

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING US

God's Grace - Ephesians 2:8

God's Love and Mercy - Ephesians 2:4

Christ's Blood Shed – Romans 5:9-11

The Gospel – Romans 1:16

Our Response of Faith:

Believe - Acts 16:31; Mark 16:15-16

Repentance – Luke 13:3

Confession – Romans 10:10

Be baptized for remission of sins –

Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21

Be faithful, committed, walk in light –
Revelation 2:10; 1 John 1:7-10

The Comfort of God from pg. 3

gets to the fifteen chapter of Romans he utters this prayer. *"May the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like minded toward one another...that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (Romans 15:5-6). How did Paul see that turmoil coming to an end? He turned to God—the One who gives both comfort and patient endurance.

This is where true comfort is found. Paul described God as the God of all comfort, and then said that He *"...comforts us in all our troubles"* (2 Corinthians 1:5-6). Pay special attention to that three-letter word in this passage. God is not just the One who sometimes comforts us in certain situations—He is the God of all comfort in all our trials. How does God give us comfort? Look again at Romans chapter fifteen. It is in verse five where God is described as the God of comfort and patience. Look at verse four. *"For whatsoever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."*

To whom do we turn for comfort? It is to God. To where do we turn? It is the Scriptures the God of comfort has given us. We have experienced this in those dark times when we walked through deep valleys, like the valley of the shadow of death. Our soul found relief at such times, and we sang the song given by David. *"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me"* (Psalms 23:3). We sang the psalm and the words from the God of all comfort lifted our soul.

It is not just in those Old Testament passages where comfort is found. When those in Thessalonica were concerned about those brethren who had died, the God of comfort gave His word to them and then added, *"Wherefore comfort one another with these words"* (1 Thessalonians 4:18).

So, the next time clouds arise, and darkness prevails, let's pick up our Bible. Read the comforting words from the God of all comfort. Meditate on what He says to us, and these words of comfort will bring hope in the midst of the deepest despair.



A Weekly Publication of the Horse Cave CHURCH OF CHRIST

120 Cave Street

Horse Cave, KY 42749

TIME OF SERVICES (CST):

Sunday: Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study 6 PM

Church Webpage: www.horsecavecoc.com

Bulletin Editor: Wayne Hatcher

Focused on Christ - Thankful for our Salvation - Glorifying the Lord - Serving through Love - Preaching Christ to the World

We gladly welcome you to our congregation, trusting that – if you are *seeking Christ* you will find Him here, if *sorrowing* you will receive comfort and strength here, if *troubled in spirit* you will gain the blessing of peace here, if *discouraged* you will rejoice in encouragement and hope here, if *friendless* you will find companionship and Christian love here. That these and other blessings may be yours is our prayer.

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Shaped For Glory

During the Great Depression a good man lost his job, exhausted his savings, and forfeited his home. His grief was multiplied by the sudden death of his precious wife. The only thing he had left was his faith, and it was weakening.

One day he was combing the neighborhood looking for work. He stopped to watch some men who were doing the stonework on a church building. One of those men was skillfully chiseling a triangular piece of rock. Not seeing a spot where it would fit, he asked. "Where are you going to put that?" The man pointed toward the top of the building and said, "See that little opening up there near the spire? That's where it goes. I'm shaping it down here so it will fit up there."

Tears filled this good man's eyes as he walked away. Shaping it down here so it will fit up there gave new meaning in his difficult situation.

Some who read this may be going through terrible, troublesome times. You may be experiencing some heart-breaking sorrow. Or perhaps you are enduring some painful physical illness. Or it may be something else - maybe even too excruciating to talk to anyone about. The blows of the hammer and chisel hurt.

But hold to your faith. Don't let your difficulties get you down. They are only temporary. Glory is coming. It's the harsh blows to the outward man that often bring the greatest strength to the inner man. Keep praying. Keep believing. The Master has to do some shaping of us down here so we will be fit up there.

-copied - author unknown

HORSE CAVE CHURCH OF CHRIST

120 Cave Street

Horse Cave, KY 42749



Website



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NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Marilyn Hogan spent a few days in the Med Center but is now back home; it was good to see Billy and Janice Sue Bybee at services Sunday evening; Becky Hatcher at home. Wayne continues to be her caregiver; Willie Cyphers tested positive for COVID on Monday, Martha has a lot of the symptoms; Margie Gentry at home; Lisa Schuler's mom Juanita Ward and her sister Linda has a brain tumor; Mike Thompson; Mark Hatcher (back); Joyce Dye as she also deals with pain in her back; Laura Brooks staying with her daughter; Lori Brewer; Brenda Jaggars has COVID; Dennis Hatcher is feeling better; Bobby Bybee is to have treatments for cancer; Becky Bush; Chad Davis undergoing treatments for colon cancer; baby Isaiah Richardson; Tom Whittington; Mary Thompson; Parker Bybee; Bobby Pedigo; health care workers; staffs in our school districts; first responders; all the victims from the recent storms

Friends in our community:

Jerry Cherry; Chris Houk; sympathy to the family of Greg Gore; sympathy to the family of Norma Church and Chester Way

