



HAMBURG PIKE  
Church of Christ

# The Worker

3108 Hamburg Pike, Jeffersonville, IN 47130 Ph. (812) 284-3125

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[Hamburg Pike church of Christ Home Page](#)

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## Adorning the Doctrine

By James Burns

Titus was to exhort servants to adorn the doctrine of God (Titus 2:9-10). They were to do this by living faithful lives. There was nothing they could do, nor is there anything we can do, to improve on the doctrine of God, but there are things that can draw more favorable attention to it.

We can adorn the doctrine of God by knowing the doctrine. Peter tells us to "always be ready to give a defense" for our hope (1 Peter 1:15). Knowing what we believe and why we believe it can help leave a favorable impression on an inquirer.

We can adorn the doctrine by good works. Jesus said, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

We can adorn the doctrine by contented lives. When one can face the crises of life with faith and hope, others will want to know the source of such power. Paul said he had learned how to be content under varying circumstances of life (Philippians 4:11-13). Certainly, Paul's life adorned the doctrine of God.

<p><b>Leadership</b></p> <p><b>Elders</b> Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey</p> <p><b>Deacons</b> Clint Smith Jr, Robby Stocksdale Joe Sweeney</p> <p><b>Pulpit Minister</b> David Wright</p> <p><b>Associate Minister</b> Irvin F. Williams</p>		<p><b>Schedule of Services</b></p> <p><b>Sunday</b></p> <p>Bible Class 10:00 AM</p> <p>Morning Worship 11:00 AM</p> <p>Evening Worship 6:00 PM</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b></p> <p>Bible Class 7:00 PM</p>	
<p><b>Panama Missions</b></p> <p>Evans Campbell Pablo Sanchez</p>			
<p>We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125</p> <p>Visit Our Website: <a href="http://www.hamburgpikecofc.org">www.hamburgpikecofc.org</a> Email: <a href="mailto:church@hamburgpikecofc.org">church@hamburgpikecofc.org</a></p>			
<p><b>Those Privileged to Serve</b></p>			
<p><b>AM Service</b></p> <p>Song Leader Michael Hawkins</p> <p>Opening Prayer David Blackwell</p> <p>Scripture Fin Burton</p> <p>Sermon David Wright</p> <p>Lord's Supper</p> <p>Message Greg Blanton</p> <p>Attendant Jerry Montgomery</p> <p>Attendant Ron Iverson</p> <p>Closing Prayer Robby Stocksdale</p>		<p><b>PM Service</b></p> <p>Song Leader Clint Smith Jr</p> <p>Bible Reading John Keaton</p> <p>Selection 18</p> <p>Prayer Clint Smith Sr</p> <p>Sermon David Wright</p> <p>Closing Prayer Ernie Marshall</p> <p><i>If you are unable to serve,</i> Call Art Patrick 293-4745 or Harold Tincher 288-5956</p>	
		<p><b>AM &amp; PM Services</b></p> <p>Announcements Joe Sweeney</p> <p>Lord's Supper Hank Tincher</p> <p>Offering Harold Tincher</p> <p>Usher Marc Owens</p> <p>Count Offering Art Patrick</p> <p>Assist Count Marc Owens</p>	
		<p><b>Last Sunday</b></p> <p>Contribution \$2562</p> <p>Attendance 75</p>	

We can adorn the doctrine by letting people see that the church is important to us. People know when we attend its services and support its works.

We can adorn the doctrine of God by "endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3). Jesus prayed that those who believe on him might be one, that the world might believe on him (John 17:20-21). He also said that by our loving one another, others can see that we are his disciples (John 13:35). The Jerusalem church was "of one heart and one soul" (Acts 4:12). Let us in these ways and in all other ways "adorn the doctrine of God."

- via THE SOWER, a weekly publication of the Arthur Church of Christ, Arthur, IL.  
[www.arthurchurchofchrist.com](http://www.arthurchurchofchrist.com)

## The Best Defense Is a Good Offense

By Clarence DeLoach

"The God of Heaven will prosper us" (Nehemiah 2:20)

When trouble and opposition came to the builders, Nehemiah went on the offensive. He developed a powerful and positive strategy for battle against discouragement, danger, derision, discord, distraction, defamation and dismay. The antagonists were overcome and the builders succeeded because they applied five powerful principles that need to be implemented by the builders of the Kingdom today.

1. They prayed. The battles we fight must be bathed in the prayers of the saints. Satan levels the arsenal of hell against the builders of truth and righteousness. Prayer releases the power of God in our struggles. We cannot win alone! (Phil. 4:6; I Pet. 4:7; Eph. 6:18; Col. 4:2; James 4:2)

2. They were alert. Prayer must always be coupled with watchfulness. We must be aware of the enemy - his deception and cunning. His devices are clever and manipulative. (I Pet. 5:8; II Cor. 2:11) As builders, we cannot afford the luxury of apathy or indifference. (Matt. 26:41)

3. They were prepared. As they worked, they were prepared for battle. Nehemiah put a sword in one hand and a tool to build in the other. (Neh. 4:16-20) Build and battle at the same time. As builders, we must be suited up in our armor at all times. Put on the "whole armor of God" (Eph. 6:10-18). Satan is always looking for an opportunity to infiltrate. By keeping "all" the armor on at "all" times we'll be ready when the attack comes.

