

# Tidings From Timothy

**H**appiness and Joy are much sought after but can seem elusive. God tells us plainly how these things are found in the Christian life and we will study on the subject of “Joy” this morning. Tonight is the youth service.

**Bible Bowl subjects announced:** Westside in Livingston has released info on the Bible text for this year’s Bible Bowl – Matthew 26-28. The text in easy to memorize sections is available on the desk out front.

**In Need of Prayer:** By the time you read this, Mary D. Jackson should be in the rehab part of the nursing home. Kariana Rowland has been in the hospital with an infection. Rachel Bartley had some tests done and has a “leaky valve”. Chan Rowland as been in the hospital. Jimmy Crabtree, from a family I have been studying with, is in the local hospital - he has brain cancer. Charlie Strode has been in the local hospital. Destiny Kinzel is in Vanderbilt.

**Upcoming Events:** Tonight is our youth service with special events to follow. This will be at **5pm** instead of the usual time.

## CRUCIFIXION

And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him” (Luke 23:23). “Crucify Him, crucify Him!” No words were more dreaded by the criminal of Jesus' day than were these (Mark 15:6-14). No death was so thorough; no shame so complete. When Paul tells us of the humiliation of Jesus in Philippians 2:5-8, culminating in the statement, “He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross,” he is announcing the most loving act of God toward man. As John stated, “The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us” (John 1:14).

Modern man may find it difficult to appreciate the ancient attitude toward this method of capital punishment. Paul said, “cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree” (Gal. 3:13). It was a wretched way to die. It was reserved for the worst of criminals. Cicero once described it as “the most cruel and terrifying punishment.” The Hebrew writer said that Jesus “endured the cross, despising the shame” (Heb. 12:2).

Before Jesus was crucified, the Bible says, “Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged Him” (John 19:1). Scourging was called the “little death.” It preceded the “big death,” crucifixion. At this time Jesus was severely whipped. Although the severity of the scourging is not discussed in the four gospel accounts, it is implied in one of the epistles (I Peter 2:24). It is not known whether the number of lashes was limited to 39 in accordance with Jewish law. When a man was scourged, there was pain beyond the memory of pain. Only the Son of God could hold back the high-pitched screams of unbearable pain; and we are not told that He did or did not. When you contemplate these things, perhaps these words of Isaiah will have deeper meaning: “But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed” (Isa. 53:5).

Following the scourging, there was a parade to the execution grounds. Roman politicians liked to make an example of condemned men. The parade was long and slow through public streets; this was designed to serve as a warning to others that Rome dealt quickly and mercilessly. It was also a time when taunting and mocking of the condemned would take place. The Bible says, “And after they had mocked Him...they led Him away to crucify Him” (Matt. 27:1). “And there followed Him a great company of people” (Luke 23:27). “And He, bearing His cross, went forth into a place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha” (John 19:17).

Next Jesus was fastened to the cross. Historians of this type of punishment tell us that the condemned was held by four soldiers, and a centurion (who served as the executioner) would drive five to seven inch iron spikes into both the hands and feet. The wounds in the hands would send fire down through the arms; fainting only relieved the pain temporarily; it was darkness and

pain then pain and darkness. The pain in the back, arms, hands, feet, and crotch was a dull, throbbing, terrible, endless pain. The pain builds up, it multiplies; there is not a moment of relief.

Below the cross the curious wait, fascinated by the torture. Like vultures, they are eager for blood! This gruesome scene is played out slowly. Dying should be a private thing, not a public spectacle. There is something obscene about being watched by a mob of people standing around waiting for you to die. (cont. on page 4)

On the cross, thirst sets in; water is denied! What has happened up till now is child's play. One by one the muscles of the back gather in tight knotty cramps. There is no escaping them, no pulling out of them, there are no gentle massaging hands to ease them away. After two hours on a cross, every muscle in the body is locked in solid knots. Many men shrieked themselves into insanity on the cross.

Can you now appreciate His cry, "My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?" (Matt. 27:46). "It is finished" (John 18:30) are beautiful words. Now, there is nothing more that they can do to My Lord! CHRIST WAS CRUCIFIED! He took your place and mine; We were all lost, doomed, hopeless; but He bought us back and, there on the cross obtained eternal redemption for us (I Pet. 1:18-25; I John 2:2). It was our sins that sent Him to the cross; it was His boundless love that held Him there. We sing, "Jesus paid it all, ALL to Him I owe; Sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow." Have you taken advantage of what Jesus did for you by becoming obedient from the heart to His commands (Rom. 6:17-18)?

--Paul Wilmoth--

### ***What must I do?***

- **Hear the Gospel - Acts 15:7**
- **Believe the Gospel - Mark 16:15,16**
- **Repent of Sins - Acts 17:30**
- **Confess Christ - Rom. 10:9,10**
- **Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins - Acts 2:38**

Then, as a Christian we must:

- **LIVE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH - REV. 2:10**

Ailey Grace Strong	01/27	Jarad Bartley
01/30		
Tara Harlan	01/27	David White
02/01		
Connie McHenry	01/27	Mary Doyle
Clements	02/02	
Keaton Rich	01/27	Mary Ruth
Emberton	02/02	
Larry Copas	01/28	Willodean
Geralds	02/02	
Calvin Shaw	01/28	Kayla Murray
02/02		
Ramsey Kate Bartley	01/30	

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Birthdays:

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**1/27/2013 Mt. Gilead  
 church of Christ**

PO Box 266, 1189 Mt. Gilead Rd.,  
 Tompkinsville, KY 42167 • 270-487-  
 5342 • <http://mtgileadchurch.net>

**Verses for the Lord's Supper:**

**Galatians 4:4-5** <sup>4</sup>But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, <sup>5</sup>To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Elders:

Keith Dyer.....427-  
 4105  
 Veachel Harlan.....487-  
 5727  
 Roger Deckard.....487-  
 8544  
 Steve Carter.....487-  
 8746

Deacons: Larry Copas, Cass Thomas Froedge,  
 Bobby D. Gerald, Bobby Harlan, Kevin  
 Deckard, Jimmy High, Ray C. Lyon, Michael  
 McPherson, Gary Rowland

Evangelist:

Tim McHenry, 931-258-3494  
 12955 Clay Co. HWY Moss, TN

38575

Schedule of Services:

**Sunday:**

Bible Study...

9:30am

Morning Worship...

10:05am

Evening Worship...

6pm

**Wednesday:**

Bible Study...

7pm

**Listen to our Sunday Morning Radio  
 Sermon on WTKY 1370 AM & 92.1, 102.7,  
 101.5 FM at 8:30am each week, and to our  
 weekday 10min program after the Noonday  
 news.**