

Upcoming Events

Final Preparations: **Last Saturday in February 2019 meeting**
Saturday Meeting **Workday**: February 16 at 9:00 a.m.
Panera Bread Open Bible Study: Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.
Hebrews class: Thursdays at 11:00

Goldmines

“No life is too broken for God to repair.”

“Blaming our faults on our nature does not change the nature of our faults!”

“Get rich quick! Count our blessings.”

February Birthdays

8 Zoie Perales 25 Mike McKnight

February Anniversaries

5 Mike & Morgie McKnight

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Consider Jesus' Assumption of Humanity

Philippians 2:7

(From Homilies in Pulpit Commentary)

“He was made in the likeness of men,” having taken upon Him the form of a servant. He thus “entered upon a course of responsible subordination.” The incarnation of Christ was His becoming all we are, saving only sin. “The body,” it has been said, “which had been prepared for Him by another was sustained by that other’s power. When His disciple ‘went to buy meat,’ it was because their Master was really hungry; when He asked drink of the woman of Samaria, it was because He was really thirsty; and when He fell asleep in the midst of the howling tempest, it was because nature was overwheeled with endless labors of love.

We ask why the all-glorious and blessed One should have lived in such bodily dependence as this. The apostle answers — He had emptied himself. His almighty power could easily have sustained His body. And though He ate and drank and slept, it might have been for the eyes of those around Him only. But this would not have been man’s real bodily life. Nay, soul and body are so wondrously connected that it would not have been man’s life at all. And had not the Son of God taken the life of man, no son of man could have found the life of God. Every Christian knows what man’s nobler life is. Trust in God’s love, hope in His eternal mercy, that spirit of filial love which submits itself cheerfully and gladly to a heavenly Father’s will, give him strength and ability to serve God in the world.

And of this life, as every Christian knows, Christ is the Source and Fountain-head. But He is something more — its Example. It is the life which He Himself lived when it pleased him to dwell among us. Possessed of infinite strength, He *‘emptied himself,’* leaning always on another’s arm. Possessed of infinite wisdom, He ever lifted up the eyes to heaven, and took counsel with the Father who

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
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dwelt there. Willing only what was right and good, having no wish but what was pure and true, He nevertheless submitted that will in all things; the will of another was His continual law. *'Being found in fashion as a man, He humbled himself'*, i.e. demeaned Himself, as man ought to do. Man ought to trust in God and walk by His counsel. This, therefore, was His course."

Asleep in Gethsemane

By Dan Jenkins

"And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives" (Matt. 26:30). It is impossible to precisely know what was in the hearts of those apostles as they followed Him. After He had washed their feet in the upper room, He was troubled in spirit when He said, *"One of you will betray Me"* (John 13:21). Their first response was they were exceedingly sorrowful (Matt. 26:21). Emotions had to be so heavy as He led them to Gethsemane.

They may not have known where He was going, but Judas did. Jesus often went to this garden with them (John 18:2). He stopped and left eight of the apostles at one place, and then took Peter, James and John deeper into the garden. His words were, *"Pray that you enter not into temptation"* (Luke 22:40). Matthew described this moment in this way: *"He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed...Stay here and watch with Me"* (Matt. 26:38). How could their emotions not have been stirred by all that had happened!

"Watch." Watch for what? Watch for the coming of the mob? Such could not be the case for the betrayal by Judas had to happen. It was His solemn plea with them to recognize the dangerous situation which faced them. Not a physical danger from the mob but watch lest they succumb to the temptations which lay before them. He then went a distance from them and prayed fervently to the Father.

What did they do? They went to sleep. It was not that they did not care, for Jesus said of them, *"The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak"* (Matt. 26:40). Yet, we stand amazed at how all of this could happen. Satan was seeking to destroy them and their place in the coming kingdom, and they were asleep. They could not watch with Him even for one hour (Matt. 26:39). There was danger all around

them. Temptation abounded, and they were asleep. Jesus needed them, and they were asleep in Gethsemane.

It is possible that we are doing the same in our lives. Think of our children. How much time do we actually watch and pray for them in the world in which they live? As the years come, we will grieve for failing to equip them, but then it is too late. Parents, we are in our "Gethsemane." Watch and pray!

Is it possible that we are asleep in our personal "Gethsemane"? Are we watching and soberly considering how the temptations around us pose such a danger? Where are our weaknesses, and what are we doing to become stronger? If we cannot see them, remember Paul's words that those who think they will stand should take heed (1 Cor. 10:12). God help us to all watch for our souls and for the souls of those around us. God help us to never sleep in Gethsemane.

Do We Have A Choice?

By Lawrence Barr

One of the beliefs that has crept into our culture is one whereby we tend to deny responsibility for our own actions. While we understand clearly that if one sits behind the wheel of a car and drives it at 60 miles per hour into a tree he will die, we deny the same law of cause and effect in the area of moral responsibility. So we give credibility to the fiction that a rapist is such because his father or his mother did something to him that made him that way.

There's also a popular theology that believes that God has so set the name and number of all who will be saved or lost, that no one can do anything about it. So, when the gospel of Christ is preached, people see no reason to respond to it, since their response cannot change the outcome of God's choice.

The facts are otherwise. 2 Peter 3:9 says that God does not wish for any to perish. The same Peter preached in Acts 2:40 earnestly pleading for people to be saved. They had a choice. God, whose choices will not be thwarted, chose to give mankind that choice. On that day, 3,000 believed and were baptized. Actions have consequences. What will we choose to do?