

## Light and Life

## Unanswered Prayer?

Jesus' prayer on the night He was betrayed is a difficult read. The Lord's prayer is in three parts: the first for Himself, the second for His apostles, and the third for all future believers of the apostles' doctrine.

“I do not pray for [the apostles] alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me” (Jn 17:20-21).

It is a powerful realization that on the very night Jesus was betrayed, He prayed for me. I am one of those who believed in Him through the testimony of the apostles! It is important to Jesus that I be one with His people – and with Him. This is so important to Him that He prayed for the unity of His church as His oppressors were on the way to drag Him to His death.

After the initial awe of being included in this prayer, the next emotion I feel at these verses is a great sadness. Jesus' deep concern and desire leading up to His torture and death was that His people remain united as Jesus is united with the Father. Oh, how we have failed! Where Jesus established one church, there seems to be a different 'kind' on every street corner now! Even 'churches of Christ' can't always get along! Pride, self-righteousness, lack of knowledge, disregard for authority, and social allegiances tear congregations apart time and again.

We must commit as individuals and as a congregation to restoring the mindset of unity based on truth that Jesus so desperately desires. To do so is to “walk worthy of our calling” (Ep 4:1)!

- Sam Bunyard

## Just My Thoughts

## What's in a Name?

Throughout scripture, we are introduced to hundreds, if not thousands, of names. Whether these are places, people, or things, we are shown a wide variety of names throughout the Bible. Though this may seem insignificant or trivial to us, we must realize that to the ancient people, a name was a significant thing. The giving of a name was far more than choosing something interesting or unique sounding – the giving of a name was meant to indicate the character or behavior of a person.

We are introduced to many characters who live up to their names in Scripture, but there is one who utterly fails in this regard. Elimelech, which means My King is God, did not live up to this name. At a time of famine, rather than trusting in God and having faith in His providence, Elimelech picked up his family and moved them from the Promised Land to wicked Moab (Ru 1:1-2)

Though God is everywhere, the land of Israel was meant to be for His people! Those who's king truly was God were the ones who were meant to inhabit the Promised Land. By leaving it, Elimelech was not only leaving behind a physical place, but was also leaving behind his family's ability to worship, and their faith in their Ruler. What a disservice to such a great name!

We too have been given a name: Christians. We are to be 'of the party of Christ', as the name means. We are supposed to act like Christ, speak like Him, behave like Him, represent His name with honor and reverence. Will we do that, or will we fall short like Elimelech? The choice is yours – choose wisely.

- Hayden Cathey



## ASSEMBLY TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Class 9:30  
Morning Assembly 10:30  
Evening Assembly 5:00

### Wednesday

Evening Bible Class 6:30

## RADIO PROGRAM

### The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00-9:30a.m.  
KURM 790AM

## Downtown Church of Christ

P.O. Box 447  
201 W. Chestnut Street  
Rogers, AR 72757  
479-636-3575  
www.downtowncoc.net



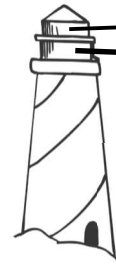
Like little holes in a tire,  
'little sins' can leave  
you in a bad place.

## ELDERS:

Otis Hardin  
Perry Johnson  
Ken Parker  
Alan Revier  
GW Walsh

## DEACONS:

TJ Burleson  
Scott Hale  
Joel Heiligenthal  
Jason Hill  
Chris Johnson  
Brock McKeel  
Randy Potter  
Tim Roberts  
Randy Shell



# DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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## The God Whom We Serve

“For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me.” – Isaiah 46:9

Truly, there is no God but Jehovah. In the Old Testament He was known by various names – Adonai (Lord), Yahweh (or Jehovah, I am), El Shaddai (God Almighty), and of course, Elohim (God). But as the Isaiah passage, and many others, make clear, He is the only true God, and there is no other.

The pagans had other ideas about the ‘gods’. Most all were polytheistic – that is, they believed in many gods. They had their favorites, the tribal

god whom they would exalt above the others (Moab’s Chemosh, or Edom’s Qos, or Canaan’s El, for example). But most ancient societies believed in a pantheon of gods and would do their best to please them.

But Israel was different. Though coming out of polytheistic Egypt, they were taught immediately about the one, true God – first through a series of plagues against Egypt, and then at Mt Sinai. It was a theme that carried throughout their history.

As then, so it is now. Jesus is the I AM – and there is no other (Jn 8:58).

- WKing

## FAMILY NEWS

### PRAYER LIST –

*Preachers we support:* Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.

*Sick:* G&K Fletcher, Tony Tolbert, Diane Willis, J&M Swim, Jean Marshall

*Shut-ins:* Betty Jo Young, Billie Pennington, Shirley Cole, Mary Lou Lewis

*Military:* Kyler Sullins, Sean Potter

**PRAYERS** – With a major holiday season coming up, many of our families will be travelling soon. Let’s pray for the safety of each one.

**SENTENCE SERMON:** Worry is like a rocking chair – no matter how much energy you invest in it, it still gets you nowhere.