

# No Problem

by Irvin Himmel

When a person is eager to learn the way of salvation and is willing to accept the word of God as the final authority, there is no problem in teaching him what to do to be saved. When differences arise among brethren and all have a humble attitude, and there is a sincere desire for peace and unity, and all parties want to follow God's word, the settlement is no problem.

When a person genuinely believes that Jesus is the Son of God and wants to yield in submission to Christ, once he is shown the Lord commands baptism

for the remission of sins, because he is honest and longs to go to heaven, there is no problem getting him to be baptized.

When a worshiper comes into the assembly with the right attitude of heart, there is no problem if the song leader misses the pitch on one of the hymns or if the building is too warm, or if the janitor has missed some cobwebs over the pulpit.

Many of the problems that arise are the bitter fruit of improper thinking. **(Rom 12:2)**



Classes This Week		
<b>Sunday 5:00 PM</b> New Songs class in Auditorium	<b>Monday 7:00 PM</b> Ladies' Class Rouse's home on Matthew	<b>Monday 8:00 PM</b> Class on Hebrews at 8:00 p.m. Crawford's house

Lisa Carter (Daniel's mother)	Jesse and Martha Godwin (Troy's parents)	Nell Holcomb (Ben's grandmother, Joannetta's aunt)	Louise Pack (Anna and Christopher's grandmother)
Aubrey Meeks (Toni Herd's nephew)	Mary Edwards (Sandra Chason's mom)	Kimzey Simpson	Ruth Addison (mom of April and Julie)
Tory Colvin (sister of Case O'Dell)	Austin Rush (Katie Gentry's cousin)	Barbara Weeks	Brooke Perkins
Joel Black	Emily Thompson (Abbie Harrison's cousin)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	Abbie Harrison
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Arabelle Rich (Joannetta's aunt)	Charles and Jane Hunt (Chuck's parents)	Doug Bailey (Keith's brother)
Gay Ulrich (Emma's mom)	William and Toni Herd	Taina Acuff (Anna's aunt)	Shawn Lauderdale (Larry and Joannetta's son)

### August Birthdays

- 1-Trinity Jerkins
- 2-Emma Miller
- 6-Allyson Houlton
- 6-Sandra Chason
- 8-Alli Luther
- 9-Elliot Weldon
- 11-Walker Davis
- 12-Jon Coleman
- 12-Bryon Buzan
- 13-Ariel Ramsey
- 15-Everleigh Crawford
- 16-Sharon Edwards
- 18-Heidi Abell
- 18-Chris Britnell
- 21-Matt Cavender
- 22-Case O'Dell
- 23-Jordan Holliday
- 24-Sophie Hall
- 26-Payton Davis
- 27-Chip Freeman
- 28-Larry Rouse
- 28-Cole Johnson
- 28-Alex Dobbins

### News and Notes

- ☑ - Carson Fowler had successful ACL surgery on Wednesday!
- ☑ - Lisa Carter received her study cancer treatments in MD and will return in late Aug to have scans to check for effectiveness.
- ☑ - Please pray for Ron Russell's brother, Jesse, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer.
- ☑ - Congratulations to our graduates!  
Amanda Cagle  
Brock Hester  
Holly McDaniel  
Anna Price  
Andrew Tominack  
Emma Ulrich
- ☑ - Toni Herd was admitted to UAB hospital Fri p.m. for testing due to recent seizures.
- ☑ - The Elders would appreciate your prayers as we seek a Hispanic preacher to work here in Auburn.
- ☑ - Pray for our expectant mothers: Hannah Hinson and Hannah Morris.
- ☑ - All audio is immediately uploaded to [www.auchurch.com](http://www.auchurch.com) and Audio CD's placed in the foyer.

# The Auburn Beacon



## What Bothers Us More?

By Doy Moyer



### Thoughts to Ponder

Open rebuke is better Than love carefully concealed. Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. **(Proverbs 27:5-6)**

**Elders**  
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(334) 734-2133

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday

Bible Class .....9:30 AM  
Worship .....10:20 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

**Wednesday**  
Bible Classes.....7:00 PM

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Larry Rouse  
Evangelist and Editor

Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and Eliab's anger burned against David and he said, "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your insolence and the wickedness of your heart; for you have come down in order to see the battle." But David said, "What have I done now? Was it not just a question?" **(1 Sam 17:28-29)**

David had come out to where the Israelites were stationed as they were facing the Philistines and Goliath. The problem is that the Israelites were just posturing, too afraid to engage the great giant. They put on their battle array and shouted a war cry, but they didn't actually engage. David's brothers were among this number, afraid to go out against Goliath. Saul was offering a prize to anyone who would face and defeat Goliath, but none had accepted the challenge. David asked about it: "What will be done for the man

What incites us to action? Those who defy God and His people, or those who call attention to our posturing and inaction? The world that insults God and maligns His people, or those who challenge us to act from within?

who kills this Philistine and takes away the reproach from Israel? For who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should taunt the armies of the living God?" This caused David's oldest brother, Eliab, to respond harshly.

