

## I'D FINISH THE GAME

One day a group of men were playing ball when one of them had a sobering thought. "What would you do," he inquired, "if you suddenly were made to know that this would be your last day on earth?"

There were several different answers to the question. Some would rush immediately to the church building and pray; some would rush to those they had wronged and make wrongs right; others would run to pay obligations that were past due. But one man thought seriously for a moment and said, "I think I would just play the rest of this ball game."

This is the attitude of a faithful Christian. Since the time of Christ's second coming is uncertain, we are instructed to be ready at all times. Notice Matt. 24:42-44 reads, *"Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."*

We do not know when Christ will come again, we do not know when we will die, and we do not know what's going to happen in the future. *"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."* (Jas. 4:14) Therefore, we need to be ready at all times. *Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober.* (1 Thes. 5:5-6) This passage is directed to us: children of the light and of the day. Let us be alert and prepared and watchful.

Peter tells us to *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."* (1 Pet. 5:8). Sober means to be of sound mind, free from the influence of intoxicants. Vigilant means to be watchful, spiritually alert, keep awake. Do not be like the disciples who could not stay awake an hour while Jesus prayed in Gethsemane. *"Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and the*

two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy." (Matt. 26:36-43)

Do not be like the Rich Young Ruler (Matt. 19) who went away sorrowful because he had great possessions. Jesus said, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (Matt. 6:19-21).

Do not be like Rich Fool who was busy building greater barns. "And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits? And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." (Lk. 12:15-21)

Do not be like Felix who was waiting for a convenient season. "And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee." (Acts 24:25) There is no time like now. The Bible tells us "behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." (1 Cor. 6:2)

If we were told that Jesus was coming today, could we say we are ready? Would we have to rush out and get a few things in order

first? Or could we finish the game, knowing that we have made all the necessary preparations?

Based on a sermon by RAY McMANUS,  
Preached about a month before his death.  
He finished the game.

## **INSURANCE POLICY ETERNAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**

### SOME ESSENTIAL FACTS

Founder	Jesus Christ	Matthew 16:18
Place	Jerusalem	Acts 2
Date	Pentecost	Acts 2:1
Home Office	Heaven	John 14:1,2
Rate Book	The Bible	II Timothy 2:15

### ITS PRESENT STANDING

Capital	Riches in Christ	Ephesians 3:8
Reserve Funds	Inexhaustible	II Corinthians 12:9
Liabilities	He accepts all	John 6:37
Surplus	Above asking	Ephesians 3:20
Dividends	Hundredfold plus	Mark 10:30

### HOW TO SECURE A POLICY

Hearing	Faith by Hearing	Romans 10:17
Believing	On Christ	Acts 16:31
Repentance	God's Command	Acts 17:30
Confession	With the Mouth	Romans 10:10
Baptism	For the Remission of Sins	Acts 2:38

### HOW TO KEEP THE POLICY IN FORCE

Pray	Without Ceasing	I Thessalonians 5:17
Pay	Each week	I Corinthians 16:2
Add	Virtues	I Peter 1: 5-7
Attend	Weekly Services	Acts 20:7
Continue	To the end of life	Revelation 2:10

*"Our Policies Never  
Fail"*

**-COPIED-**  
Submitted By Jeanette Herren

## THE CHURCH THAT IS IN.....

(A Series about Congregations of the Lord's Church)

West Broad Street Church of Christ is located on Highway 48 West in Wedowee, Alabama. Sunday morning services are at 10:30 C.S.T. Sunday night services are at 6:00 C.S.T. and Wednesday night services are at 7:00 C.S.T. During the April gospel meeting services will began at 7:00 C.S.T. on week nights.

Members of the Lord's Church have been meeting at West Broad Street since April 1975. In recent years a Latin American congregation began meeting within the building at West Broad Street, but is autonomous from the English speaking congregation. This Latin American congregation, begun as an outreach of the West Broad Street Church of Christ, is similar to the other congregations with the single exception that they conduct their services in Spanish.

Current Sunday speakers include Harry Cobb (first Sunday), Dana Chandler (second Sunday), Brad Prince and Dwight Thomas (alternate third Sunday), Mike Kirby and Donald Thompson (alternate fourth Sundays) and Tony Whiddon (fifth Sunday). Visitors are always welcome.

## GOSPEL MEETINGS

<u>DATES</u>	<u>PLACE &amp; TIME</u>	<u>SPEAKER</u>
Mar. 30 - Apr. 5	Tucson, AZ	Carley Conner (Cookeville, TN) & Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
Apr. 1 - 3 7:30 EST	Valley, AL	Danny Abercrombie (Gay, GA)
Apr. 2 - 3	Ashlock, KY	Joe Hill (Hager Hill, KY)

Apr. 4 - 8	Oak Grove Church Near Eubank, KY	Joe Hill (Hager Hill, KY)
Apr. 6 - 9	Cloud Nine Church Sierra Vista, AZ	Carley Conner (Cookeville, TN) & Sam Dick (Cave City, KY)
Apr. 11 - 15	Estesburg Church Near Eubank, KY	Joe Hill (Hager Hill, KY)
Apr. 11 - 15	Bethany Church Liberty, KY	J.D. McDonald (Woodbury, TN)
Apr. 17 - 22	West Broad Street Church Wedowee, AL	Gerald Carter (Eubank, KY)
Apr. 24 - 30	Mt. Carmel Rd. Gay, GA	Wilbur Bass (Auburn, AL)
Apr. 24 - 29	Load Church Load, KY	J.D. McDonald (Woodbury, TN) & Joe Hill (Hager Hill, KY)

## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

1. Who was Jezebel's husband?
2. How many mighty men did David have in all?
3. Because Christ rose again, what do believers have according to 1 Peter 1?
4. According to Psalm 68, what dropped at the presence of God?
5. Which hand did Ehud use to fight?

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH . . .

and remember last month's questions?

1. After the golden calf incident, which tribe came to Moses when he asked, "who is for the Lord?" THE LEVITES (Exo. 32:26)
2. How long did Israel mourn over Aaron's death? 30 DAYS (Num. 20:29)
3. Why did the apostles rejoice over the persecution for Christ? THEY WERE COUNTED WORTHY TO SUFFER SHAME FOR CHRIST'S NAME (Acts 5: 41-42)

4. What event occasioned the handwriting on the wall? A FEAST  
(Dan, 5:1-5)
5. To what company of people was Joseph sold by his brothers?  
ISHMAELITES (OR MIDIANITES) (Gen. 37:23)