CHURCH OF CHRIST

1 N. Sunrise Highway, Patchogue, NY 11772

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Lancelot Watson- Evangelist

Worship Opportunities
Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m. Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

Mid-Week

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Patchogue Church of Christ Patchogue, NY 11772

A multi-racial community of believers with a purpose and vision to live holy lives, fulfill the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ by serving each other and our community with compassion, love and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ.

Records you Made:	1/4/15	12/28
Bible Classes	33	29
Morning Worship	85	89
Contribution	\$2301	\$2389
Mid Week Bible Class—Wed.	16	-

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. Ro 16:16

Youth Corner

By Jamal Colson



In its time

"He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end." (Ecclesiastes 3:11 NIV)

Young people have you ever wanted something so much that you would find yourself angry and bothered by people you care about. For some it might have been a phone, game system, car, possible money. YOU as young people are the "Church for Tomorrow's Generation" and must remember to realize that God works many things out "in its time"!

The Israelites wanted to be free, God allowed it to happen "in its time" The Israelites exited to the shore of the Red Sea and God parted the waters. God allowed it, "in its time" for safe passage and release from slavery.

Goliath heaped insult and abuse upon the Israelites day after day yet David defeated Goliath, God allowed it, "in its time"

There are countless accounts of God providing "in its time. If we keep this focus we can add to this list the times God has provided for us in its time. We sometimes think "It must be in my time." I think we learn these things from infancy, we cry, wail, bite, and scratch until we get what we desire. Babies will even wake up a household just to communicate "I'm hungry." From this interaction we think "in our time." We need to transform our minds like in Romans 13:1 and realize all things are "in His time." To God be the glory!

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ

1 N. Sunrise
Highway.

Volume 2 No. 2

January 11, 2015

Let's dry His tears

"Streams of tears flow from my eyes because my people are destroyed." (Lamentations 3:48.)

Tears depict such a powerful emotional outpouring that it is difficult for us to remain untouched when we witness it. Tears of joy do not affect us as deeply as do tears of sorrow. Sorrowful tears brought on by suffering, or death are powerful cries that emanate from the innermost depths of our being. Tears may be the strongest emotional appeal that our hearts emit.

We are not surprised therefore by the imagery portrayed God by prophet, "Streams of tears flow from my eyes because my people are destroyed." Heart-broken! Disappointed! Yet he is still full of care and concern for the people He loves.

This was true of the prophet and it is also true of our God. In fact the emotional out pouring of the prophet is reflective of God's emotional concern for us. The God of heaven cries for His people! At the death of Lazarus, "Jesus wept." (John 11:35). Listen to the anguish he feels as He cries over a stubborn and unrepentant people, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, ... how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing," (Matt 23:37). Powerful and positive love is declared here. Father God loves us! We know this by what He says and by what Christ did, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom 5:8)

How do we respond to this love? The obvious answer is that our response should be of such that it pleases God. This however is not always the case. According to the prophet, sometimes

our behavior generates tears and not joy! We break God's heart when we continue in a lifestyle that falls short of His expectations of us (Isa. 5:1-4); we break His heart when we turn our backs on Him and go our own way (Isa. 53:6); we break His heart when we treat as unworthy His Son's sacred blood that was poured out on a cross of a cruel crucifixion (Heb.10:28-29); we break His heart when we refuse to learn and obey His will (Matt. 11:29;7:24). Yes, we bring tears to His eyes when we allow these and other sinful activities to dominate our lives, and accept or treat these activities as wholesome or good (Rom. 1:32).

The God of heaven sheds tears because His people created in His image are destroyed. They are destroyed in spite of all that He did to have them saved (John 3:16). It is neither His wish nor delight that anyone be lost. As Paul says, "[God our Savior] wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth." (1Timothy 2:4) To be saved however, we must trust and obey Him. He wants us to turn our hearts to Him, obey His gospel and live each day in conscious obedience to His will. The words of the wise Solomon should not leave our thoughts, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil. This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones," (Prov. 3:5-8)

When God reflects on your present relationship with Him, does it bring joy to His heart or does it bring tears to His eyes?

Lancelot W.



Privileged to Serve 01/11/2015

Morning Service Song leader **Greg Watkins** Jason Holfman Welcome/Praver 559 Song # Scripture – Heb. 12:22-29 Mike Salimbene Songs # 851, 852, 853 - medley dotted verses only Second Praver John Sicignano Song # Lord's table and Collection: Lead John Stallworth Assistant C. Hendrickson Assistant **Rvan Costello** Tyler Dowdy Assistant Song - Kids to class Song # **Scripture - Luke 12:16-20** Brian Maddox Lancelot Watson Sermon -Invitation # 349 Responses & prayer: Mike Salimbene Jamal Colson Announcements & **Closing Prayer** Jason Holfman 703 Closing Song #

The Gospel Truth

A publication of the Patchogue Church of Christ, 1 N. Sunrise Highway, (North Service Road), Corner of Hewlett Ave., Patchogue, NY 11772. **Editors**:

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The family John Stallworth

Stop Judging Me - part 2

Jam. 4:12 - There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you--who are you to judge your neighbor?

