

HERITAGE *Herald* December 10, 2017



THIS WEEK:

Dear Friends and Members,

Weather for the season: we praise God for His faithfulness. He has given us our seasons and made them to come, faithful to His word, year after year. This week we dropped into the 20 degree range, reminding us that it is winter and that Christmas is at hand.



History past meets the present: one of our local celebrities was **General Henry M. Roberts**, who was raised and lived in our area with his wife. **General Roberts** was a Civil War veteran who is best known for his **parliamentary rules**

(*Robert's Rules of Order*), which became universally accepted as the rules used for conducting public meetings and business meetings. Recently, his home, which was built in 1863, was purchased by **Pastor Jacob Reeves**. This historically rich property also has a barn and 25 acres with half in woods and half in fields of alfalfa. In the 1980's, it was an egg farm, housing 2000 chickens in a smaller barn.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Dec 20 -** Christmas Caroling
Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Service and Children's Program,
6:00 PM
Jan 8 - HBTS Module, *Titus*, 6:30 PM (Mondays, through
Feb 5)

a newsletter from

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH
5923 State Route 17C
Endicott, NY 13760
607-786-9496

• VISIT OUR WEBSITE •
for more information and archived *Heralds*
www.heritagebaptistchurch.info
or email the pastor
hbc5923@stny.rr.com

SERVICE TIMES
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM
SUNDAY MORNING - 11 AM
SUNDAY EVENING - 6 PM
WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK - 7 PM

Baby Lydia came to her first church service Sunday morning. This was the first time that Linda and I saw her. Later, *Sam and Anna* brought her to the house. It was a blessing for Linda to hold her great granddaughter.

Friday and Saturday a week ago, my grandson *Michael* helped me get some firewood.



I praise the Lord for the strength of youth. It is much easier for a youthful grandson to wield an ax than grandpa. The fire in the stove has been blessing to my wife and me. It is a challenge to get the longest burn in one cycle (loading to reloading). My

longest is 7 hours.

This past Friday was the **Youth Christmas Shopping** activity. It is an all day event that our young people really enjoy. We appreciate the adults who make this activity possible, transporting and chaperoning the young people.



for the discerning



Keeping Our Candlestick

The local assembly of believers is the centerpiece of God's work on earth. A local, physical group of sanctified believers is where God meets with us and grows us in this particular period of history. The Biblicist Baptist Church is where God commands His people to gather.

Anyone who has grasped the importance of being faithful to the assembly, will strive to learn how to keep his assembly from failing. In chapter 2 of the book of Revelation, we see the Lord threatening to remove the candlestick from the Ephesian assembly, unless they repented. If we are awake, this should make us tremble, for if God

for the discerning (continued from page 2)

can pull His endorsement from this local assembly, He could do it to ours as well.

How then can we ensure that this does not happen to us? We must be honest about our weaknesses and own our sin, no matter how minor we think it is, or how great we think our works are. We must repent of any departure from God's instructions.

The Ephesian church in Revelation chapter 2 had commendable works and patience. They were opposing those who were evil. They had the discernment to identify false teachers. They weren't giving up on the determination to labour in Jesus' name.

Even with much to boast of, they stood in danger of having the Lord remove their candlestick, because He had somewhat against them.

They had left their first love.

The first love is to "...love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matthew 22:37). And this first love is lived out by obedience to the words of God. Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15).

Throughout the New Testament, we see many practical and practicable "first works".

Matthew 6:33 gives us, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God." Also recorded by Matthew: Jesus told us to "first cast out the beam out of thine own eye..." (Matthew 7:5) and "cleanse first that which is within the cup..." (Matthew 23:26). Are you a hypocrite? Haughty and arrogant?

