

Northside Church of Christ

“God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”
John 4:24



Who are “the wayfaring men”?

By Mike Riley

A querist asks, Who are “the wayfaring men” in Isaiah 35:8?

Isaiah 35:9 will answer your question:

“No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon; it shall not be found there; but the redeemed shall walk there:”

Thus the wayfaring men are the “redeemed.”

In expanding on this answer, note the phrase “a way” in Isaiah 35:8 and then note the phrase, “It shall be called The way of holiness.....” Now note Jesus’ teaching in John 14:6 that He is “the way.” We learn that Christians in the first century were those who taught “the way” (God’s way – Acts 18:25-26). We learn that Christians were of “the way” in Acts 24:14.

Let us now note that the highway described in verse 8 is called “The way of holiness.” In looking at 2 Peter 2:21, we see a similar description in the phrase, “the way of righteousness.” In the New Testament, Christianity is called a “way” because it is God’s course or path to follow, and it is a “way of righteousness” because righteousness characterizes those “redeemed” who walk in it (Isaiah 35:8-9).

Now, let’s go back to the “wayfaring men” and note that they are classified as “fools” in the latter part of Isaiah 35:8. In 1 Corinthians 4:10, Paul declares that “We are fools for Christ’s sake” and they were according to man’s worldly philosophy and view (Acts 17:18). Though the “redeemed” were classified as “fools” by the world, note that these “fools, shall not err therein” (Isaiah 35:8).

They wouldn’t “err” from the “way” because they would be faithful obedient followers of Christ and His teachings (cf. Matthew 11:25-27; 1 Corinthians 1:26-28). They were among the “redeemed” (1 Peter 1:18) — those who were purchased by the blood of Christ (1 Peter 1:19) — those “redeemed” who would make up the church of our Lord (Acts 20:28; cf. Ephesians 1:7-14; Colossians 1:12-18; Hebrews 9:11-15).



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“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

2 Timothy 2:15

SUNDAY MORNING

Triple E
Edify, Exhort,
Evangelize
8:30 AM

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Thru the Bible in
52 Weeks - Isaiah
9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service
10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Luke 14:15 - 23
Luke 15:1 - 7
Great Feast
Parable of the lost sheep

Northside Church of Christ
4217 Highway 39 N
Meridian, MS 39301

Place
Stamp
Here

Praying For Others

By Allen Smith

The following parable about prayer comes from an unknown author:

A voyaging ship was wrecked during a storm at sea and only two of the men on it were able to swim to a small, desert-like island. The two survivors, not knowing what else to do, agreed that they had no other recourse but to pray to God. However, to find out whose prayer was more powerful, they agreed to divide the territory between them and stay on opposite sides of the island. The first thing they prayed for was food.

The next morning, the first man saw a fruit-bearing tree on his side of the land, and he was able to eat its fruit. The other man's parcel of land remained barren.

After some days, the first man was lonely and he decided to pray for a wife. The next day, another ship was wrecked, and the only survivor was a woman who swam to his side of the island. On the other side of the island, the second man had nothing. Soon the first man prayed for a house, clothes, and more food. The next day, like magic, all of these were given to him. However, the second man still had nothing.

Finally, the first man prayed for a ship, so that he and his wife could leave the island. In the morning, he found a ship docked at his side on the island. The first man boarded the ship with his wife and decided to leave the second man on the island. He considered the other man unworthy to receive God's blessings, since none of his prayers had been answered.

As the ship was about to leave, the first man heard a voice from heaven booming: "Why are you leaving your companion on the island?"

"My blessings are mine alone, since I was the one who prayed for them," the first man replied. "His prayers were all unanswered and so he does not deserve anything."

"You are mistaken," the voice rebuked him. "He had only one prayer, which I answered."

"Tell me," the first man asked the voice, "what did he pray for that I should owe him anything?"

"He prayed that all your prayers be answered."

We have many of the Apostle Paul's prayers recorded in his epistles. It is significant to me how large a percentage of those prayers involved petitions for other people (mostly for spiritual needs rather than physical, incidentally) and how few involved petitions for personal needs.

It is easy to get so caught up in asking God to provide us what we need (or merely want) that we forget to pray for others. May God help us to be sensitive to the needs of others around us, and may we take advantage of every opportunity to approach the throne of grace and lay their concerns at the feet of our Father.

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;" (1 Timothy 2:1)

Prayer Positions

Three preachers sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely best," claimed one.

"No," another contended. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven."

"You're both wrong," the third insisted. The most effective prayer position is lying prostrate face down on the floor."

The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted, "the best prayin' I ever did was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments (Maxine Powell)
- All those affected by COVID-19
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Communion Preparation

- Sign up sheet for 2021 is in foyer
- December - Montgomery

Announcements

- Holiday Dinner - December 12 @ 5:30, Okatibbee Fish Cam
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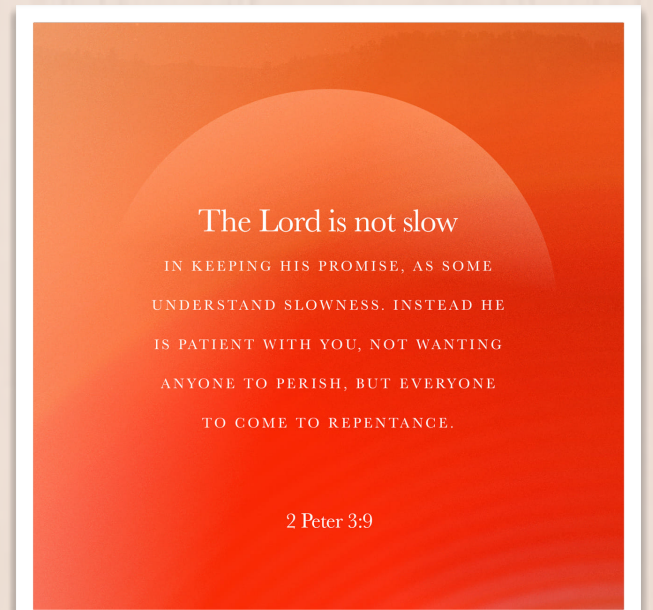
December Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Connie Montgomery - 3rd • Crimson Rowell - 31st
- Rick Carlberg - 7th

Every Sunday Morning

@ 6:00 AM

on WTOK-TV



Sermon Notes

Men to Serve

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Shay Cooper
 Scripture Reading - Ezekiel 3:16 - 21
 Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell
 Head of Lord's Table - Rick Carlberg
 Assist on Lord's Table - James Johnson
 Scripture Reading - Luke 22:14 - 22
 Closing Prayer - Greg Powell

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