So we must follow the Lord regardless of what others say or do.

2. He went forth not knowing the difficulties

He would encounter

A. so we start out for God and go forth by faith

The Lord will surely be with us

"no man hath left all in this world but he will be well paid for it." Jesus said

II. He came into the promised land. and God said every piece of ground he set his foot on would be his.

Notice the things that brought the blessing

A. He believed God.

We Quilted onto

B. He took action.

the Land. He was

C. he staggered not at the promised of God gone through unbelief. an intercessor got the best.

D. He wanted all that God had for Him.

Illustrate Bro. Philip Bro. Bill Richardson

E. He never looked back and wished for the old land. He satisfied His soul on the good of the land.

#.

III. Many step short of the blessing caused by not going all the way.

A. Friends and loved ones.

b. Habits.

c. fears of failure.

e. not willing to go on unto Holiness and get rid of inbred sin.

f. doubts and unbelief that God will not keep His promises.

IV. Abrahams obedience caused all His children to be blessed

A. if you will obey God your children, grandchildren
and great grand children will be blessed because
of your obedience praise God!

The wesley family

Conclusion: the place of blessing is for you. praise
God.

... god and man does not that know all the know all
... the day time will come when you will be
... to realize that when you will have all the
... to you success from
... self-sacrifice and poverty can never know all the
... sufficient times of
... to which we can boast the pride or as in
... our life so it was like this
... the time when we live well and we do
... and when we do not have
... well then that business and et al since sh. If
... when we see all the ways to apply your
... said

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... said

Book Meeting
Annual Service Year
Wesley Chapel

Shining Lives M.T. T-69

Matt. 5:14-16

M.T. 77

Text V. 16 "Let your light so
shine before men, that they may
see your good works, and glorify
your Father which is in heaven.

Intro: God is the father of light
Sun, moon, stars.

Moon reflects the light of the
sun in a very effective way
like white plaster, no atmosphere
to obstruct its reflective power.

1. Christians are reflectors of
Christ. It is so important
that they are not tainted with
sin. The atmosphere of prayer
and faith and goodness.

II The kind of Christianity the world
needs

a. The first fact is that the human
heart is sinful and needs a savior.

b. The world needs a Christianity
that produces character.

The greatest victory a man can have
is victory over self.

Character differs widely from reputation.

Character shows itself in speech, song, conversation and conduct, in the books we read, the pleasures we enjoy, and in our dealings with our fellowmen.

True Christianity makes men upright, trustworthy, honest, pure-minded.

"C. The world needs a Christianity that is filled with the missionary spirit.

Communists have it
we must have it or perish.

Lights for safety

Lights on cars.

Lighthouse.

Bearon lights

light. Morgantown

1-67

Scripture Proph. 5:14-16. ^{soo} ~~of~~ 11
Text V. 14. Ye are the light of the
world. ~~S~~ God is the Father of lights ⁷⁴
Intro. What is light? Physical.

God said. Let there be light,
and there was light.

No one has been able to tell
what light is. But it is one
of the most important things in
the world. Way of the wicked is a
1. light for beauty and enjoyment
oh with light you can see and
work enjoy.

2. The sunrise this morning.
in the ^{on the} colors of the grass, flowers etc.
Beauty ^{of} the creation, light is beautiful
Holiness ^{is the highest} best and good spirit of the Spirit
2. For a guide.

a. The North star has guided
many safe home.

b. Illust light on the mountain
in New Guinea

c. Paul said follow me as
I follow Christ.

The world is looking to us.

3. For Warning.

- a. The light House
Many have been lost when
the light has gone out.
- b. We are to warn the
sinners. If we fail many
will be lost.
1. Bless. Bro Riemer.

4. For Warmth.

- a. & the Sun.
- b. The warmth of the
love of our hearts.
 1. Pictures of Russian
blessed.
 2. The Gospel of love
God so loved the world.
Love never faileth.

see or the light if we
fail all is lost.

The light of the world
is Jesus.

Jesus bide us shine with
a clear pure light
like a little candle burning
in the night
In this world of darkness
we must shine.
you in your small
comes odd in mind.