This chapter presents several contrasts. This one is between David and Eliab. David was irritated that an uncircumcised Philistine was defying God's armies and was ready to act; Eliab was irritated that David asked about it. Perhaps David's questions

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caused Eliab embarrassment. Perhaps it reminded Eliab and others how much they were failing in their own faith and courage. Eliab, we recall, was rejected from being anointed by Samuel (**16:6-7**). He had impressive enough height and stature, like Saul, but not the inner character that it took to be God's King.

Eliab is angry at David for questioning the situation that made his brothers look faithless. David wants to do something about the situation, not content that Goliath is going unchallenged, and this makes Eliab angry enough at David to charge David with wickedness. Wickedness! David is upset that the people are doing nothing but posturing, which was a reflection upon God and His people. Someone was going to be upset. Someone was going to have true, righteous indignation.

This account should cause us to reflect upon our own attitudes as we live in a world of great challenges to our faith. What incites us to action? Those who defy God and His people, or those who call attention to our posturing and inaction? The world that insults God and maligns His people, or those who challenge us to act from within?

"Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth?" (**Gal 4:16**) Telling the truth can make enemies, even among those who are supposed to be brethren. Even when done in love. Yet the truth still needs to be told, and we still need to consider and accept those challenges to better ourselves, to become more courageous, to be willing to engage as soldiers of Christ in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation by speaking forth God's message in clarity, conviction, and with grace and wisdom toward outsiders (**Col 4:2-6**).

It seems sometimes that Christians are more motivated to speak up against other Christians who call attention to our errors and the need to faithfully act than they are to speak truth to a world that is continually denying and defying God. Like Eliab and the rest of Israel at this time, we may indeed fear the ungodly world more than we fear God. This is manifested by our silence in spreading the gospel and our anger at other Christians who are calling on us to act.

Better is open rebuke than hidden love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy. (**Prov 27:5-6**)

This kind of problem can also show up when new Christians show zeal for the lost, shaming those of us who have been Christians for a while but are content to "go to church" a couple times a week and leave it at that. We need to encourage the zeal, coupled with learning and knowledge, so that even more will be courageous in spreading the truth. And we need to join in the spread of truth to a lost world.

We need to check our attitudes. Are we making a religion that is more focused on our own personal convenience than upon God and others? If we get angry at the brother who asks about what we are doing while we merely posture in battle array toward the world, then our own lack of faith will be on display.

Are we more like David or Eliab in this scenario?

We must do more than put on battle array and shout war cries. We must show our faith and courage, putting our trust in the Lord who truly fights the battles. Let's thank God for those who call attention to what's really going on, and then join them in the real fight.



## Positive Mental Attitude

By Larry Ray Hafley

The apostles were positive, enthusiastic, loving

men. But their preaching aroused storms of strife and protest (**Acts 13:45, 50; 19:23**). Despite their "winning disposition," they were despised and defamed (**1 Cor. 4:9-13**). No, we should not act to invite persecution and animosity. However, we should be suspicious of the preacher whose preaching does not stir and arouse evil men. "Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you" (**Lk. 6:26**)!

As necessary as a positive mental attitude is, it alone will not redeem souls. It will "win" people; it will cause them to like you; it will open doors of opportunity, but it will not save. The gospel of grace convicts, convicts and converts (**Jn. 17:20; Acts 2:37; 14:1; Rom. 1:16**).

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Zig Ziglar, one of the best motivational speakers, warns his audiences not to be deceived by their good feelings. He reminds them that they do not have to go to the trouble and expense of a seminar to obtain "a good, warm feeling." You can, he says, get "a good warm feeling" by staying home and taking a hot bath! Beware of preachers who leave you with a general "feel goodishness." Stay home and take a bath.

Lessons and lectures on personal development and self-image have their place. The whole man must be nurtured and improved (**Lk. 2:52**). One must have a sound self-image, but a socially adjusted, cultured personality is not the aim of the gospel (**Rom. 10:4**). We may develop a confident, smiling, likeable human being and leave him to die in his sins. Christians need to be kind and loving husbands, wives, citizens and neighbors. Our children should be cheerful, polite, respectful and well-behaved, but both they and we can be all of these things and still be lost. The pulpit is not a "charm school" from which men learn poise and the social graces. It is a place for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness for saint and sinner. It is better to learn spiritual graces "that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth" (**1 Tim. 3:15**). Otherwise, we will raise up a perfectly delightful generation of "simply divine and charming people" who will go to hell - with good manners, of course.

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