

# The Lakeview Lamp

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

**March 19, 2006**

## *"I Know Your Deeds"*

Troy Nicholson

How would you feel if you received a letter in the mail that began by saying, "I know your deeds"? Would it perhaps make you feel a little uneasy? Would you mentally run through what all you had previously done that someone else could possibly know? The seven churches of Asia received such a letter. Jesus began His address to each of them by saying, *"I know your deeds"* (**Rev 2-3**).

Most of us would probably have two main concerns if told by someone else that he knew our deeds. First, *what* deeds? Exactly what does he know about us? Second, what will he *do* about what he knows? How will his knowledge affect us? Let us answer these questions based on what *Jesus* knows about us.

### **What does Jesus know?**

Jesus refers to Himself as *"He who searches hearts and minds"* (**Rev 2:23**). Based on that fact, He lists many things that He knows about the churches of Asia. On a positive note, He knows their patience and perseverance, their testing and lack of tolerance of those who are evil, their love and service, and their faith. But He also knows they have left their first love, the sinful doctrines they hold, and their deadness and lukewarmness. He knows all there is to know about them, just as He does us (**Psalm 139**).

### **What will Jesus do?**

Based on His infinite knowledge, what will Jesus do? He says, *"I will repay each of you according to your deeds"* (**Rev 2:23**). Jesus tells the seven churches that, if they continue in their sin, He will remove their lampstand, will fight against them with the sword of His mouth, will cast them into great tribulation, and will spit them out of His mouth. But He also tells them that, if they will be faithful to Him, He will give to eat from the tree of life, will give them the crown of life, will confess their name before His Father and before His angels, and will grant them to sit with Him on His throne. We can rest assured that we will be judged in the same manner, *"For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad"* (**2 Cor 5:10**).

Jesus knows our deeds and will judge us accordingly. It is up to us to determine they are going to be. What will they be for you?

# *Your Funeral*

Larry Ray Hafley

Preaching a funeral is never an easy task. The only positive thing about it is that it is an opportunity to preach the gospel (**1 Cor. 9:16; 2 Tim. 4:2**).

Some funerals are difficult because of personal ties to the deceased. Others are painful because of friendship with those who have lost a loved one. None are easy or without sorrow, but perhaps those that are the least difficult to preach are those of aged, devout saints. The most difficult ones are those where the dead one is almost certainly lost forever. The word of God refers to those who die devoid of hope (**1 Thess. 4:13**). To preach the funeral of a young adult who has died without Christ is beyond agony for all involved.

Someone will preach your funeral. Under any circumstances, it will be a challenging ordeal. However, is your life making such an event worse?

What comfort can we give your family during the funeral service? Can we console them with the thought that you are “better off” (**Luke 16:25**)? Can we truthfully say that you have “gone to be with the Lord” (**Phil. 1:23**)? Will we be able to say that we look forward to the blessed time when we can join you “on the other side”?

If the answer to those questions is, “no,” you need to obey the Lord and be saved (**John 3:16, 36; Acts 2:38; 16:31**). Do not be caught dead without life in the Lord. Do not add to the burdens of those of us who love you when we come to your funeral.



Preacher’s point – Solomon said, “*It is better to go to a house of mourning than to go to a house of feasting, for death is the destiny of every man; the living should take this to heart*” (**Ecc1 7:2**). The next time you are at a funeral home to see someone who has died, “take it to heart” that death is also your destiny. Someday people will be attending your funeral. Take this to heart while you are among “the living,” for once you are among the dead it will be too late. In fact, don’t even wait until you are at “a house of mourning,” for the next time you are there the mourning may be for you.

*“Turn to me and have mercy on me; grant your strength to your servant.” – Psalm 86:16*

# **Family News**

**Neil Barker**, Sandy Heyboer's father, was transferred from WMC to Harpeth Terrace this past Wednesday. He is receiving therapy there to help with his walking. He has two doctor appointments on Tuesday.

**Bob Bunting**, a preacher who some here knew, passed away yesterday.

**Mary Burnett** had the flu, but is now doing and feeling better.

**Linda Clark**, James Fuller's mother, has very severe breathing problems.

**Connie Cobern** is now doing better.

**Sandra Hunt** continues to have a high pain level in her right shoulder and arm. The doctor is monitoring and may give her a shot if there is no improvement.

**John Jenkins**, Robert's father, has lung cancer. He continues to sleep a lot.

**Ruth Kelly**, who used to be a member here, had cancer in the past. It is now back and is in major organs. The outlook is not good.

**Allen Malone** remains in Vietnam. There is a new report from him in the back of the auditorium. He will return home at the end of this month. After a long and hard battle with cancer, **Dong** passed away this past week.

**Fran Pickens** continues to not feel very well.

**Laura Reed** continues to be about the same.

**Georgia Taylor** continues to have many health problems.

**Ame White** is receiving some rehabilitation now and is more tired from it.

**Robert Wray's** eyesight continues to deteriorate.

**Michael Zoladz**, Joyce Werner's 46-year-old nephew, has inoperable brain cancer. The outlook is not good. He has a wife and twin 17-year-old children.

Out of town, traveling, or visiting: **Bonnie Sue Brown** (out in AM, here PM); **Virginia Bryant** (out in AM, here PM); **Robert & Candy Jenkins; Cindi Malone** (out in AM, here PM).

# Lakeview church of Christ

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Building: 615-824-1376

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

Bible Call: 615-824-1310

## Sunday:

Bible class 9 am

Assembly 10 am

Worship 6 pm

## Wednesday:

Bible study 7 pm

Troy Nicholson

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