The Importance of Faith

Fairmount 9-11-94

1 Jn. 5:4 "Is whatsoever is born
of God overcometh the world;
and this is the victory
that overcometh the world,
even our faith."

Ep. 6:16 Above all, taking
the shield of faith, wherewith
ye shall be able to quench
all the fiery darts of the
wicked.

He 11:6 "But without faith
it is impossible to please
Him; for he that cometh
to God must believe that
he is, and that he is a
rewarder of them that
diligently seek Him."

Essential to prayer

James 1: 5-7 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God that giveth to all men liberally and upbriodeth not; and it shall be given him" But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering; for he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea, driven with the wind and tossed. So let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

We are justified by Faith
Ro. 5:1 "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Jesus rebuked for little Faith
Matt. 8:26. "Why are ye fearful, O. ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm."

Examples of faith

Abraham - went out, not
knowing whether he would return.

David and the giant
1 Sam. 17

Three Hebrew children

Matt: 9. 20
Women who Jesus
healed who touched
the hem of his garment.

Woman & daughter had a devil
Matt. 15: 27 Mark 7: 28

Centurion Matt 8: 10

Watch Out ~~firemore~~
8-7-94

Script 1 Peter 5:7-11

V8 Be vigilant (watchful)

mt. 26:41 "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation; the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak"

Ep. 6:11 "Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, the spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak."

1. The devil does his best to keep us from being a Christian
A. He comes as a roaring lion
B. as an angel of light.
C. as the accusers of the brethren.

2. We need to watch

A our tongue

James says, our tongue is deceitful above all things and despicably wicked.

^{Jesus said} If you can control your tongue you are a perfect man.

3. Watch your attitude
Don't allow the Devil to hold you prisoner in the dungeon of discouragement, unbelief and despair.
Jesus, Children of Israel.
4. Watch how you spend your time.
A certain amount of play and recreation is good but don't let your time all be taken up with it.
B. Turn off bad TV shows, impure music, abstain from dirty stories and jokes. These things war against the soul. Shun the very appearance of evil.
5. Mothers and fathers should watch out for the souls of their children. Love them, play with them, teach them responsibility and about God. Pray with them.

6. Children should watch out for the devil tries to get them to tell lies, steal, cheat and not ~~honor~~^{obey} and fight their parents, quarrel with brothers and sisters. be mean and ugly. sign of the last days.

7. Watch and pray, Jesus said. Mat 26:41

A Paul said acts 20:31
"Watch, and remember that by the space of three years I ceased not to wear every one night and day with tears."

1 Co. 10:12 "Wherefore, let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall."

1 Co. 16:13 "Watch ye stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong".

V 7 God cares." Casting all
your care upon him; for
he careth for you."

V 10 God of all grace
if his grace is strong
enough to help us
to be conquerors over
the temptations of the
devil

We can be more than
Conquerors through Him
that loved us and
gave himself for us.

The Only Good Life Livermore

8-14-94

1 Tim 4:8
For bodily exercise profiteth little; but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

Intro: We ask ourselves the question, "What kind of life is most profitable for me to live?"

2 kinds of life.

1. Bodily exercise or the life with Christ left out, profits little.
2. The Christian life is the good life both here and in the world to come.

Some say:

- Pleasure is the good thing
- A. but this shall come to an end
 - B. man's choice.

Some say. Riches is the good thing
in life.

A. Surrounded with all that
money can buy, a man may
yet be miserable and lonely
and cursed with despair.

B. Uncertainty of riches.

C there are more suicides
among the rich than among
the poor.

Illust. one of the earliest millionaires
families Ioy dying
willed away everything
said to his Christian wife.
Sing. "Come ye sinners, poor
and needy, weak and wounded,
sick and sore; Jesus stands
to save you, full of mercy,
love and power."

Some say. Ambition, position
and fame are the Good life

Illust. Alexander the Great.

Conquered all the world he
knew died in a drunken
debash at age thirty - three
because he was not satisfied

Now, what does the Christian have.

