

For: Sunday, December 31, 2017

“Faith to Unite”

Lesson: Ephesians 4:1-16

GOLDEN TEXT:

“Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” — Ephesians 4:1-3

TODAY’S AIM:

“To understand Paul’s dilemma and concern for the saints at Ephesus.”

INTRODUCING THE LESSON:

The letter to the Ephesians was written during Paul’s first imprisonment in Rome, where he also wrote three other letters (Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon), collectively known as the Prison Epistles. This one and Colossians have similar material. Ephesians emphasizes the church being the body of Christ, while Colossians emphasizes Christ being the Head of the body, the church. Ephesians might have been intended as a circular letter to be read by several churches.

In this book we find much description of the spiritual wealth of believers and what should be the resulting daily walk. Paul challenged the believers to live up to their potential. Apparently, they were living like spiritual paupers and were not, therefore, experiencing the blessings of salvation that were intended for them.

A close examination of Ephesians shows that in the first three chapters Paul discussed the wealth of believers and in the last three chapters the walk of believers. We have been redeemed (1:1-23), have a new life (2:1-10), and are part of a new body (2:11-3:21).

PRACTICAL POINTS:

1. Believers glorify God when they support and build up fellow believers (Ephesians 4:1-2).
2. Unity in the church requires that we focus on God, not ourselves (Ephesians 4:3).
3. Spiritual unity means that each believer belongs to the other and that we all belong to God (Ephesians 4:4-6).
4. Each of us is assured a purpose in Christ, although none of us will be perfect until we reach heaven (Ephesians 4:7-10).
5. Each believer is gifted in some way to glorify God and serve one another (Ephesians 4:11-13).
6. We mature in faith as we live in fellowship with one another and in accordance with God’s truth (Ephesians 4:14-16).

CONCLUDING THE LESSON:

Can we envision a church filled with worthy walkers—men and women, boys and girls who have one goal and purpose: to follow the Holy Spirit’s leading and love others more than they love themselves? Would we dare to be that church? Can we imagine how the Lord would bless such a group of people?

Come
 Let us adore
Him



Sunday, December 24, 2017
11:00 A M

“The Church That Cares”

The Grace Memorial Baptist Church
 1100 North Eden Street
 Baltimore, Maryland 21213
 Reverend Marshall L. Barnes, Pastor

Sick and Shut-Ins

Trustee William Atkinson, 1088 Cameron Rd., 21212
 Deaconess Marion Leach, C/O Patapsco Valley Center,
 9109 Liberty Rd., Room 247A, Randallstown, MD 21133-3521
 Sis. Ila Scott, 1631 W. Lexington St., 21223
 Bro. Reginald Werrell, 902 Woodson Rd., Apt. T, 21212, 443-872-1723
 Deaconess Beverly Wilson’s daughter and Sis. Lisa Wilson’s sister,
 Sis. Chareese Brogden, Brintonwood Nursing Home,
 5009 Frankford Ave., Room 216, 21206
 Bro. Edward Withers, C/O Manor Care – Roland Park,
 4669 Falls Rd., Room 328A, 21209

Special Prayer Requests

Pastor Marshall Barnes’ friends, Sis. Vanessa Dancy,
 Bro. Sylvester Briddell, Sis. Yvonne Rice and Sis. Kathy Seal
 Trustee William Atkinson’s wife, Sis. Martha Atkinson
 Sis. LaPorcha Barnes’ co-worker’s sister, Sis. Denise Griffin
 Sis. Shirley Eldridge and Trustee Inez Robb’s aunt, Sis. Lucille Lindsay
 Sis. Erica Faison’s friend, Bro. Ladonte Locus
 Sis. Cynthia Franklin’s daughter, Sis. Yolanda
 and son, Bro. Melford Franklin and their families
 and aunt, Sis. Mable Stancil
 Sis. Wanda Garrett’s niece, Sis. Kayla James
 Sis. Pamela Harris’ mother-in-law, Sis. Brenda Smith
 Sis. Tana Hicks’ grandson, Bro. DeWayne Lashley
 Sis. Shirle Hubbard’s sister, Sis. Valerie Hubbard
 Sis. Eliza Jennings son, Bro. Robert Jennings, Jr.
 Sis. Anndell Lawrence’s mother, Sis. Carrie Lawrence
 and Granddaughter, Little Miss Treasure Fenwick
 Sis. Kim McDonald’s children, Bro. Correll Wilson,
 Bro. Tayo Daniels, Jr., Bro. Theodore Wilson,
 and Sis. Ta’Brielle Daniels

Birthdays



December

25	LaPorcha Barnes
28	Shirle Hubbard

*“High Standards and High Expectations
for the Glory of God.”*

Church News

TODAY

Our Christmas card mail box will no longer be available after today. Therefore, we ask everybody to pick-up the remainder of your Christmas card(s) before leaving the church.

