



### Today's Sermons

Morning: The Perfect Example of Prayer  
Evening: A Dispute with Satan

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	17
Sunday AM Worship	23
Sunday PM Worship	13
Wed. Bible Study	15
Offering	\$1540

## THE BIBLE CONTAINS A NUMBER OF "NO OTHERS"



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**West Jefferson Church of Christ**  
130 Robert Street  
West Jefferson NC 28694  
Phone: (336) 846-5615 | Email: [info@wjchurchofchrist.org](mailto:info@wjchurchofchrist.org)  
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### Minister:

**Tim Canup**  
[tim@wjchurchofchrist.org](mailto:tim@wjchurchofchrist.org)

### Times of Services:

Sunday  
Bible Study:... 10:00am  
AM Worship:...11:00am  
PM Worship:...6:00pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday  
Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program  
Sunday:.....7:30am  
"Back to the Bible"  
AM 580 WSKS  
93.5 FM

**We Extend A  
Warm & Cordial  
Welcome  
To All Our  
Visitors!**

## You Have Need of Endurance

By Kevin V. Rutherford

To Christians who were beginning to drift away, the writer of Hebrews said, "Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise." (Hebrews 10:35, 36) The Christian life has been compared to a long distance race (Hebrews 12:1, 2). Because this race is for a lifetime we must "...run with endurance the race that is set before us." (Hebrews 12:1)

There are some Christians who seem to think this marathon run is a one hundred meter sprint. They are active, zealous and energetic in the service of the Lord for just a short period of time. When it becomes difficult to remain in the Christian race, these sprinters fall out. They are like the rocky soil in the parable of the seed (Luke 8:13). The roots of truth and dedication did not run deep enough, which left the plant susceptible to destruction when conditions worsened. Christians have been prepared to run the race even when things become difficult. We must understand that being a Christian will not always be easy. We must be ready to push on no matter what may come our way.

*Continued Inside*

Other Christians seem to have forgotten that this Christian race is a marathon race to the end of life, also. While they don't see it as a sprint, they view it as a middle distance race. Maybe they think the race is only 1600 meters when in reality it is twenty-seven miles. It is easy for Christians to begin dropping out of the race when life becomes too busy. It is easy for Christians to begin to huff and puff and struggle when they begin to devote themselves to the riches and pleasures of life. These Christians are like the seed that had good, strong roots, but were choked out by the thorns (Luke 8:14). These thorns are the "cares, riches, and pleasures of life." (Luke 8:14)

The Christians addressed by the book of Hebrews were those who had shown themselves to be very strong and dedicated at one point in their lives (Hebrews 10:32-34). However, time had taken its toll upon the church and Christians began to slip away (Hebrews 2:1-3; 3:13). They were not prepared for a long distance run. They had not dedicated themselves to run the race throughout the rest of their lives no matter how long and how difficult the race might have become. The writer of Hebrews, acting like their coach, told them about men and women in the past who had run long distances for the Lord despite much difficulties (Hebrews 11). Those who had run the race in the past are now figuratively cheering Christians on as we run the race (Hebrews 12:1).

I hope you are in the race to win. I hope you are in the race to complete the distance. If you don't complete the distance you may as well have never started. When your spiritual legs are weary, when your spiritual heart is aching, when your spiritual lungs are heaving, and when your spiritual feet are tired, keep running. Don't look back. Just keep running. Don't give up. Just keep running. "For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise." (Hebrews 10:36)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- NOTE: Preach-N-Eat for February and March have been canceled
- Feb 28 – Prayer Service after Evening Worship
- Mar 7 – Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Bible Class
- Mar 14 – 6:00 pm Worship and Song Service
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell

## Who Is On The Lord's Side?

Glen Elliott

In its early days, when Israel was going through its birth pangs as a nation, God led them to Mt Sinai where they would be given their law. Three prerequisites to any kingdom include: a king, a territory, and a law. With God as their King and Canaan as their soon-to-be-conquered territory, all that remained were rules of conduct to govern their lives. When, after forty days, Moses returned from the mountain-top with tablets of stone upon which God had written the Ten Commandments, he found the people engaged in the idolatrous worship of a golden calf. In righteous indignation, Moses shattered the tablets at the foot of the mountain. Then, he burned the golden calf, ground it into powder, scattered it over the surface of the water and made the people drink it (Ex. 32:19-20). Then, when Moses saw that the people were getting out of control, he stood at the gate of the camp and cried out, "Whoever is for the Lord, come to me!" (vs. 26). Three thousand men fell that day in the fury of God's judgment (vs. 28). How could they so quickly forget the God who had provided such marvelous deliverance?

Centuries later, on the first Pentecost following the resurrection and ascension of Christ, another kingdom was brought into existence. Peter's message on that occasion centered on the fact that Jesus, whom they had crucified, had been made "both Lord and Christ" (Acts 2:36). Jesus had been crowned "King of kings" (Rev. 17:14). But, in addition to a king, a kingdom needs territory. Christ's kingdom is not of this world (Jn. 18:36). His kingdom is in the hearts and minds of His people (Lk. 17:21). Finally, there is the matter of law. A kingdom must have laws by which it is governed. Isaiah described the coming of the Messianic kingdom saying that the law would go "forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (Is. 2:3). This law did not come through Moses, but through Jesus the Son of God. It was not received from the top of a mountain but from heaven itself. It was not accompanied by the death of three thousand but by the rejoicing of three thousand souls who gave their hearts and lives to their new king (Acts 2:41).

Paul, like Moses, was amazed at how some could so quickly desert their Deliverer (Gal. 1:6). As Moses asked, "Who is on the Lord's side?", so also Christ asks His disciples to faithfully align themselves with His cause. The pressure to conform to the thinking and behavior of the world—our tendency to forget about even things of great significance—our ability to lose sight of things spiritual, focusing instead on things which can be seen, felt, and experienced with the natural senses—all of this calls us to count the cost of our discipleship and firmly place ourselves in the camp of the Lord Jesus Christ. Sometimes it can be confusing for us to know who is truly on the Lord's side. There are no uniforms in the army of the Lord—no special insignias, badges, wrist bands, or necklaces. We know them by their fruit and the love that they have for one another (Mt. 7:16; Jn. 13:35). While it may be confusing at times for us to know who is truly on the Lord's side, be assured of one thing: "The Lord knows those who are His" (2 Tim. 2:19).