

How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Even the sparrow has found a home, And the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young-Even Your altars, O LORD of hosts, My King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. Selah

Blessed is the man whose strength is in You, Whose heart is set on pilgrimage. As they pass through the Valley of Baca, They make it a spring; The rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; Each one appears before God in Zion. O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; Give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah O God, behold our shield, And look upon the face of Your anointed.

For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.

O LORD of hosts, Blessed is the man who trusts in You!

- Psalm 84

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit #10  
Shepherdsville, KY

Church of Christ  
3221 E. Hebron Ln.  
Shepherdsville, KY  
40165-8959

#### Assemblies

Sunday Morning 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

#### Elders

Tom Brown  
Laymon Byers  
John Smith

#### Evangelists

Ron Halbrook  
halbrook@insightbb.com

Steven Deaton  
sfdeaton@insightbb.com

502-957-5115



# Hebron Herald

Published by the Hebron Lane Church of Christ  
Shepherdsville, KY

Volume 32 Number 2

February 2008

## Will The Righteous Ever Hunger?

A question was recently put before me; Why does the Bible talk about the righteous will not beg for bread and God taking care of us like the lilies of the field, but the apostles experienced hunger? The passages under consideration are Psalm 37:25; Matthew 6:25-34; and Philippians 4:10-12.

Psalm 37:25 says, "I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread." If this means that the righteous will never be in want of food, then it contradicts many other passages in the Bible. David and his men lacked food when he was running from Saul (1 Sam. 21:1-6). As noted in Philippians 4:10-12, Paul hungered. Lazarus was a beggar (Lk. 16:19-21). The saints in Judea experienced more than one wave of famine (Acts 11:27-30). Hence, Psalm 37:25 cannot be interpreted as an iron-clad universal law without doing damage to the unity of the Scripture.

So, what does it mean? It seems to me it is a truism, a general statement. The main idea being, God takes care of His people and gives them what they need. It is similar to Matthew 6:25-34. There Jesus said God will take care of our physical necessities, so we can concentrate on putting the kingdom first. This does not mean we will always, on all occasions, have all the food, clothing, and shelter we desire. Rather, it means God is watching over us and giving us what we need. We will get through tough times one way or another. If we scrape by, we will do so by trusting in God. If we do not survive, we will awake in the arms of the angels. Either way, God takes care of us.

- Steven F. Deaton

[www.HebronLaneChurch.com](http://www.HebronLaneChurch.com)

## Is Your Mind Set?

It is a given that we all think. True, sometimes we say, “He just wasn’t thinking,” but what we really mean is he was thinking incorrectly. Our mind is set on something; the question is, is it the right thing?

The Bible exhorts us to have our mind set on right, not wrong; good, not evil. If we do not, we will face the consequences. With right thinking we will be blessed, while wrong thinking brings a curse.

### Things Above

Paul said, “Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth” (Col. 3:2). Our thoughts, desires, hopes, need to be centered on heaven and heavenly matters. If our mind is not set on things above, we will stray from the truth. Our minds will be filled with carnal desires and designs (Rom. 8:5). Our lives will be troubled and our conscience weighed down with the guilt of sin.

If we set our mind on things of the Spirit, our conscience will be free from the burden of sin (Rom. 12:5; Col. 3:1-4). Hope will dwell within our hearts carrying us through even the most difficult circumstances in life. In short, we will be at peace.

### Mind of Christ

Paul wrote, “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 2:5). He had the mind, disposition, attitude of humility and sacrifice (Phil. 2:6-8). His proper mind-set led Him to take action. The action was difficult, but necessary. It brought Jesus to suffering, but also to bringing glory to the Father. His life was taken, but in this He gave life to men.

When we have the mind of Christ, our determination will be to do the will of God. We are told up front that such a decision will lead us to persecution (2 Tim. 3:12). Still, because our mind is made up, we will take action. We will sacrifice and suffer for the glory of God and gain of fellow man. It is the least we can do for the Father Who sent His Son for our redemption.

### Things of Men

After Jesus announced His pending suffering and death, Peter protested saying, “Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!” (Matt. 16:22). Jesus’ response was less than grateful. He said, “Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men” (Matt. 16:23). How would you feel after such a rebuke?

No doubt, Peter thought he was doing right. His passion led him to stand up for the Lord, so he thought. However, Jesus saw things in a different light. What Peter wanted and was willing to fight for was against the will of God.

Peter was not pushing to do great wickedness, something grossly immoral or blasphemous. Yet, Jesus said it was an “offense” to Him. This is true of many people today. They think they are doing something “good” for the Lord, but are actually an offense—an adversary (Satan).

Consider the case where a Christian or congregation does not want to withdraw from a saint for fear of running him off for good. They think they are doing something out of compassion and kindness, but are actually helping to seal the fate of the damned. The Holy Spirit commands us to withdraw from every brother that walks disorderly in order to save his soul (2 Thes. 3:1-14; 1 Cor. 5:1-5). We may offer a thousand reasons not to do it, but the fact is all such excuses are an offense to God.

### Is Your Mind Set?

Your mind is set. You are either focused on right or wrong, truth or error. To ensure it is correctly set, study the Word. It will direct your mind to things above, not to things on the earth. If your mind is heavenward focused now, study will enhance your mindset, giving you greater strength and hope. If you dwell on worldly, carnal matters at present, study will expose your fault and turn you toward things above.

- Steven F. Deaton