4. They were united. They worked with organization, cooperation and coordination. The phrase "and next to him" is repeated about 30 times in Nehemiah chapter three and suggests that the builders were a close-knit team. So, the body of Christ is "joined and knit together" which results in edification and growth. (Eph. 4:16)

5. They were determined. They would not be sidetracked or distracted by intimidation from without, or dismay from within. They had "a mind to work." With a focused, determined leader in Nehemiah, the builders persevered and in 52 days the walls were completed.

Read Nehemiah chapter 4 and note these five principles. The church will stand strong against the enemy when we apply these steadfast principles. Remember, a good offense is the best defense!

- via The Encourager, the weekly bulletin for the Calvert City Church of Christ, Calvert City, KY. [Calvert City Church of Christ](http://www.calvertcitychurchofchrist.com)

## **A Blind Alley**

David Wright

One Sunday morning I heard a local Evangelical preacher on the radio. He was talking about outreach. According to him, one way to win people to Christ is to meet strangers and urge them to receive Christ on the spot. The speaker explained that "the Romans road" was a proven method for accomplishing this. The following paragraph (though not a verbatim quote) conveys his message accurately:

*First, go to Romans 3:23. Paul says that "all have sinned." This verse helps the lost person become aware of his condition. Next turn to Romans 5:8. The Bible says that "Christ died for us." Everyone is a helpless sinner, but Jesus took our sins upon himself at the cross. Then read Romans 6:23, which says that "the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life." The penalty for sin is eternal separation from God in hell, but Jesus offers sinners the gift of eternal life with God. Finally, share Romans 10:9: "If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Go ahead! Say a prayer right now and ask Jesus into your heart. You will receive the free gift of eternal life.*

Some of the things affirmed by this preacher are true. Everyone is a helpless sinner, and Jesus did pay the full price for human treachery against God. More, eternal life is a gift that no human effort can merit. However, "the Romans road" has some potholes in it.

First, Romans 10:9 fails to support the so-called "sinner's prayer." To "confess" Jesus as Lord is to make a declaration of faith in the presence of human witnesses (cf. 1 Tim. 6:12; Matt. 10:32-33). Nowhere in his letters does Paul ever speak of conversion in terms of saving prayer.

Second, the Evangelical "Romans road" bypasses fundamental salvation doctrines taught in Paul's masterpiece letter. Romans 2:4 asserts that "God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance." Is the change of heart at the crux of conversion so immaterial that we can ignore it altogether when teaching the lost? And what about Romans 6:4? Paul says that "we were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." If immersion into Christ is the point at which new life begins, then a zigzag around baptism is worse than a pothole. It is a blind alley.

### **Sermons Available Online**

Acts 2:12-21

The Pentecost Sermon (a.m.)

You Ought to Be Teachers (p.m.)

<sup>6</sup> "As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. <sup>7</sup> And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' <sup>8</sup> And I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' And he said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.' <sup>9</sup> Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. <sup>10</sup> And I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.' <sup>11</sup> And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus.

<sup>12</sup> "And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, <sup>13</sup> came to me, and standing by me said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight.' And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. <sup>14</sup> And he said, 'The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; <sup>15</sup> for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. <sup>16</sup> And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.' Acts 22:6-16

### **Prayer Requests**

**Prayer List:** MARTIN BONNEY, Larry Coulter (Lou Ann), JAYNE CRAVENS, Jerry Crick (Ann), Todd Cunningham (Hank), Esther Davis (Marian), JANICE DIMMITT, MYRNA DIMMITT, PATTY DIMMITT, MILDRED ELLIOTT, Zachary Ferguson, Elma Fielder (Marian), Lillian Foster, Diana Fulks (Norma), FRANK & MARY HARRIS, Pricilla Hudkins, ALLENE HUSTON, Steve A. Hueston (Harold), RON IVERSON, Elise Jackson (Christine), Alice Jenkins (Ann), Charles & Marilyn Jenkins (Ann), Arletha Kenty (Nathan), Josephine King (Polly), MERLE & JOYCE KNUCKLES, FRANCES LAWTON, SUE LINNE & Rhea, Shelly Marshall, POLLY MCCLINTOCK, JERRY & SONJA MONTGOMERY, CAROL MOUSTY, Gary Peyton (Jean), Jerrie Phillips, CHRISTINE RHOTON, Cindy Roeder (Christine), Wendell & Betty Smith (Polly), Lynn Sullivan (Ann), THERESA TEMPLE, FERN TINCHER, Lynn Tincher (Fern), Fulton Wilson (Ann)

**Military Service:** Stephen Blanton, Scott Viers, Zach West, Jeremy Whitlow

### **Hamburg Pike Happenings**

The Monday Night for the Master group will meet Monday February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm. Please join us in the Lord's service, also enjoying a meal and fellowship! Please sign the sheet if you plan to attend.

Clint and Debbie's Fellowship Group will meet February 2<sup>nd</sup>, after the morning worship service. The theme is soup and salad; don't forget desserts.

Kids Movie Night is scheduled for Friday February 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm to 9:00pm. The featured movie is "Veggie Tales: Jonah." Flyers are available on the table and details are posted on the board. Invite your friends and family to join you for this fun event. Please sign the sheet in the foyer if you plan to attend. See Clint Smith Jr. for any questions.

**Reminder:** The Building Committee is asking parents to keep their children indoors before and after services until the construction project is completed. This request is intended to protect our children from injury. If a child manages to get into a construction area (either inside or outside the building), adults are urged to bring him to his parents. And parents are encouraged to take no offense if this happens. None is intended. All the children at Hamburg Pike are a wonderful blessing to the church. And we want them to have a place to run and play. This desire has shaped the entire project. The requested restriction is inconvenient but only temporary. Thank you for your cooperation.