As we're started considering last week. Many of us have felt the pain of man's judgment. We often devour one another (Gal. 5:15). James highlights there is ONLY ONE true judges. We realize man's judgment have NO impact on our true judgment. No matter what man say it has NO bearing on the judgment we will receive from our father. What we do need to assure is we respect and honor that there WILL be ONE judgment and that is what we need to prepare for. If we let man's judgment produce these things in us, then we allow man to impact our true judgment.

- Walking away from God and the church Isolate to Reclusion / Introversion
- Super sensitive and defensiveness

The Hebrew writer challenges us: Heb. 12:15 - See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up

to cause trouble and defile many.

I'm reminded here: I OWN MY BITTERNESS. I am not allowed to go to our father at my judgment and start trying to blame someone else. Some of us have said, "God will judge us based on what is in our hearts." Jerimiah teaches us: God will judge by what our deeds deserve. (Jer. 17:9-10)

Paul will tell us: "...do not give the devil a foothold" (Eph. 4:27)

So if we allow ourselves to be isolated, this is exactly what Satan desires. Why?

1 Pet. 5:8 - Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

How does the lion hunt? He rattles the herd until he can isolate the one he can target. If we can separate us from the herd (the Church), we are very easy to devour. Next week let's see how we can battle such a dangerous and ancient enemy (#3). In the meantime, let's see how we can be a strong member of the herd to protect the sheep.



LIVING IT OUT-PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY BYBENJAMIN FIELD

ladjer' Corner Paulette Watson

If You Have Faith as a Railroad Crossing

Who do we trust more – man or God? Easy guestion and answer, but do the correct answer and the true answer match? Do these answers *match* in my life?"

Matthew 17:20 – "He replied"Truly I tell you, **if you** have faith as small as a mustard seed..... Nothing will be impossible for you."

I noticed something a while back – I drive through railroad crossings and green lights with little or no thought. Maybe a passing glance at times, but that is it. I noticed this once while stewing angrily behind a bus in a painfully slow stopping routine at a railroad crossing. This guy was making me even later!

Then it occurred to me...."Why do busses and other transportation vehicles stop at crossings??" It is because these devices and the judgments of drivers fail at times, resulting in death. They display a lack of faith.

- I realized that this means to some degree I put my faith in mankind. In a real way I trust my very life to unknown and unseen people who made these things at unknown times. Then I realized I also place my faith life into the decisions of other operators and drivers - that they will not fail me either in running a red light... all while I plow through green lights and railroad crossings every day....
- How much more does God deserve our daily faith? Surely if we can place our lives into the hands of mankind we can also place that much more faith in HIM. We can trust Him with our church and the fruit of its activities, with our families, with our worries, with our requests, with our anger, disappointment, with our decisions - and yes- with our sins. He can make the green light and the crossing arm **truly** safe. He is good. He is the worthy God. Revelation 5:12

Attitudes

What do you think about that idea? How do you feel about those plans? What's your take on that person? Answers to these types of questions will reveal our attitudes towards certain things or people. Inevitably, our attitudes are reflected in our behavior, and our behavior can and often does influence others who see or hear us. This is quite a responsibility that our attitudes lay upon us. So God advises in Proverbs 4:23 "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life." Ultimately, we must monitor our thoughts and feelings (our attitudes) very carefully, because they are responsible for a multiplicity of issues in our lives and the lives of others. The scriptures provide some examples of attitudes we should or should not have:

Mary the mother of Jesus exemplifies the best attitude one should have toward Him. At the wedding in Cana, "His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). This is a blanket statement that covers everything, every circumstance that we could ever encounter in our lives. It shows a simple, yet deep faith in Christ; an unswerving commitment to always doing exactly as He says, laying aside all excuses. Not only will we reap the benefits of such faithfulness, but the influence we will have on those who witness this commitment will be phenomenal. This is a positive attitude.

Miriam, Moses' sister, exemplifies a less than admirable attitude. The Bible tells us, "Miriam and Aaron began to talk against Moses because of his Cushite wife, for he had married a Cushite" (Numbers 11:32). In addition to displaying a racist attitude, she is disrespectful of God's chosen leader of His people. As a leader of the women, Miriam's negative attitude towards the leadership influenced the other women. She was punished severely by God.

Finally, Pilate displayed an attitude toward Jesus we do not want to emulate. He refused to get involved. He washed his hands and declared to others, "It is your responsibility" (Matthew 27:24). Let us not cop out in this way. Let us follow Mary's example and display our faith with our words and actions. "Do whatever he tells you."