

# The Lakeview Lamp

*“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” - Psalm 119:105*

**September 11, 2005**

## A Possession in Heaven

Troy Nicholson

The writer of **Hebrews** said, *“For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one” (10:34)*. Some versions add *“in heaven”* to the verse, while others leave it out. Whether the phrase belongs in the verse or not, it is understood. Only a possession in heaven is better and more lasting than any other possession.

**It is better.** **Hebrews** is a book about “better” things, and one of those better things is a possession in heaven. The eleventh chapter speaks of those who were willing to leave behind their homes and go where God would lead them because *“they desire a better country, that is a heavenly one” (11:8-16)*. When teaching about the kingdom of heaven, Jesus said that it is like a treasure or great pearl that is so valuable that it is worth selling everything else to obtain it (**Matt 13:44-46**). Heaven is better than the best that this earth has to offer.

**It is lasting.** In **Acts 2:45** we read where the first Christians *“began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.”* We can and should share our earthly possessions, for they won’t last forever anyway. Jesus warns us against storing *“treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal” (Matt 6:19)*. He then goes on to tell us that heavenly possessions are never destroyed or stolen (:20). They will last forever. *“While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal” (2 Cor 4:18)*.

Also, no earthly possession can follow us when we die. The rich man in **Luke 12** learned this lesson the hard way. After deciding to build bigger barns to store all his possessions, the Lord told him that he couldn’t take them with him when he died that very night (:16-20). As the saying goes, hearses don’t have trailer hitches.

What type of possessions do you have for yourself? Are they the best that you can have, better than anything else? Are they lasting, never being affected by storm, thief, or time? *“Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; [qv://0/anchor/23](#)for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matt 6:20-21)*.

What Have You Done for Me Lately?

Greg Gwin

It seems that some in the Lord's church have a very selfish outlook on things. Their view is centered on self, and they are constantly measuring things by the standard of "what has been done for ME!?!". If they are sick, they expect to be visited. If they are down, they want someone to encourage them. If they are in need, they certainly anticipate that someone will step up with the required assistance. If they have a complaint or gripe, they expect that others will quickly arrange things in order to accommodate their whims.

It matters little with such folks that numerous deeds of kindness and consideration have come their way in the past. Their memories are typically pretty short. In reality their view is: "What have you done for me LATELY!?!"

In response to this all-to-common trait among Christians, we would offer these observations:

1. We humbly confess that we can and should do more. The sick need visiting; the downhearted need encouragement; the needy should be helped, and the legitimate concerns of fellow Christians should be honored. In all of these areas, we can improve. May God help us to do so.
2. However, while you are busily searching to see that others are doing these things for you, have you been doing the same for others? Often those who are the most critical are the least active. They expect quick action for themselves, but they seldom provide anything to assist their brethren. Jesus said, "*I came not to be ministered unto, but to minister*" (**Matthew 20:28**). We would all do well to imitate Him in this regard.

Have you gratefully considered the many things that others have already done – and are doing – for you? It is surely an unthankful person who cannot compose a long list of wonderful acts of service that have come from loving, caring, and concerned brothers and sisters in Christ. Think!

***“O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer!” – Psalm 84:8***

# **Family News**

**Hilda Barker**, Sandy Heyboer's mother, had surgery to remove her gall bladder three weeks ago. She returned to the doctor this past week. She still has pain, but is improving and the doctor has released her.

**Virginia Bryant** has a great amount of pain in her right leg and hip. She is scheduled to have a doctor's appointment tomorrow.

**Mary Burnett** is about the same.

**Quinton Coppage** is about the same.

There is a new report from **Alessandro Corazza** in the back.

**Nell Ferrell** was admitted to Hendersonville Hospital (in room # 303) yesterday morning. She has an infection and a high fever. She is on antibiotics.

**Kathy Hollingsworth**, Joyce Werner's niece, had a stroke in June and is not doing well. (Room 90 @ Plummely Rehabilitation Center, Paris TN 38242)

**Sandra Hunt** has a great amount of leg and foot pain. Eventually she will have outpatient surgery to remove some nuts and bolts from her ankle.

**Alvin "John" Jenkins**, Robert's father, remains the same. He continues treatment for lung cancer.

**Richard Jones**, the Boyd's neighbor, has advanced cancer. However, he continues to work and to receive treatments.

**Allen Malone** remains in Vietnam. There is a new report from him in the back. Remember **Dong** who has cancer and is receiving radiation treatments.

**Laura Reed** is about the same.

**Doma Stewart**, a friend of Ame Whites, will have knee replacement surgery on 09/20.

**Brad Stubblefield** had a kidney biopsy three weeks ago. The results were good! He is doing well. However, he is on some new medicine and will have to return to the doctor every three months for follow up.

**Georgia Taylor** is a little better.

**Ame White** received shots on Wednesday that helped some.

Out of town, traveling, or visiting: **Robert & Candy Jenkins; Cindi Malone**

## **Lakeview church of Christ**

**132 New Shackle Island Road**

**P.O. Box 514**

**Hendersonville TN 37077**

**Building: 615-824-1376**

**[www.BibleSaints.com](http://www.BibleSaints.com)**

**Bible Call: 615-824-1310**

Troy Nicholson

[troyjenn@intergate.com](mailto:troyjenn@intergate.com)

*"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).*