

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"You've Got To Be Perfect!"

By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church, Norton

Ask any 100 persons on the street if they believe that they will go to heaven when they die, and it's probable that 90 or 95 of them will answer, "Yes" or "I hope so."

A critical follow-up question then needs to be asked, "Why do you believe that?"

The top five answers might be like these: (1.) "I'm as good as the next guy," (2.) "I've always tried to be a good person and do what is right," (3.) "I've gone to church all my life," (4.) "I believe in God," and (5.) "I don't believe God would send anyone to hell...except for someone like Hitler, of course."

Therein lies the problem. Not one of these answers is the "correct" one. If you are relying on what you have done or on incorrect belief, you are in mortal danger.

Jesus spoke of this problem in Matthew 5. Basically, He said if you are only as good as the next person, what do you hope to gain? Speaking about doing good to those who are good to you, He said, "What are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that?" And then He spoke these crucial words, "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

That is God's standard for you and me, "Be perfect." The bad news, as you recognize, is that standard is utterly unreachable in our humanity. We are as imperfect as we can get! We are sinners hopelessly unable to do what is right in God's eyes.

The width of the chasm

between God and us is too immense even to measure. It is impassable. His dwelling place is holy, perfect, glorious, and utterly untouched by sin. Not one of us is worthy or able to live with Him as we are. We cannot reach God.

But He, in His great love for us, has reached over that

gulf to us. The Lord Jesus Christ, the perfect Son of God, left the glories of heaven and humbled Himself, taking on the form and likeness of a man. While on this earth, He was "tempted in every way, just as we are -- yet was without sin." Completely faultless, He voluntarily gave His life as the perfect sacrifice for our sin.

When we believe and trust fully in Jesus (and in Him alone) for our eternal salvation, He becomes our perfection. When you receive Christ by faith, receive His forgiveness for your sins and continue to abide in Him, you will then stand before the final judgment and God will look at you and see His perfect Son in you. You will be judged perfect and made truly perfect because of Him! And that, my friend, is the only way you will ever gain eternal life in heaven.

"He is able to save completely [forever] those who come to God through Him." --Hebrews 7: 25

"Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many; and He will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await Him."

--Hebrews 9: 27

Climbing to Heaven



At the bottom of the mountain the path is only slightly inclined, polka-dotted with wildflowers and carpeted in velvet moss. As you ascend, the terrain is more challenging, abundant with boulders made slippery by mountain streams. Breathing is more difficult, it is tempting to turn back.... but the mountaintop beckons, daring you to continue.

Finally, you can see the summit in the distance. The nearly vertical rock face is daunting; it will test your faith in your gear and your guide. You might pray that both will pass the test.

Your heart pounds with exhaustion and exhilaration as you finally reach the top. Conquering the challenge, you thank God you made it! It feels as if you have climbed all the way to heaven.

This week begin your climb toward heaven at your house of worship. With God as your guide your steps are secure.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Proverbs	Proverbs	Ecclesiastes	Job	Job	Job	Psalms
3.1-35	4.1-27	2.1-3.15	34.1-37	35.1-16	36.1-33	85

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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PUBLIC NOTICE

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH J. BRYANT, Deceased

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, September 19, 26, Oct. 3, 2008

(3T)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of ELIZABETH J. BRYANT, Deceased Case No. 2008-PR-41

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS The State of Kansas

To All Persons Concerned:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on September 15, 2008, a Petition was filed in this Court by Kennis McClelland, named as Co-Executor in the Last Will and Testament of Elizabeth J. Bryant, Deceased, dated August 18, 2005, praying that the will filed with the Petition be admitted to probate, that Kennis McClelland and Kendra Anderson be appointed as Co-Executors, without bond, and that they

be granted Letters Testamentary. **YOU ARE REQUIRED** to file your written defenses thereto on or before October 15, 2008, at 1:30 o'clock p.m., of said day, in this Court, in the City of Norton, Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

ALL CREDITORS ARE NOTIFIED to exhibit their demands against the estate within four (4) months from the date of first publication of this Notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Kennis McClelland, Petitioner
R. Douglas Sebelius, #09157 SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP
105 South Norton Street
P.O. Box 10
Norton, Kansas 67654-0010
(785) 877-5143
Attorneys for Petitioner

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHAD DANIEL KIER, Deceased

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, September 19, 26, Oct. 3, 2008

(3T)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of CHAD DANIEL KIER, Deceased Case No. 08-PR-42

NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS The State of Kansas

To All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that on September 15, 2008, a Petition was filed in this Court by Amy Lea Kier, wife of the decedent, praying that she be appointed as Executrix of the Estate of Chad Daniel Kier, deceased.

You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before October 14, 2008, at 3:00 o'clock p.m. of said

day, in this Court, in the City of Norton, Norton County, Kasas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four (4) months from the date of first publication of this Notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

Amy Lea Kier, Petitioner
Laurence A. Taylor #9496
Attorney at Law
1480 W. 4th, PO Box 509
Colby, Ks 67701
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Attorney for Petitioner

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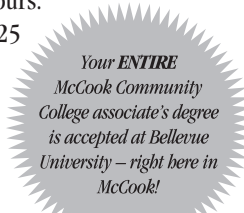
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