

Attend Church Regularly

...and read your Bible daily



WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"Jesus is Coming Again"

By Pastor Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Church, Norton

The first time Jesus came as a humble servant, to be the sacrificial lamb of God for all the sins of the world. He came so that we, upon receiving His forgiveness from our sins, could be reconciled back to a holy God. When He returns, however, He will assume His place as King of kings. To the Christian, this is the "blessed hope." Jesus will come back to be the Righteous Judge and Ruler of this world.

Many unbelievers have also heard that Jesus is to return. Instead of having a holy fear of God and readying themselves spiritually, they roll their eyes and mock the idea. Scripture speaks of these people in 2 Peter 3: 3 - 7, "...In the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say 'Where is this 'coming' He promised?... Everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.' But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's Word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same Word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men."

The Word of God tells us clearly that Jesus is coming again. Our Lord told His disciples that His Second Coming will be as visible as lightning that comes from the east

is seen in the west. (Matt. 24: 27) Forty days after His resurrection, as His followers watched, Jesus was taken up to heaven "before their very eyes." Two angels suddenly appeared and told the disciples that, "...This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven,

will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven." (Acts 1: 11) In Matthew 24: 36 - 39, Jesus says when He returns it will be just like the days of Noah. People will be living normally, eating drinking and marrying. There will be no last call or countdown

from heaven that Christ is coming. It will be a surprise, like a thief in the night, particularly to those who are not awaiting Him. "No one knows about the day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." Jesus said, "They (the ungodly people of Noah's day) knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man."

In this area, when we see the geese return and the trees put on their buds, we know that the season of spring is near. Likewise, there are signs that the day of Jesus's return is near. Jesus' disciples asked Him, "What will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" Jesus told them of the many things that will happen before He returns. (Matt. 24: 3+) Since many of these are coming to pass in these last days, the believer can rest assured that their Redeemer is coming very soon

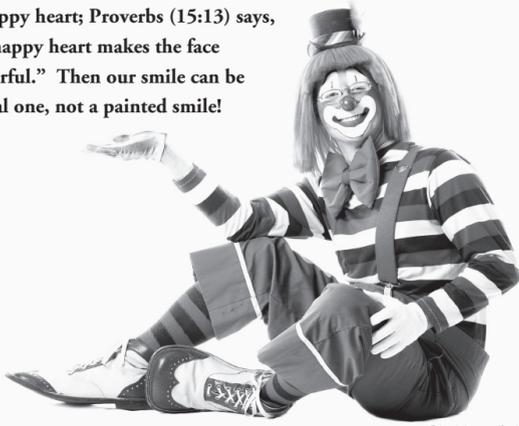
Why does Jesus tarry? 2 Peter 3: 9 says, "The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise... He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." He is waiting for you! He would much rather forgive you than judge you. But, He will return soon whether or not you heed His call.

A Painted Smile

"The whole world loves a clown." Why? Could it be the huge smile that makes us feel happy? That smile is painted on to make an impression, but the clown's true emotions aren't revealed. We don't know what's going on behind that painted smile.

Some of us present an image to the world and keep our true feelings hidden. We might be laughing on the outside while suffering pain and depression. We might fool others with a pretend smile, but what do we do when we're alone with our despair? How can we help the pain in our hearts?

We can spend time with God every day and learn to lean on Him and give Him our sorrows. We can worship at His House joyfully each week and cultivate a happy heart; Proverbs (15:13) says, "A happy heart makes the face cheerful." Then our smile can be a real one, not a painted smile!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Psalm 25	Psalm 27	Psalm 28	Psalm 30	Psalm 40	Psalm 41	Genesis 18.1-15

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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LYLE NEWS

By VEDA WOOD

The Wood family visited at Carol Moye's Friday and at A.J. and Tielia High's Saturday. The group was joined by Don and Caron High, Indianola, Neb., and Monty and Elizabeth High, Grand Junction, Colo.

Tracey Pershing visited her grandmother, Veda Wood, Wednesday. They spent time going through family pictures so Mrs. Pershing could have the ones she wanted.