IN THE HOSPITAL

Ann Schuler, Malon Schuler's mom, remains in the Medical Center at Caverna. She is also being treated for COVID

PRAY FOR MISSIONS WE SUPPORT

Nepal and Bangladesh - Michael Brooks
The Barnabas Journey - Ed Bass
House To House/Heart To Heart local mailing

SIGNATURE HEALTH CARE Horse Cave

Vincent Ward

HIGHLAND RIDGE in Glasgow

Wanda Proffitt

NHC in Glasgow

Jean Turner

BARREN COUNTY HEALTHCARE in Glasgow

Ruth Bradford

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 6 PM

Darrell Wallace is scheduled to teach this week from Heb. 11

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Today is our 10th lesson in the Winter Quarter "Isaiah Part 1" Today's topic: "The Valley of Vision" Isaiah 22: 1-21 Wayne Hatcher continues to serve as teacher.

PREACHING TODAY

Wayne Hatcher is to preach today at 11 am "Jesus Blazed the Trail For Us" Heb. 2:10-18 and 5 pm "Reasons Why People Refuse Jesus" John 5:39-40

TUNE IN TO OUR RADIO PROGRAMS

on WLOC radio on Sunday mornings to hear our broadcast: on 101.7 FM or 1150 AM or from their webpage: wloconline.com

8:30-8:45 a.m. **Words of Truth** - Billy Bybee

8:45-9:00 a.m. **Truth In Love** - Wayne Hatcher

ELDERS DEACONS MINISTERS MEETING

Today at 3:00

NOTE — LADIES BIBLE CLASS

will NOT meet tomorrow evening. They do plan to meet in March.

TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

Who were killed by lions after Daniel emerged from the den unscathed?

Answer to our question last week:

Lapidoth Judges 4:4

A Wonderful Reunion

by David A. Sargent

It was 38 years ago. She was only 3 months old when the accident occurred. She was lying on a couch with a steam vaporizer on the floor beside her when she rolled off onto the boiling machine. The steam and the melted mentholated ointment scalded and burned her skin. Baby Amanda Scarpinati was rushed to the hospital.

The burns would require many reconstructive surgeries over the years. The pain of the burns and surgeries was intensified by

the responses of some her peers as a child. "Growing up as a child, disfigured by the burns, I was bullied and picked on, tormented," Amanda reflected.

But there was a constant source of solace and encouragement in her life. It was a collection of pictures of her in the pediatric recovery room of Albany Medical Center after one of her initial surgeries. The pictures show baby Amanda with her head wrapped in thick gauze being carried by a seemingly pleasant and caring young nurse. The photos appeared in Albany (NY) Medical Center's 1977 annual report. The names of baby Amanda and her nurse were not included with the photos. Amanda said, "I'd look at those pictures and talk to her, even though I didn't know who she was. I took comfort looking at this woman who seemed so sincere caring for me."

Amanda still treasures those photos and the nameless nurse that provided loving care to her as an infant. At the urging of a friend, Amanda posted the photos on Facebook to try to find out the identity of the nurse. "Within 12 hours, it had gone viral with 5,000 shares across the country," Amanda reported. "It was on the local TV news the next morning. I was blown away."

Angela Leary, a former nurse at Albany Medical Center, saw the photos and recognized the nurse. She sent a message to Amanda and identified the nurse as Susan Berger. Leary said of Berger, "She was as sweet and caring as she looks in this picture."

A local television reporter tracked down Berger. She now oversees the health center at Cazenovia College in New York. Amanda and her nurse were soon reunited in a phone conversation. "It was amazing," Amanda commented. "She just has such a gentle, caring voice, just like I imagined she'd have."

Berger remembered Amanda as her patient. She is also honored that Amanda has fondly thought of her all this time. "I don't know how many nurses would be lucky enough to have

something like this happen, to have someone remember you all that time. I feel privileged to be the one to represent all the nurses who cared for her over the years."

When we were in dire condition due to our sins, the Great Physician, Jesus Christ, came to our rescue. In order to save us, He had to die for us. He gave His life on the cross so that we might live (1 Thessalonians 5:10). He died almost 2,000 years ago, but you and I can still be the recipients of His grace-full, loving care.

He will save US from our sins when we place our faith and trust in Him (Acts 16:30-31), turn from our sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), and are baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38). Then, as we continue to walk in the light, the blood of Jesus will continue to cleanse us from sin (1 John 1:7).

And one day, we will be reunited with Him! When He returns, we will "see Him as He is" (1 John 3:2) and be able to thank Him personally for saving us and giving us eternal life!

Won't YOU allow the Great Physician to "heal" your sinful condition so that you can live forever with Him?

The Comfort of God

by Dan Jenkins

Who has not in their lifetime had those dark and trying periods when hope was almost gone? What congregation has not experienced anxiety as turmoil developed between brethren? Evidently, the church at Rome was dealing with all kinds of problems—there were false teachers seeking to Judaize the Gentiles by demanding that they must be circumcised to enter heaven. There was also strife between brothers where the stronger brothers had little compassion for those who were weaker.

Turmoil? Strong vs. weak? Little compassion? What to do?

How did God address such turmoil? When Paul concluded on back page