

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1255

February 17, 2019

Genesis 2:16-17, “¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: ¹⁷But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”

In the garden of Eden, the LORD had told man they could freely eat of every tree, except the tree of knowledge of good and evil. That exception was for the benefit of mankind. If man ate of that tree, he would die. The LORD offers full and complete blessings. What the LORD does withhold is for our benefit.

Satan never encouraged mankind to eat from the tree of life or all the other available trees. He only encouraged them to eat of the one tree. That was the tree that would bring them death. Anything from Satan leads to spiritual death.

Any pleasures that come from sin are few and short lived. The LORD’s blessings are boundless and eternal. Moses saw this clearly from what we are told in Hebrews 11:24-25, “²⁴By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s

daughter; ²⁵Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.” Sin obviously offers pleasures, but they are only for a season. The punishment from indulging in these sins is eternal.

Esau did the same thing when he was hungry. He sold something of everlasting value (his birthright) for something that only helped him for a few hours, at most— a meal. Hebrews 12:16, “...Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.”

Most people in the world are doing this today. They are living in sin and far from the LORD. They refuse to leave situations because they enjoy how they are living. The pleasures and happiness from those things are very short lived. Anyone who is old enough to even read these words will not be here 100 years from this moment. Those things that bring us pleasure now, will be long gone and we’ll be in eternity.

We need to look beyond the here and now and see what is beyond this life. Regarding the patriarchs of faith, the writer tells us in Hebrews 11:13, “*These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of [them], and embraced [them], and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*”

The promise to them was not in this life. They saw them afar off and embraced them. We need to always keep this in mind. What we are looking for is not in this life. It is afar off, but yet we can embrace them. We “take hold” of them and live for the day that we will have the reward in Heaven.

The LORD offered every tree in the garden of Eden, and the only exception was for the benefit of Adam and Eve. Satan offered nothing but death. Today, the LORD offers us more than we can imagine with the home in Heaven waiting for us. Let’s let go of sin, and embrace the eternal home that is ours. —Marty Edwards❖

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Sunday 9 AM & 4 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, and Leon Seaton,** and **Denise Miller,** the sister of Sharon Franklin. **Erin Davis** has been relieved of basically all her pain since having the implant in her back. **Sandy Duncan** is recovering from knee replacement surgery. **Larry Compton** is scheduled for knee replacement surgery on March 1. **Shirley Parson** continues to recover from surgery.

☆☆☆

Isaiah 35:8, “*And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness...*”

Warm weather will soon be here and many will be taking trips around the nation. Perhaps we’ll just take a trip for a day, or as long as a few weeks. Wherever we travel, we’ll take a highway to get there. Even if you need to fly to your destination, you’ll take a highway to and from the airport.

When we do travel, we tend to take the better highways. It’s much easier, quicker, and safer to take the roads that are laid out straight. Taking a crooked and very curvy road makes us weary and is much more likely to lead to an accident. A hilly road can be deadly. The holy road leads to life everlasting.

Isaiah 40:3, “*The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*” This verse in the prophet Isaiah is quoted by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. It was a prophesy concerning John the Baptist preparing the way for the LORD.

The LORD’s way is the straight highway that we need to travel upon in this life. There is safety and we know exactly where we are going when we travel the highway of the LORD.

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Sunday, February 10, 2019		
Classes	17	Hebrews 11:1-6
Preaching	22	Acts 28:1-6
Contribution	\$658.00	
Evening	11	Matthew 8:1-17
Wednesday, February 13, 2019		
Classes	17	II Chronicles 1:1-17

Bible Quiz

What did Solomon ask for when the LORD appeared to him?

Last Week’s Answer— A shadow (I Chronicles 29:15)

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This summer when you travel, you’ll pick the best highway to lead you safely to your destination. We are told in John 14:6, “*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*” Pick the only highway that will lead you safely through this life and to your final destination in Heaven. Travel the highway of holiness. Follow Jesus. He is the way to everlasting life.

—Marty Edwards❖

—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)