

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"God's Voting Guide"

By Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church, Norton

It is that time when Americans are given the opportunity (and responsibility) to vote for those who hold public offices. This privilege is given to us by God for it is He who raised this form of government in our country through our Founding Fathers. Many of them had a reverent fear of the Lord. George Washington said, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible."

Romans 13:1 says, "Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God."

The Lord had called forth a great leader, Moses, to deliver His people from the hand of Pharaoh who had held God's people in bondage. After their deliverance and while Moses was judging the disputes of the people, Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, gave Moses some very good advice that Americans would do well to heed. "Select capable men from all the people men who fear God, trustworthy men who hate dishonest gain and appoint them as officials over thousands, hundreds, fifties and tens." (Exodus 18:21).

Matthew Henry in his exposition on Exo-

odus 18:21 wrote, "[Jethro] advised such a model of government... such as [believes] there is a God above them, whose eye is upon them, to whom they are accountable..."

At this critical time America needs men and women who will rule this nation in the fear of God. We need statesmen, not politicians, who are men and women of prayer and who pas-

sionately seek God's wisdom through the written Word of God. Most of our Founding Fathers had great knowledge of God's Word and they knew what was to be done. One of them was Noah Webster. He wrote the following:

When you become entitled to exercise the right of voting for public offices let it be impressed on your mind that God commands you to choose as rulers men who rule in the fear of God. The preservation of a republican government depends on the faithful discharge of this duty; if the citizens neglect this duty and place unprincipled men in office the government will soon be corrupted.

God's voting guide directs you to vote for persons who have the Godly character of Hezekiah who "...trusted in the Lord...He held fast to the Lord and did not cease to follow him; he kept the commands the Lord had given Moses." (2 Kings 18:5) The Lord God desires that we elect persons that will stand firmly on what is right and true according to God's Word...men and women who publicly confess Him and long to make decisions according to His will.

Vote to please Him!

WHAT IS INTEGRITY?



There are those in the business world whose word is trusted; their handshake is a binding contract, their integrity is accepted without question. Honor, honesty, reliability are all synonyms for integrity. Webster's Dictionary defines integrity as "firm adherence to a code or standard of values."

Where does integrity come from? The Bible provides a "code of values" in Deuteronomy 5:6-21 -- God's Ten Commandments. "And if we are careful to obey all this law before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness" (Deuteronomy 6:25).

If we obey God's law we can feel the strength of His Word in every handshake. We can learn and instill His values at our house of worship. Join together with family and friends and find new spiritual opportunity and hope in God's Word!

Sunday Habakkuk 1.1-17	Monday Habakkuk 2.1-20	Tuesday Habakkuk 3.1-19	Wednesday Matthew 6.1-18	Thursday Psalm 51	Friday Psalm 56	Saturday Psalm 57
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LYLE NEWS

By VEDA WOOD

Those who enjoyed quilting at Lyle on Tuesday were Margaret Magers, June Jolly, Veda Wood, Joyce Sumner and her guest, Ivy Rolland of Norton.

A.J. High worked on some frozen pipes at the community building on Wednesday. His daughter, Aubrey, visited Mrs. Magers and then visited her great-grandmother while he was at Lyle. He put in new faucets in the community building and also at Mrs. Magers' home.

Gary Anthony is better after being ill a few days. Keith Anthony is home from the hospital and feeling better.

Dwight Wood is to have more surgery on his foot in the next few weeks, but before that he and Teresa plan to take three weeks training at Lincoln, Neb., so he can do his dialysis at home.

Carol Woodmansee spoke for the Lyle services on Sunday, Jan. 28. Her physical condition is remaining stable, so no dialysis in the near future.

Veda Wood had a short visit from her great-grandsons, Garrett Bader and Grant Slater, on Saturday.

Carol Moye and her mother, Veda Wood, went to McCook, Jan. 28 intending to do some shopping and visit Dwight and Teresa Wood and Sheryl and Richard Patterson. They missed seeing Sheryl but caught Teresa before she went to work. Dwight was home from his dialysis and they

had a good visit. Next trip they will see Sheryl. This trip was rather impromptu — but since they had some free time, they wanted to get some groceries before the snow came.

The Lyle ladies called off their sewing day because of the cold and snow on Tuesday.

David Huff has moved to Gage, Okla., and is working for the Ford and New Holland Implement Company in Arnett, Okla.

Aubrey High visited her great-grandmother, Veda Wood, while her father, A.J. High, did some work around town. The two had lunch and watched a video.

Alta VanGundy, aunt to the Wood-VanGundy clan recently celebrated her 103rd birthday.

The Citizens monthly card meeting was postponed until Feb. 8.

DeWayne Jackson delivered the message at the Lyle United Methodist Church Sunday. Mr. Jackson brought his daughter and son-in-law along with him. Next week John Paulson, Oberlin, will be the guest speaker.

Those who attended the "First Sunday" dinner were: Margaret Magers, Joyce Sumner, Deanna Sumner, Brooke and Brady, Larry Sumner, Glenna Alexander, Salina, Gary Anthony, Keith Anthony, Lee and Lora Arnold, Kathryn Van Meter, Helen Helm, Martin and Ceanne Reinhardt, and Veda Wood. Virgil and Joyce Price were unable to attend.



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CrossRoads

VICTORIOUSLY LIVING OVER THE FLESH

MORTIFICATION

Romans 8:13 says, "For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall die." (King James)

Mortification is the special ministry that enables the child of God to overcome those evil desires that could destroy the Christian's relationship with the Lord: The first step to "Victoriously Living Over the Flesh" is to agree with God that a sinful nature lives in us and the next is to understand what the Bible says about how to walk in victory.

The key word to walking victoriously over the flesh is "mortify" (*thanatoo*). When you mortify the flesh you are deadening the desire that comes upon you. True mortification will rob sin of its debilitating and emotional distracting influences.

The Apostle Paul says we are to "...count [ourselves] dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore [we are] not [to] let sin reign in [our] mortal [bodies] so that [we] obey its evil desires. [We are] not to offer the parts of [our] body to sin, as instruments of wickedness, but rather offer [ourselves] to God, as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer the parts of [our] body to Him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be [our] master, because [we] are not under law, but under grace. (Romans 6:11-14)

How can a Christian count himself as dead to sin thus mortifying those sinful desires that come upon him?

Jesus gives a clear teaching that will pave the way of putting to death the sinful nature. He said, "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness." (Matthew 6:22-23)

More on Mortification Next Week!

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