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

Sunday, December 31. Before Watch Night Service, there will be a fellowship feast at 8:00 p.m. Everybody is asked to bring a covered dish to share. Then, at 10:00 p. m. promptly our annual Watch Night Service will begin. The Mass Choir will be singing.

BOOKS WANTED!

If you have new or used books that you no longer need/want, please donate them to our “Bring A Book, Take A Book” program. Books can be given to Sis. Joann Robinson or dropped off at the church office.

PHOTOGRAPHS/NEWSPAPER ARTICLES WANTED!

We are requesting pictures and/or newspaper articles taken during the 90 years of Grace’s existing. If you have such, please submit to our church office so that we can create a historical timeline album. All photos and/or newspaper clippings will be returned within a week.

Don't Forget!

SOUP KITCHEN

There will be NO Soup Kitchen Tuesday, December 26, 2017.

PRAYER SERVICE/BIBLE STUDY

No Bible Study Wednesday, December 26, 2017. Will resume Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 7:30 p. m. Homework: Study Bible text, The return of the Evil Spirit — Matthew 12:43-45 and Luke 11:24-26. Observe the added, deleted, and edited features.

Emergency Notices

All emergency situations are to be reported immediately to the Pastor
Reverend Marshall L. Barnes
e.g., death, hospital emergency, etc.

The Deacon and Deaconess Ministry

The following Deacons and Deaconess are available to assist members of our Church with prayer and offering of a helping hand whenever assistance is needed and subsequently requested:

During the period of December 11, 2017 through January 14, 2018 contact the following:

Deacon Luke Montgomery Sr., 443-629-7297

Deaconess Charmaine Cook, 410-298-6133

Deaconess Norma Pope, 410-532-6174

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Reverend Marshall L. Barnes, *Pastor*
Reverend Frank Bell, *Associate Pastor*
Sister Carolyn Moorehead, *Secretary*

Church Office: 410-563-2355

Fax No.: 410-563-7857

Web-Site Address: <http://www.gracememorialbaptist.org>

Facebook Address: Grace Memorial Baltimore, Maryland

Twitter Address: GraceMemorial1

Words of Wisdom

“The good news of Jesus' birth is a source of joy for all people.”

SERMON NOTES

Sunday, December 24, 2017

LISTEN to the message from God’s Word. **USE** this sheet to make some personal notes. **GO** back over them through the coming week. **LET** God crystallize these truths in **YOUR** life.

Sermon title: _____

Biblical text: _____

Main idea of sermon: _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Illustration I want to remember: _____

What should I do as a result of hearing this sermon?

“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.” — Luke 2:10-11

MORNING WORSHIP

Sunday, December 24, 2017

*Processional.....11:00 A.M.

**Call to Worship and Invocation*

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*Hymn of Praise #94.....“Joy to the World”

N.T. Reading (Matthew 2:5-12).....Deaconess Beverly Wilson

N.T. Reading (Luke 2:8-14).....Sis. Sylvia Mason

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Selection.....Mass Choir

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Morning Prayer.....Deacon Luke Montgomery, Sr.

Prayer Chant and Selection.....Mass Choir

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Church Welcome.....Hospitality Ministry

Pastoral Comments

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Children’s Hour.....Trustee Sylvia Jones

Selection.....Mass Choir

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General Offering of Tithes and Gifts of Love

Mission Offering

**Tithes and Gifts of Love*

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*Response of Thanksgiving.....Congregation

*“All things come of Thee, O Lord,
and of Thine own have we given Thee. Amen!”*

Congregational Hymn #89.....“Angels We Have Heard on High”

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Sermonic Meditation.....Organ Speaks

Sermon.....Rev. Marshall L. Barnes

“A Good Day for Good News!”

*Invitation to Christian Discipleship.....Rev. Marshall L. Barnes

*Altar Call.....Rev. Marshall L. Barnes

*Benediction.....Rev. Marshall L. Barnes

**Standing*

***Seating Worshippers*