

# Munfordville Church of Christ

No 772

December 13, 2009

**T**he Spirit teaches that slander is an awful sin. “*Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer.*” (Psalm 101:5). Slander is falsehood or unproven rumor maliciously told for the purpose of injuring the influence or reputation of another.

Christian people should be careful about repeating something they have heard about another. Much of our trouble in the church today is the result of this very thing. Reputations have been destroyed by slander. We are better than the buzzard that is always hungry for a carcass. The slanderer usually has bitterness and hatred in the heart and an untruth on the tongue.

We would do well to study about Gashmu in the book of Nehemiah. Slander was used in trying to stop Nehemiah from building the walls around Jerusalem. “*Then sent Sanballat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand; Wherein was written, It is reported among the heathen, and Gashmu saith it, that thou and the Jews think to rebel: for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words.*” (Nehemiah 6:5-6). How many times have you heard “it is reported,” “they say,” and the like? What Gashmu said was not true. He was engaged in the sin of slander.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

Because one is quoted as authority does not necessarily make him reliable! Accusing is not proving. Men and women of honor will not believe and repeat every rumor they read or hear. A person’s reputation is a fragile thing and is easily damaged. That which takes a lifetime to build may be destroyed in a matter of hours.

Those who follow Christ are told “<sup>1</sup>*Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work,* <sup>2</sup>*To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, [but] gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.*” (Titus 3:1-2). When one comes to you with an evil report about another brother in Christ, ask for proof from two or more witnesses. This is the law of both the Old and New Testaments.

When our brother falls into sin, it is our duty to lift him up, not crush him down. Remember that we are all in need of Divine mercy and forgiveness. The brother is to be restored in the spirit of meekness. All the while we must be considering ourselves, lest we also be tempted (Galatians 6:1). There is enough heartache in the world without adding the sin of slander.

—Bobby Key

via Bellview Beacon, Pensacola, FL

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**I**n Haggai 1:5, 6 we have recorded, <sup>5</sup>*Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways.* <sup>6</sup>*Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.* Haggai was pointing out to his readers that their efforts in this life were futile because of their ways.

Many today are in this situation. They work hard to provide all the necessities of life, while shunning the laying up of treasures in Heaven. Their efforts are in vain because they are not living for Christ.

Make sure your efforts in this life are worthwhile. Live every day for Christ thereby laying up eternal riches.



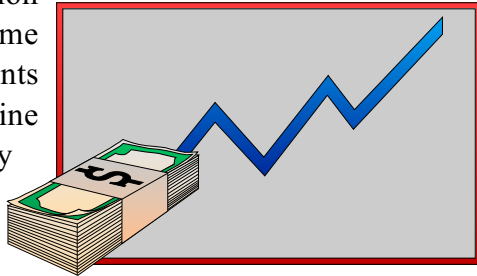
—Marty Edwards ❖

# News

—Hallie Davidson is in the Hart County Health Care Center in Horse Cave. Continue to remember **Jean Coffee, Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jimmy Terry**



One cannot watch television for any length of time without hearing advertisements for stock brokers, on-line investing, banks, money market certificates, certificates of deposit, etc.



Today's society is greatly concerned with investments and being prepared for one's retirement. A few years ago a commercial had a man stating that he is investing with a certain company so he can "retire with a few toys of his own." Of course, no mention is made about what he will do after that.

Don't misunderstand. We must be wise and plan ahead. I just wonder if we don't spend much of our effort storing up earthly treasures while we forget to store up heavenly treasures. We try to find the best savings account possible, while we shun the saving of our own soul. We worry more about financial yields than yielding to sin.

Invest more in Christ. The greatest return you will ever have is when He returns to receive you in the air

—Marty Edwards

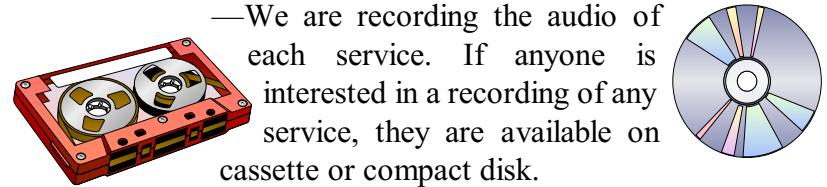


Sunday, December 6, 2009		
Classes	15	Matthew 10:1-15
Preaching	21	The tongue (James 3)
Contribution	\$340.00	
Evening	17	Singing
Wednesday, December 9, 2009		
Classes		no services

## Bible Quiz

What two tiny things are compared to the tongue?

Last Week's Answer— Salt (Leviticus 2:13)



—We are recording the audio of each service. If anyone is interested in a recording of any service, they are available on cassette or compact disk.

## —God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)