

Northside Church of Christ

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



A Tried Method For Overcoming Our Adversaries

By Mike Riley

There’s no question that it hurts to have unkind and untrue things said about us. However, it’s not always possible to counteract or correct such charges. The temptation is strong to deny or refute the statements, but to do so only aggravates the situation.

The best way to respond to derogatory remarks, is to live in such a way that all men will know that they are false (1 Peter 3:10-17; cf. Titus 2:6-8). What we “are” (i.e., a child of the King) always speaks much louder than any words which may be said against us.

In the fourth century, John Chrysostom advocated a method for overcoming our adversaries that is unsurpassed.

He stated,

“Let this, I say, be our way of overpowering them, and of conducting our warfare against them; and let us astound them by our way of life rather than by words. For this is the main battle, this is the unanswerable argument, the argument from conduct. For though we give ten thousand precepts of philosophy in words, if we do not exhibit a life better than theirs, the gain is nothing”.

The best protection to our reputation, is to live beyond reproach.

Let’s think about it!

SUNDAY MORNING

Triple E
Edify, Exhort,
Evangelize
4 Square
8:30 AM

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Hebrews
9:30 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Worship Service
10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Romans
7:00 PM



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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

Northside Church of Christ
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Meridian, MS 39301

Place Stamp Here

Despised Blessings

By Mike Riley

Today, I read the above titled poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to a fourth grade library class. As I read each section of the poem, I gave a short analysis of each section using today's terminology. Appropriate related Scriptures have been added.

“Tell me not in mournful numbers,

Life is but an empty dream!

For the soul is dead that slumbers,

And things are not what they seem.

Analysis: Life is empty and purposeless to a spiritually lazy person, therefore he or she needs to wake up and get busy doing the Lord's business! – Romans 13:11-14; cf. Luke 2:49).

Life is real! Life is earnest!

And the grave is not its goal;

Dust thou are, to dust thou returnest,

Was not spoken of the soul

Analysis: Life certainly does not end at the grave – John 11:20-27; 1 Corinthians 15:47-58).

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,

Is our destined end or way;

But to act, that each tomorrow

Find us farther than today.

Analysis: We can achieve greater things tomorrow than we achieved today – Philippians 3:13-14).

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,

And our hearts, though stout and brave,

Still, like muffled drums, are beating

Funeral marches to the grave.

Analysis: Even though we may possess good health, death is always knocking at our door – Hebrews 9:27).

In the world's broad field of battle,

In the bivouac of Life,

Be not like dumb, driven cattle!

Be a hero in the strife!

Analysis: In dealing with life's challenges, don't be ignorant and dumb – be a thinker and a leader instead of a follower. Peter was a thinker – Matthew 17:24-27).

Trust no Future, howe'er pleasant!

Let the dead Past bury its dead!

Act, – act in the living Present!

Heart within, and God o'erhead!

Analysis: We must not worry about the future or the past, but positively act in the present, trusting God for the outcome – Matthew 6:34; Proverbs 3:5-6).

Lives of great men all remind us

We can make our lives sublime,

And, departing, leave behind us

Footprints on the sand of time;

Footprints, that perhaps another,

Sailing o'er life's solemn main,

A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,

Seeing, shall take heart again.

Analysis: There's nothing we can't accomplish in life, great men are a testimony of this fact. When we depart the walks of this life, our good influence will remain for the benefit of others – Hebrews 11:4).

Let us then be up and doing,

With a heart for any fate;

Still achieving, still pursuing,

Learn to labor and to wait” (source).

Analysis: Whatever our hand finds to do, we need to do it to the best of our ability (Ecclesiastes 9:10). The apostle Paul echoed this sentiment (1 Corinthians 15:58).

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Announcements

- Fellowship meal, November 6th following morning worship

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Prayer Requests This Week

- Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments

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Communion Preparation

- October - Carlberg

- November - Callens

- December - Rowell

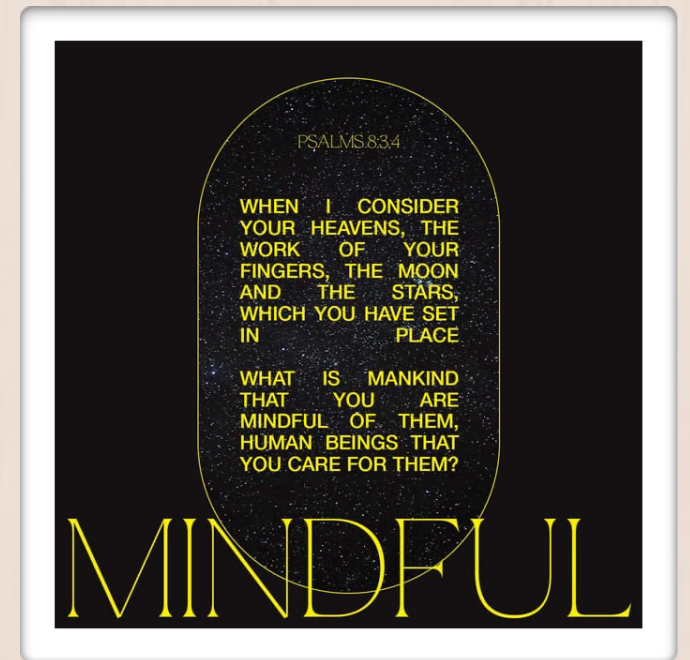
October Birthdays & Anniversary's

- Patrick Ford - 1st
- Bowen Stephens - 4th
- Dave Cradic - 6th
- Gerri Thrash - 13th
- Don Potts - 22nd
- Sonja Rowell - 23rd
- Keren Thrash - 29th

Every Sunday Morning

@ 8:00 AM

on WTOK-TV



Sermon Notes

Men to Serve

Announcements/Opening Prayer - Dwight Callens

Scripture Reading - Psalm 23

Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell

Head of Lord's Table - Larry Montgomery

Assist on Lord's Table - Dave Cradic

Scripture Reading - 1 Corinthians 11:23 - 29

Closing Prayer - Shay Cooper

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