

Men of Zebulon undivided Loyalty

By Buc Chumbley

has been said that a narcissist is a person who is unable to commit to anything outside of himself. He moves from one relationship to another, from one job to another, from one friendship to another never staying in one place long enough to make anything stick. He promises and then makes excuses when he breaks them. His life might best be described with the motto "here today and gone tomorrow."

As I think about the life of a narcissist, a passage came to mind from 1 Chronicles 12. In this chapter, the author lists the soldiers who came to David's aid when he was in Ziklag. These soldiers came from the various tribes in Israel realizing that even though David was not king over Israel yet, God's hand was upon him and he was bound to replace Saul sooner or later.

So, you have the list of men from Benjamin, Gad, Manasseh, and so on. Perhaps the most famous are the men of Issachar who in 1 Chronicles 12.32 are described as men who "understood the times and knew what Israel should do." Many sermons have been preached in praise of these men of Issachar and well should there be. But too often we forget to read the very next verse which describes the men of Zebulon. They are described as men "of Zebulun there were fifty thousand who went out to battle, expert in war with all weapons of war, stouthearted men who could keep ranks," *1 Chronicles 12.33*.

Here you have a great number of troops who came to David ready to fight. They showed up in full battle gear, shield and spears and bows, ready to go to battle at a moment's notice. But that is not their finest quality. Their most

Buc Chumbley
Harvest, Alabama

Buc Chumbley was born and raised in central Illinois and fled the frozen tundra of the prairie to move to Alabama in 1978, after graduating from Florida College in 1977. After working in the secular world for 16 years, Buc began preaching full time at the Westview congregation in Athens, Alabama in August of 1996. Since then, Buc has worked with churches in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, Hueytown and Athens, Alabama. He has been with the Capshaw congregation since 2019. Buc met his wife Martha Threet in Florence, Alabama in 1978. They have been married since September 1982. Buc and Martha have 4 children, David (Michelle Fallin), Catherine Smith (James), Will, and Molly and one grandchild, Jase.

outstanding quality was that they were men "who could keep ranks", NAS "undivided heart", NIV "undivided loyalty."

These were men David could count on through thick and thin, good times and the bad. These are men who would say to David, "where you lead, we will follow"

Wouldn't be wonderful if everyone who claimed Jesus Christ as Lord had the same attitude? That instead of saying to Him, "I will follow as long as I agree with where you are taking me", we give ourselves totally to His Will and leadership. If we did then we would have the un-divided heart of the men of Zebulun. \square



In Good Times and Bad

By Wilson Adams

easy to give God the glory when you have great friends and family, and enjoy wonderful health and happiness. It's easy to praise Him when others surround you in like mind and your voice is joined in a chorus of hundreds. It's easy to be thankful when you walk along a quiet beach or sit atop a mountain where you can see forever. It's easy then.

And I have had those times. You have, too.

There are "mountaintop" days when your cup is filled to overflowing, days when you can't thank Him enough. The simple song, "God is so good," seems to be on "repeat" as it plays in your mind. In fact, you wake up to the message of *Psalm 118:24* — "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Indeed. I love those days. Unfortunately, there aren't enough of them.

Psalm 145 is filled to overflowing with bounty and blessing. "Every day I will bless Thee, and I will praise Thy name forever and ever," Psalm 145:2. Yet in the midst of this beginning-to-end song of praise, there is this realistic reminder: "The Lord sustains all who fall, and raises up all who are bowed down," Psalm 145:14. There will be days when we fall, days when we are bowed down.

Hence, Can we bring Him glory when times aren't so good? Can we praise Him in spite of the pain? Can we thank Him in the midst of trials? Can we trust Him when we don't understand?

Job's response to Mrs. Job sums up the struggle, Job 2:10: "Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" What do I tell the young mom struggling with two toddlers in tow and feeling completely overwhelmed? Or what do I say to the sister that has buried a spouse or to the brother that looks into the mirror and speaks the word he never thought he would hear: "Cancer?" What words can be said to the one struggling through a divorce or to the family facing the loss of their home to a natural calamity?