1. He has peace with God through the forgiveness of his sins through our Lord Jesus Christ.
Nothing between him and God. Everyone has the longing to be in communion with God.
2. The Christian has joy that is deeper and more lasting than any joy that another will come to one's heart in this world.
Joy like a spring of water Jesus spoke of to the woman at the well.
She said, "Lord evermore give me this water"
3. Christians have a love, a tender love, forgiving love that others do not know.
The Christian finds grace and love to forgive his enemy.
4. The Christian has hope as no one else in the world has hope.

He will get his just reward
if not in this life, in the life
hereafter.

Illust. The earnest of a
jar of soil.

Christian has the spirit's
presence as the earnest of
heavenly land.

Illust. Christopher Columbus
sighting green leaves and
fruit.

We have not seen the
good land yet but we
have its fruits in place
and joy and love and hope.

Heaven is the good life
that will come to every
true believer.

Givernore Isaiah 55

7-19-94

V1 To everyone that thirsteth
Jesus with the woman at the
well Only the water that Jesus
gives will satisfy the
human soul.

V2. material things will
not satisfy the soul.

V3. come to God and He
will make an everlasting
covenant with you.

V6. Seek ye the Lord while He
may be found
It will not always
be near. Someday it will
be too late. (my spirit will match
always strive man)

V7 Let the wicked forsake
his way. God will
abundantly pardon

V8. Gods ways are best
and higher than ours.

9

10

VII His word is always
true. Quick and powerfull

VIII If you go Gods way
you will go out with
joy, and be led forth
with peace. Hills
mountains and hills
will sing. Trees
Clap these hands.
Borders regained
The wicksd are like
the troubled sea.

There is no people
soith my God to the
wicked.

Live bold. You are
not afraid.

Tell no spew. Do
two with which two

Things we do not know.
Furthermore 7-10-94
1 Cor. 13:12 Southside 7-10-94
Owensboro 7-10-94

"For now we see through
a glass darkly; but then
face to face: now I know
in part; but then shall I
know even as also I am
known. Bible says: In the last
days knowledge shall be increased
of things which we do
not know, there are four
which stand out prominently
from the Word of God.

I We do not know and
Understand all the mysteries
of God's world.

"It is not for you to know
the times or the seasons,
which the Father hath put
in His own power" (Act 1:7)
Gravity, magnetism

A the greatness of God's world

1. God's perfect care of the
world seasons, time etc.

B. The mystery of man's
creation.

, mystery of life.

C. The mystery of God
Himself.

1. The mystery of godliness

II We do not know the
Real Beauty of Heaven
or the true torments of
Hell.

"And John saw the
holy city . . . coming down
from God out of heaven,
prepared as a bride adorned
for her husband" Rev 21:2

A. The true beauty of
heaven is incomparable.

1. John touches on some
of its beauty. But eye
both not seen nor looked.

B. The great torments of
hell are not fully known.
~~Jesus tells about~~

1. Luke 16: 19-31. the rich
man and Lazarus.

2. "Where the worm dieth
not, and the fire is not
quenched." (Mark 9: 44.)

3. We do not know what
the wailing company of
a lost world will be
like: ^{weeping, wailing, and gnashing}
~~teeth~~: God will laugh.

4. We do not know the
meaning of being separated
eternally from friends
and loved ones.

- III We do not know when
we shall meet death.
It is appointed unto man once to die.
- 1 "O death, where is thy
sting?" O grave where
is thy victory (1 Cor 15:55)
The sting of death is sin
Victory through our Lord Jesus Christ
- IV We do not know when
Our Lord shall return again.
A "Of that day and hour knoweth
no man, no, not the angels
Matt 24:36
- B. "The day of the Lord so
cometh as a thief in the
night" (1 Thess. 5:2)
- C. Be ye also ready: for in
such an hour as ye think
not the Son of man cometh"
Matt. 24:44.
- Conclusion:
- "I know whom I have believed
and am persuaded that he is
able to keep that which I
have committed unto him against
that day (2 Tim. 1:12)"