

Today's Speakers:

AM "A Famine in the Land" (Amos 8:11)

PM "Christ's Examination of Sardis" (Revelation 3:1-6)

Those Privileged To Serve:

Announcements: Lindy Hiatt
 AM Song Leader: Tim Winters
 AM Prayer: David Turnmire
 Lord's Supper: Matthew Wintes, Bill Powers, Willard Ellison
 PM Song Leader: Bill Powers
 PM Prayer: David Turnmire
 Lord's Supper: Tim Canup
 Wed Song Leader: Bill Powers
 Wed Invitation: Willard Ellison

Records For Last Week:

Contribution: \$1348
 Weekly Bible Readers: NA
 Sunday Bible Study: 28
 AM Worship: 44
 PM Worship: 31
 Wednesday Bible Study: 28

Building Cleaning For Next Sunday:

Check Calendar

Prepare Communion For August 2009

Linda Miller



BIBLE QUESTIONS

(Answers Next Week)

61. What prophet "made fun of other people's religion"?
62. Who was commanded to dip seven times in Jordan?
63. Who commanded him to do thus?
64. What king made a drunken feast to a thousand of his lords?
65. Who was this king's grandfather?
66. What do these words mean: "MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN"?
67. What king was smitten with leprosy because he attempted to burn incense in the temple?
68. Why was this a sin?
69. The earth opened and swallowed what three men?
70. Who said: "Here am I; send me"?

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<http://www.wjchurchofchrist.org>



Back to the Bible

A Weekly Publication of the West Jefferson Church of Christ

Volume II

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Issue #31



The Responsibilities Of Elders

By Ron Boatwright

The duties and responsibilities of elders are awesome and very serious. An elder has a greater responsibility than even the president of the United States. The president is responsible for the physical welfare of people, but an elder is responsible for the spiritual welfare of the eternal souls entrusted to him. Whether a person spends eternity in Heaven or in the burning fires of a real Hell can depend on what an elder has done or failed to do.

Paul told the Ephesian elders, "I am innocent of the blood of all men". Why Paul, why? "For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:26-27). As overseers of "God's heritage" (1 Peter 5:3), elders must see that "the whole counsel of God" is taught or they will be held accountable. In many congregations the whole counsel of God is not being taught which is going to cause many to be lost.

Paul in exhorting the Ephesian elders to be diligent in their duties says, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost has made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He has purchased with His own blood" (Acts 20:28). Elders are to

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Times of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study:.....10:00am
 AM Worship:.....11:00am
 PM Worship:.....6:00pm

Wednesday

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

Radio Program

Sunday:.....9:35am
 "Back to the Bible"
 AM 580 WSKS

12th Annual Lectureship

"God's Plan for Salvation"
 September 25-27, 2009

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- AUGUST 2 – MEN’S BUSINESS MEETING FOLLOWING EVENING WORSHIP
- AUGUST 2 – WOMENS BIBLE CLASS FOLLOWING EVENING WORSHIP
- AUGUST 10 – SINGING – MARGATE HEALTH & REHAB – 6:30-7:30 PM
- SEPTEMBER 25-27 – LECTURESHIP – GOD’S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Those Needing Our Prayers:

“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16).



| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lectureship | Eugene & Lucille Kidder | Kiana Miller |
| Thelma Roten | Steven Winters | Savannah Bedenbaugh |
| Leroy Kennell | Jim Winters | Amanda Winters |
| Leta Bright | Tosha Miller | Linda Miller |
| Mark Miller | Joe Allen Turner | Becky Venable |
| Pete Pless | Greg & Linda Holman (travel) | Gertie Scalf |
| Jesse Matkins & Family | Tammy Fagan & Family | Rita Douglas & Family |
| Michael Wilcox & Family | Dorothy & Edgar Wilcox | Cathlene Krider |
| Ashe County | United States of America | Shayna Thompson |
| Debbie Matkins | | |

Our Shut- Ins

Mary Turner – Margate Health & Rehab; Room #415A, 540 Waugh St., Jefferson, NC 28640

Answers to Last Week's Bible Questions

51. **Esau.** Genesis 25:29-34.
52. **Job.** Job 19:25.
53. **Jeroboam.** 1 Kings 12:25-30.
54. **Rehoboam.** 1 Kings 12:14.
55. **No.**
56. **Asa.**
57. **Jehoram.** 2 Chronicles 21:5-6.
58. **Ahab.** 2 Chronicles 18:7.
59. **Elijah.** 1 Kings 18:21.
60. **Elijah.** 1 Kings 17:6.

How did you do? Did you get them all?

take heed to their own lives and to the lives of the entire congregation, to make sure they are living a godly life. No one is to be ignored or overlooked. Elders in spiritually feeding the congregation are to see that they are being properly taught the "whole counsel of God" to prepare them for eternity so that none will be lost. But this is one of the problems facing the Lord's church today. Many elders have failed in their responsibility of seeing that the church is being properly taught the word of God. Many congregations are only being fed "fluff", and have "turned to fables" (2 Timothy 4:4). They are teaching only what is "politically correct". What is being taught and preached in some congregations would be acceptable in any denomination. Much of the teaching is feel good stories for the purpose of entertaining the congregation. This is the reason we are in the present apostasy today. God says, "My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6).

Elders are watchmen. In Hebrews 13:17 we read concerning elders, "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit, for they **watch** for your souls, as they **must** give account, that they may do it with joy and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." Elders have the grave responsibility to be on guard and to watch out for the souls of everyone in their congregation. When elders stand before the Lord on Judgment Day, they **will** give an account for what they has done or failed to do in protecting the souls of those under their oversight. For some elders this will be a joyful occasion, with the Lord saying, "Well done good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21). But for other elders it will be a time of horrible grief when the Lord says to them, "You wicked and lazy servant", and then He will say, "Cast the unprofitable servant into outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 25:26, 30).

Notice that elders are to "watch out for your souls" (Hebrews 13:17). This is the responsibility that God has place on them. Elders are watchmen just as God told Ezekiel that he was a watchman, and what would happen to him if he didn't properly perform his duty. God said to Ezekiel, "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house if Israel, therefore hear a word from My mouth, and give them warning from Me: When I say to the wicked, you shall surely die, and you give him no warning, or speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at your hand" (Ezekiel 3:17). Elders today as watchmen have the same grave responsibility, which is not to be taken lightly. If elders fail in their duty to watch and warn those under their oversight, then God will require the blood of those who are lost at the hands of the elders. The Judgment will be a sad day for elders who have been derelict in their duty as watchmen. But for those who have faithfully fed, watched, and warned, it will be a glorious and wonderful day (1 Peter 5:4).

12th Annual Back To The Bible Lectures
September 25-27, 2009
Theme: God's Plan For Salvation
Plan NOW to attend!!!!