In those moments of intensified emotion, the words, "Praise God!" ring hollow. Yet, in the aftermath of each situation just described, He can be praised. Looking back on life's toughest days, we can give Him the glory for what He could see when we couldn't. Have you never prayed for an outcome only to be denied, and then later been thankful that God didn't give you what you thought you wanted? At the time of denial, our selfishness made it hard to praise Him. Given time and opportunity for reflection, it becomes easier.

One mark of spiritual maturity is to learn to glorify Him in days of delight and days of distress. After the Nashville flood of 2010, I made a list of lessons learned to our benefit.

We learned that we are not in control.

We learned that people are more important than possessions.

We learned to quit complaining about insignificant stuff.

We learned that God has given man an indomitable spirit.

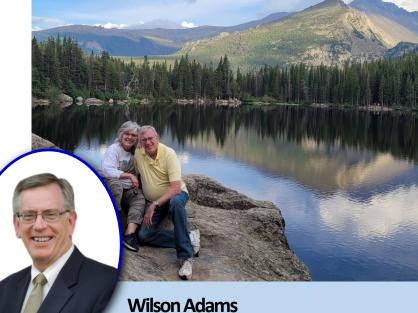
We learned that things could change in an instant.

We learned to thank Him for our safety.

We learned that after the storm comes a rainbow of hope.

Can God be glorified when times are hard and circumstances difficult? Yes.

When a friend's wife died just shy of their 30th wedding anniversary,



Murfreesboro. Tennessee

Wilson Adams and his wife, Julie, live in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Two years ago Wilson stepped down after 10 years with the Veterans Parkway church in Murfreesboro, where he served as an elder and preacher. He preaches for area congregations that do not have a preacher and devotes his time to meeting work across the county. They have four children, and seven grandchildren. He has a passion for writing and is the author of the Courageous Living series of study guides. Adams is the author of "Around the House," "Around the House-Again," "Turning Point," and co-author of "A Life Lost and Found—A Journey of Hope and Healing."

he was given wisdom perspective when presented with this question. "If God had sat you down thirty years ago and said, You can have her, but only for thirty years'—what would have been your decision?" He responded, "I would have still said, 'Yes!' and been thankful." His friend paused and replied, "God gave you those thirty years." He learned there and then to glorify God for the time that he had. It's a faith-perspective that, sometimes, only tragedy allows you to find.

The song "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" was taken from something Job said in Job 19:25. It's one of those hymns we sing with great fervor and emotion. It's also easy to conclude that whomever wrote those original words must have been experiencing a mountaintop moment unlike any other. Friend, Job wrote those words and . . . he wasn't sitting on a mountain. In fact, he was at one of the lowest ebbs of life. Even then, his faith stirred him to look past his troubles and glorify God for what he knew.

Life is hard and some days it gets harder. Ask God for help to see the good. Satan will do everything he can to convince you otherwise. Don't listen to that liar. Put your trust in the One who can see what you cannot see. Be thankful for what you have. And keep your eye cocked toward heaven.

Good times or bad—Glory to His name! □



Jonathan Reeder is no stranger to Weatherly. But, much has changed since he was last with us. Jonathan met Kate Kokemiller at the Kimberly Road church in Davenport, Iowa during his teaching tenor at the University of Iowa; the two wed in 2022. Jonathan & Kate are expecting their first child in July. Reeder is a North Alabama native. He has preached for churches in Tennessee, Alabama, Florida, and Iowa. He has also worked in higher education for state universities, but now dedicates his time to studying and teaching the Bible. Reeder began working as a located evangelist of the Jones Road church in June 2023. This is his third series with us.

God is Not Mad at You No Matter What, Really?

By Jonathan Reeder

any churches these days put inspirational messages on their signs. Occasionally these are uplifting. Often they inspire laughter more than godly living. Sometimes, however, they are simply wrong. In Huntsville, Impact Ministries has a sign which reads, "God is not mad at you no matter what." Is that teaching found in the Bible?

What would Nadab and Abihu say if they saw this sign? These two sons of Aaron had experienced events the likes of which the world had never seen nor will see. They had seen the might of God in plaguing Egypt and parting the Red Sea. They had been given water, food, and protection by God in the wilderness. They saw God's glory on Mount Sinai and ate and drank before Him, Exodus 24:9-11. In Leviticus 8-9, they were consecrated as the first priests of Israel. What amazing experiences these men had! Even more amazing then, was their act of diso-

bedience in chapter 10 of Leviticus. For this error God destroyed them by fire. Take the time to read the first seven verses of this chapter. Again I ask, what would they say about this church's sign?