Wednesday, Feb. 13, the Liberty Star Club met at the Lyle Com-

munity Building. Veda had a short program on space heaters. Deanna Summer had the activity and asked the members to unscramble the letters and see how many words they could make out of "Happy Valentine's Day". Of course, Carolyn Plotts got "jillions" of words with the rest of us close on her heels. Margaret Magers served lunch and the members exchanged Secret Sister gifts. Other members attending were Cathy Anthony, and Kathy Van Meter.

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CARTER WARREN WILSON

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, February 15, 22, 29, 2008 (3T)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF NORTON COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of CARTER WARREN WILSON, Deceased Case No. 2008-PR-6

NOTICE OF HEARING THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a petition has been filed in this Court by Larry W. Wilson, as son and one of the heirs of Carter Warren Wilson, Deceased, praying for the determination of the descent of the following described real estate:

An Undivided One-Fifth (1/5) interest in and to the East Half of the Northeast Quarter (E/2NE/4) of Section One (1), Township Five (5) South, Range Twenty-four (24)

West of the Sixth P.M. in Norton County, Kansas;

and all other property, real and personal, or interest therein owned by the decedent at the time of death; and you are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before March 11, 2008, at 3:00 o'clock P.M. of said day in said Court, in the City of Norton, in Norton County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon said petition.

Larry W. Wilson, Petitioner

R. Douglas Sebelius, #09157 SEBELIUS & GRIFFITHS, LLP 105 South Norton Street P.O. Box 10 Norton, KS 67654-0010 (785) 877-5143 Attorneys for Petitioner

•PUBLIC NOTICE•

NOTICE OF HEARING ON ADOPTION OF NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PLAN BEFORE THE CITY OF ALMENA, ALMENA CEMETERY, ALMENA RURAL FIRE, ALMENA-HARRISON TOWNSHIP, AND ALMENA TOWNSHIP

Published in The Norton Telegram on Friday, February 22, and 29, 2008. (3T)

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You are hereby advised, pursuant to the provisions of KSA 12-17, 117, a public hearing will be held at the Almena Community Building located at 415 Main Street, Almena on the 3rd day of March, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. to consider

whether the above mentioned taxing districts should adopt a "Neighborhood Revitalization Plan" for all of the area and territory lying within the corporate limits of their district. The Norton county commission enacted the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for Norton County, Kansas on November 13, 2007.

The proposed Neighborhood Revitalization Plan is available for public review and consideration at the office of the Norton County Clerk in the Norton County Courthouse during regular business hours or online at <http://www.discovernorton.com>.

✠ Cross Roads ✠

VICTORIOUSLY LIVING OVER THE FLESH

PURIFYING AGENT PART 7

The Apostle Paul writes about the empowering agent that enables the child of God to live that victorious life: Romans 8:9-11 says, "You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit, who lives in you." 1 John 1:9 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." "Purify" (*katharizo*) in the spiritual sense is to cleanse from the pollution and guilt of sin.

The purifying work of the Holy Spirit is like the mother who was getting her four year old boy ready for church. She gave him a bath and got him all dressed up. She set him in front of the TV while she got herself ready and told him to keep his eyes focused on the TV.

The little boy became distracted by something outside and he went out to investigate it. In the process he fell down in the mud and wiped off his hands on the front of his pants. He scratches his nose and brushed the hair out of his eyes. In just a few seconds he found himself covered in mud from the top of his head to his toes.

Thinking nothing of his condition the dirty little boy went back and sat in front of the TV. Needless to say, mom was hurt and disappointed over the condition of her little boy. She informed him of his dirty condition and chastised him for his self-centeredness and for acting on his own accord. After his apology, mother forgave him and then got him cleaned up for church.

It is the same with the child of God. Even though his previous sins were washed clean by the blood of Christ, his sinful nature has a tendency to distract him from what he is supposed to be doing. Thus, he finds himself soiled once again. The Holy Spirit convicts him, God chastises him, as he repents, Jesus Christ forgives him and sends the Holy Spirit to clean him up so he can be effective in the true church.

CrossRoads Church, 313 W. Lincoln, Norton, KS (785) 877-2416
www.standatthecrossroads.com - e-mail crossroads@ruraltel.net

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