Keeping Our Candlestick

Luke recorded Jesus saying, "The gospel must first be published among all nations" (Mark 13:10), and it should be delivered door to door, first saying "Peace be to this house" (Luke 10:5). Paul said, as presented in 1 Corinthians 15:3, "I delivered unto

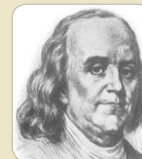
MonthlyMemoryVerse

His unspeakable gift

*"Thanks be unto God for
His unspeakable gift."*

2 Corinthians 9:15

Notable Historic QUOTE:



**"An investment in knowledge
pays the best interest."**

- Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)
US Colonial Statesman

for the discerning (continued from page 3)

you first of all that which I also received, how 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...” Do you have many excuses for not actively publishing the gospel? When is the last time you went soul winning? Does your assembly go door to door? Too cold...too wet...too dangerous...too many more important things to do?

The churches of Macedonia were memorialized in scripture because they, “*first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto {Paul and Timothy} by the will of God*” (2 Corinthians 8:5). And similarly, we are commanded to “*present {our} bodies a living sacrifice*” in Romans 12:1. What have you given your body to? Alcohol? Overeating? Smoking? Fornication? Chasing money?

Our first ministry is getting our “house” in order. The Biblical prerequisite for men holding office in the local assembly is to be successfully leading a well-managed family, meaning commitment to one godly wife and two or more godly children. Paul presented Timothy and Titus with these clear standards for the local church. Are the families in your assembly in God-ordained order? Is your church led by saved family men?

And, ultimately, we need to stay teachable. “*For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not*” (2 Corinthians 8:12). Do you think you know it all? Do you hear people out? Do you receive and submit to godly leaders? Do you receive correction?

As members of a local assembly, we all need to be sober about the spiritual health of our “body” lest we join the ranks of dead churches no longer having a candlestick....no longer a light in a dark world.

Is your church in danger? How many generations will there be before apostasy sets in? Are we humble and obedient to the Word of God?

“*...For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?*” (1 Peter 4:17).

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THE SPIRITUAL
HEALTH OF OUR
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JOIN THE RANKS OF
DEAD CHURCHES...

- Bro. Brad Baldwin

Being Used of God

Luke 5:1-11

Message by *Dr. Caswell A. Reeves*



What does it take to be used of God?

- I. It take a willingness (vs. 1-3)
 - A. To give up what you are doing
 - B. To avail yourself for others
 - C. To follow the Lord's leading
- II. It takes obedience (vs. 4-5)
 - A. To obey Christ's commands
 - B. To obey Christ against our own thinking
- III. It takes seeing what Christ can do (vs. 6-7)
 - A. His work testifies to His person
 - B. His work testifies to His power
 - His work is an amazement to men (vs. 9)
- IV. It takes confessing who you are (vs. 8)
 - A. Be honest with yourself in His presence
 - B. Be humble in His presence
- V. It takes personal surrender (vs. 11)
 - A. A commitment to forsake all for Christ
 - B. A commitment to follow Christ

Are you allowing yourself to be used by God?



"The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law."
Deuteronomy 29:2

current schedule: *

Jan 8-Feb 5, 2018

TITUS

Dr. Caswell A. Reeves
Mondays, 6:30 PM

SEMINARY BOOKSHELF

Books may be purchased through Heritage Baptist Church (607-786-9496) or Bible Baptist Church (860-229-5387)

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| | | | |
| A Primer of Baptist History \$20.00 | Daniel \$20.00 | The Doctrine of Heaven's Music \$20.00 | |
| | | | |
| En Epheso \$20.00 | Genesis \$20.00 | Geocentricity \$10.00 | If Any Man Be in Christ \$20.00 |
| | | | |
| I Will Build My Church \$15.00 | Jonah \$10.00 | The Lord God Hath Spoken \$15.00 | |
| | | | |
| Peter \$20.00 | Proverbs \$20.00 | Psalms 1 - 41 \$20.00 | Psalm 119 \$20.00 |
| | | | |
| Spiritual Gifts \$8.00 | I & II Thessalonians \$10.00 | Titus \$20.00 | Revelation \$30.00 |

**all classes at HBC unless otherwise noted.*

To see all of the degree programs offered by HBTS, please visit our website at:
heritagebaptistchurch.info/theologicalseminary.htm