What would Moses say? Moses truly was one of the greatest men ever to have lived. He knew God more closely than perhaps any other human being. He spoke with God at the burning bush and later spent over a month on Mount Sinai talking with God. Due to his request, God allowed Moses to see some form of His glory pass by. Once God rebuked Miriam and Aaron, noting how He spoke with Moses "face to face," Numbers 12:1-8. But we read in chapter 20 of the book of Numbers that God punished Moses severely for disobedience. Despite all this man had done to lead Israel from Egypt to Canaan, because of his sin he was not allowed to enter the Promised Land he had been dreaming of his entire life. As he later said, "The Lord was angry with me...and swore that I would not cross the Jordan, and that I would not enter the good land which the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance," Deuteronomy 4:21. God was angry with Moses. Imagine if he had an opportunity to speak with this church.

What would Uzzah say if he saw this sign? This man lived in the days of King David. The Ark of the Covenant was being brought in Jerusalem with great honor and celebration. One thing was wrong: they weren't transporting the ark as God commanded. He had given strict instructions on how to carry the ark. It was made with rings on the four corners and was to be transported by two rods inserted through the rings on either side. These people, however, were moving it on a cart. When the ox stumbled, Uzzah touched the ark to steady it. Instantly, he was dead. "Then the anger of the Lord as aroused against Uzzah..." 1 Chronicles 13:10.

What would Ananias and Sapphira say if they saw this sign? This married couple was among the first Chris-



Weatherly Weekly MAY 5, 2024 MAY 5, 2024 tians to be converted. The church had been planned in the mind of God before time began. He exerted His power and providence throughout all history to bring about the church. Just to think that Ananias and Sapphira were among the first to become God's spiritual people! They were among the first people to truly enjoy the grace and forgiveness of the Lord. However, we read in Acts 5:1-11 of their pride and how they lied to God. For this sin they were instantly struck dead. Oh, if they could speak to the Impact Ministry of Huntsville!

In the New Testament we read of a day that is coming on which God will execute His fierce, righteous wrath against all sin and ungodliness, *2 Thessalonians 1:6-10*. More Scriptures could be examined to show that God, at times, is clearly angry with sin. The error of this church's sign has been exposed. But there is more under the surface.

You see, this sign is not just the result of ignorance of the book of God, but an indication of what many people want to believe. More and more these days God is seen as a kind, doting grandfather who just wants you to climb up in his lap and would never do anything to punish you. Life is easier with no guilt or fear or punishment. This is not what the Scriptures teach and is a lie of our Adversary. This belief perverts what the Bible says about God and attempts to make Him what we want Him to be. There is no God but one and we have no choice of gods. We cannot change Him, so why not learn to love and respect Him?

God warns us of this deception: "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived..." 1 Corinthians 6:9. And again, "For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience," Ephesians 5:5-6. The idea that one can live his or her own sinful lifestyle and not be punished is false. God is merciful and loving. All you have to do is read through the old Testament to see that. Many times Israel deserved to be annihilated, but God repeatedly displayed His mercy and love. But we cannot close our eyes to His justice.

God is merciful, God is just. Love and fear Him. "therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off' Romans 11:22.

Be a Second Fiddle

By Michael W. McLemore

he great orchestra conductor and composer, the late Leonard Bernstein, was once asked, "What's the most difficult instrument to play?" "Second fiddle," Bernstein responded. "I can get plenty of first violinists, but I have a hard time getting someone to play second fiddle. Yet if no one plays second, we have no harmony."

What Bernstein experienced while assembling exquisite orchestras local churches have wrestled with for centuries. Paul cautioned the people of God against a "first-chair" mindset — "complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind," *Philippians 2:2*. Harmony will never be achieved apart from functioning *one-mindedness* in our local fellowship.

Inspiration identifies the Christian's model for cooperation by highlighting the seminal motive of

"Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped," *Philippians 2:5-6*

the Son of God in God's redemptive work, *i.e.* the mindset of Christ — "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves," *Philippians 2:3*.

