



West Side Window

Volume 29, Issue 31

August 15, 2021

Empty Spaces

Empty space gets filled. Have you never noticed this phenomenon when you move into a larger house? You think to yourself “Oh, I’ll have so much room now!” But no...as time goes on various things encroach upon that space.

You *thought* you were going to have a home office? Joke’s on you when it becomes your wife’s craft storage room.

If you have empty space you might want to figure out what you want to do with it fairly quickly, or someone else might make that decision for you.

Jesus once told a story of a man who finally got rid of an evil spirit. However, the departure of the spirit left an empty space. Then the spirit says, “I will return to the house I left.” When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that man is worse than the first (Matthew 12:43-45). Empty space gets filled, and often it gets filled with junk—or worse. This man’s problem was that the house was “unoccupied.” But if someone else was already there he would have told the evil spirits to take a hike.

We all have to make decisions about what is going to fill the spaces in our lives. If we don’t make the decision the decision gets made for us. So, as for my house, may it be filled with the Lord! If you notice that you have a free half hour in the morning, decide what you’ll spent it on. Why not make that a devotional time to start the day off right? I think that would benefit you greatly, but you have to decide to use that space for that purpose. Otherwise, something else, perhaps something much less wholesome, will come in to gobble that half hour up. Then your final condition is worse than if you never had that half-hour free to begin with.

If there is junk in your life, clear it out. But don’t just leave the space empty. Fill it with what is good. May God fill us with His goodness so there is no room for evil in our lives. May we all decide that empty spaces belong to God.

Doug Wells

Camden Avenue church of Christ

Parkersburg, WV

He has told you men what is good and what it is the Lord requires of you: Only to act justly, and to love faithfulness and to walk humbly with your God.”

Micah 6:8

*Snickers
Corner*



“Well, enough about me.

Let’s talk about you:

What do you think of me?”

Services

Sunday Morning Class
9:30a

Worship: 10: 30a
(Also live-streamed)

**No Sunday Evening
Service**

Wednesday Bible Study
7p

Preacher

Michael Gors

Elders

Michael Gors

Gary Reynolds

Todd Stults

Deacons

Don Allison
Fellowship

Jim Clark
Visitation

Lowell Huffman
Media

Those Whom

We Support

INDIA

Bible Correspondence
Course/ Bibles

Leaders in Worship

August 15, 2021

Announcements: Don Allison

Song Leader: Lowell Huffman

Opening Prayer: Bill Smith

Scripture: Steve Gors

Lord's Table: Volker Jaromin

Sermon: Mike Gors

Closing Prayer: Rex Harper

Sound Room: Jacob Clark

Bible Study, August 18th

Song Leader: Jimmy Clark

Devo: Don Allison

Prayer: Mike Gors

Remember Calls and Cards to Our Shut-ins

Anna Funk--Morrison
Woods

Carl Gilstrap--Albany
Health Care

Howard Latta--
Elmcroft Assisted liv-
ing

“It is not fitting,
when in God’s ser-
vice, to have a
gloomy face or a
chilling look.”

Unknown

“Good intentions like
good eggs will spoil un-
less they are hatched.”

Self Discovery

Within my earthly temple there’s a crowd:

There’s one of us that’s humble, one that’s proud.

There’s one that’s brokenhearted for his sins

And one who, unrepentant, sits and grins.

There’s one who loves his neighbor as himself

And one who cares for naught but fame and pelf.

From such corroding care I would be free

If once I could determine which is me

Selected



We hope you find us sincere in our wish to follow and to teach the gospel of Christ. Our aim is to follow the example of the New Testament church in word and deed, wanting to add nothing nor take anything away from scripture. If you have any questions or concerns concerning anything you have seen or heard here today, the Elders will be glad to speak with you. If you wish to wear a mask while here, please feel free to do so. Communion packets, contribution baskets and masks are placed at both double doors. Visitor cards are available in each seating row. We hope to have the pleasure of seeing you again.

Welcome

Cornerstone

*I rejoice in my life because the
lamp still glows;*

I seek no thorny ways;

I love the small pleasures of life.

If the doors are too low, I bend;

*If I can remove a stone from the
path, I do so;*

If it is too heavy, I go round it.

*I find something in every day that
pleases me.*

*The cornerstone, my belief in God,
makes my heart glad and my face
shining.*

Goethe's Mother

Happy Birthday

Teresa Cox--August 18

Joan Odle--August 20

Lela Proctor--August 23

Jane Clark—August 30



Please Pray for

April Stinson, Cancer. Friend of Genny

Casey Robinson and His Family

Cliff Nicks, Post heart surgery

Doug Griggs, Attends Waynedale. Covid

Gordon and Brenda Huffman in Crossville, TN

Kathy Harper, Health concerns are escalating

Marty Gors, Struggling with ongoing health issues

Nick Hummel, Cancer

Susan Cloninger, Radiation treatment

Skylar Murphy and Owens Family

Tom Davis, Lung cancer

Wanda Reed

Example

‘Twas a sheep, not a lamb that strayed away.

In the parable Jesus told;

A grown-up sheep that had gone astray

From the ninety and nine in the fold.

Out on the hillside, out in the cold,

‘Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd brought.

And why for the sheep should we earnestly long,

And as earnestly hope and pray?

Because there is danger. If they go wrong,

They will lead the lambs astray;

For the lambs will follow the sheep you know

Wherever the sheep may stray;

When the sheep go wrong, it will not be long

Till the lambs are as wrong as they.

And so with the sheep we earnestly plead,

For the sake of the lambs, today;

If the sheep are lost, what a terrible cost

Some lambs will have to pay!

Author Unknown

Stand Fast

According to the *American Heritage Dictionary of Idioms*, the phrase “stand fast” means, “to be firm or unyielding.” It also reveals that: “This idiom, dating from the early 1600s, originally was applied to an army holding its territory against the enemy.” The phrase “stand fast” occurs in our English Bibles, as well. It is translated from the Greek word “steko” which is defined as, “to stand firm, to persevere, to persist, to keep one’s standing” (*Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon*).

With all this in mind, let’s examine a few of the “stand fast” passages in the New Testament and notice the different ways we are to “stand fast” in holding our territory against our enemy – Satan.

Stand fast for the Lord. “...so stand fast in the Lord, beloved” (Phil. 4:1). First and foremost, we must stand for the Lord. If we don’t stand for Jesus, then we stand for the world. Christ must come first in everything in our lives.

Stand fast in your Christianity. “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage” (Gal. 5:1). Christianity is about maturing and moving forward. Standing fast in this mindset and lifestyle keeps Satan at bay.

Stand fast with the brethren. “Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ...that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel” (Phil. 1:27). Standing fast with the brethren in fellowship, worship, and work strengthens our ties and helps all.

Stand fast on the Bible. “Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle” (2 Thess. 2:15). We must be those who stand upon the Bible and stand by its teachings. We must learn them, live them, and defend them. This keeps us safe.

Stand fast through faith. “Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong” (1 Cor. 16:13). It is only through faith and trust in God that we will do any of these. It is only by standing through thick and thin with our faith intact that we will persevere all the way to heaven.

If we always stand fast in God’s ways, we will be in good standing with Him and He will make sure we stand in heaven forevermore. So Christian – stand up – stand fast – stand your ground – don’t let Satan get any headway.

Edd Sterchi

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