Jesus died for "the interests of others," 4. He divested Himself of His place; assuming the role of a "slave man," then dying an "accursed death" on a Roman tree, brought beautiful harmony to the redemptive plan of God, 7-8. Because He chose "second fiddle" we can savor the harmony of God's salvation.

Once that divinely orchestrated harmony was achieved heaven and earth could do nothing but bow and "confess that Jesus Christ is Lord," 11.

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Hope, Because Jesus is **Pisen**!

By Mitch Davis

uffering, in its grand scheme, helps us to look beyond ourselves and see an All-knowing and wise Creator who cares for and comforts those who place their trust in Him for eternal comfort from this sinful world. While this knowledge consoles many, such experiences were never meant to give us a genuine hope. No, it was our risen Savior, who suffered at the hands of this sinful world through whom we enjoy a genuine hope for eternal comfort.

The apostle Paul knew this both from a conviction he long held before coming to know Jesus as the Christ, *Acts 23:8*, but also because as a hostile enemy of the Lord's church, witnessed with his own eyes the resurrected Jesus, *Acts 9:1-9; Acts 8:3*. Because of this he said to the church at Corinth.

"Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed. Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, then our



Mitch Davis grew up on Maui, Hawaii living in the community of Lahaina, while in High School. He met an Athens, Alabama native, Julie (Lambert), after being introduced by her sister, Stephanie Lambert Watson. The two have been married 30 years, have 7 children, and 3 grandchildren. Davis began preaching (1991) in Missouri, working fulltime with the brethren in Macon, MO., before moving to St. Louis where he worked with L.A. Stauffer. Afterward he moved to the south Metro Atlanta community of Fayetteville, GA. where he labored 15 years. Mitch has been working with the Franklin church in Franklin, TN. for the last 14 years.

preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable," *1 Corinthians* 15:1–19, NKJV.

The fact and reality is that Jesus died, then rose from the dead according to prophetic scripture and is the reason why we have such a hope that we declare the glorious gospel to the lost. It is through our risen Savior we can trust God to get us through this suffering world, on to a better home. A place where there is no more sorrow and shed tears. Amen. \square



May 5, 2024





News and Notes of Interest to Weatherly Members

2024 A Mind to Work — Together, Nurturing the Believers' Mindset May: Pressing On, "Created to climb."

Family Updates

Prayers:

Lynn Franklin is scheduled for surgery on Wednesday, May 8th at Crestwood. Please continue praying for Lynn, Gail and the family. The biopsy proved "non-conclusive" but the surgery is going forward.

We have been asked to pray for our dear sister Peggy Childress. She is experiencing respiratory issues on top of her other problems. **Terry** is understandably very concerned for her. Say her name often to the Lord.

Ron Harmon has moved to Signature Healthcare, 105 Teakwood Drive SW. We are pleased that he has improved and can resume his rehab. We are continuing to pray for both Ron & Phyllis. At this printing she remains in room 571 at Huntsville Hospital. The echocardiogram revealed no serious finding. Her doctor is changing one of her meds. We are praying that she will be back to 100% soon.

Silvia Henderson left today (Thursday) for Maryland. Her sister, Kiki Castaneira, is struggling with the new treatments. Please pray for Kiki and for Silvia as she travels.

Davis Stoll received a good report from the endoscopy. He is being treated with medication for inflammation the doctor believes is related to allergies. Good news.

Ciera Elledge continues on our prayer list as she weighs what direction she goes next in treating her cancer. She is hoping for a some positive news from her recent visit to MD Anderson. Please pray for Ciera and her family,

McLemore, had to be re-admitted to a New Orleans area hospital last week after suffering from severe pain in his affected leg. Charlie is not doing well. Please remember him and his

Jack Taft continues to need our prayers. He

Please be mindful of those in our family who struggle with chronic illness or the effects of aging — Peggy Childress, Peggy Monroe, Glenda Cavender, Edith Turner, Melvin Godette, Maragem Harbin, Carolynn Barr, Betty Dubose, Ron & Phyllis Harmon, Jim Risner, Harold Smith & Wanda Castleman.

Lecture Week at Weatherly

WELCOME GUESTS! It's lecture week at Weatherly Heights. We are thrilled you are here. Remember our upcoming schedule for the remaining event: Thursday 7 pm, Friday 10 am & 7 pm, Saturday 9-11 am & Sunday at 2-4 pm. Help us welcome our guest preachers for the series — Wilson Adams (Friday Night only), Buc Chumbley, Mitch Davis & Jonathan **Reeder**. This is going to be a great week. We will give you a guest card as a record of your visit. This will also allow us to notify you of future events at Weatherly.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1111111111111111111	5-7	Bill Reavis	5-8	Hill Roberts
Calendar Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fd St	5-9	Ruth Mitchell	5-11	Gail Franklin
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	5-12	Betty Dubose	5-14	Sarah Starks
12 13 14 15 16 17 19 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 19 20 30 31	5-17	Megan Caudle	5-23	Terry Childress
26 27 28 29 3	5-23	Melvin Godette	5-24	Lynn Franklin

Charlie Beber, brother of our Gwyn family to the Lord this week.

was released from the hospital and, Sandra said, "He promptly began to do outdoor activities. Imagine that."

> phone calls, visits, letters, and other means of encouragement. Rather than "I'd like to, but..." we can simply get involved—no excuses (NOTE: aren't they so easy to make to excuse ourselves from the greatest work any Christian can be involved?).

Lord.

So, instead of looking back at the "reasons" or justifications we used not to do something—especially when they don't seem as convincing or worthy compared to the valuable task at hand—why don't we just do it.

Wanna Get Involved?

ver heard or said any of the following well intended state-

ments (just finish the statement to

make it sound 'well intended')? "I

word, but..." Or, "I sure would en-

tians, having Bible studies, or en-

couraging others, but..."

joy getting together with other Chris-

Like many Christians I've been

guilty of saying the same things from

time to time. For many, these words

missed opportunities to serve, evan-

brethren, neighbors, co-workers, etc.

forward to the opportunities that are

Consider the fact that daily we

word with a community in desperate

need to hear the words of salvation.

Or, the many brethren that could use

have the honor of sharing God's

before us regarding the work of the

haunt us when looking back at

gelize, or encourage the lost, our

Instead of looking back, let's look

would love to evangelize God's

Mitch Davis





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TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes 9:00 am **Sunday Devotion** 9:35 am **Sunday Assembly** 10:10 am **Wednesday Classes** 7:00 pm

> Stay informed and engaged online at www.weatherlychurch.com

WATCH:



Sermon archive or live stream during all Weatherly services



Weatherly's Shepherds

256 883-0010 Tommy Hill 256 883-5273 Will Starks

Evangelist

Michael W. McLemore 256 698-5941 Email: mmclemore@weatherlychurch.com

Weatherly's Deacons

Phil Furlough Kirk Hatcher Hill Roberts **Bobby Wright** Steve Hagewood **David Jacks** Collis Terry



These are asked to assist in our labor.

Sunday, May 5th, 2 PM

Sunday, May 12th

Devotion

Will Starks

Welcome: Song Leader:

Bible Skillz

Will Starks Tommy Hill **David Jacks** Mel Ambrose

Devotion

Mike McLemore

Opening Prayer: Mike McLemore **Devotion Leader:**

None

Mike McLemore None

Assembly Worship Assembly Worship

Opening Praver: Phil Shaver Lord's Table Lead: Ed Dill **Tommy Hill** 1 Samuel 1

Sermon: Jonathan Reeder Mike McLemore

Buc Chumbley & Mitch Davis The Gift of Mother

Closing Prayer: Will Starks Mike Watson

> Wednesday, May 15th Wednesday, May 8th

Songs Leader: Phil Furlough **David Jacks** Mike McLemore Mike McLemore Invitation: **Closing Prayer:** Riley Monroe Wes Caudle

2024 Weatherly Heights Lectures

May 2-5, 2024

"Pressing On"

Buc Chumley, Jonathan Reeder

Mitch Davis & Wilson Adams

Quarterly Adult Classes April – June 2024

AUDITORIUM SUNDAY

"Am I My Brother's Keeper?" Mike McLemore & Mel Ambrose

AUDITORIUM WEDNESDAY

The Big Picture Bible

Hill Roberts

Serving in May

Serving on the Lord's

Table AM & PM ** Ed Dill (5-5), P (5-12), ** Overseer M (5-19), P (5-26)

Building Lockup Bobby Wright

