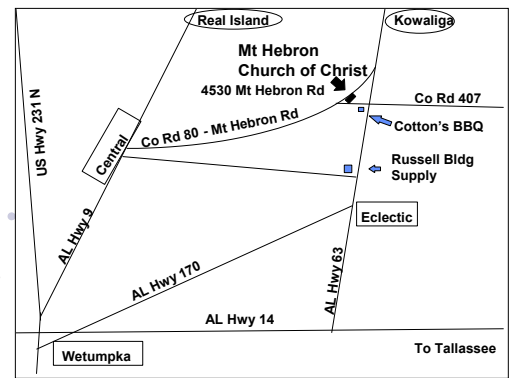


Neighborly News

Brought to you by your friends at the Mt. Hebron Church of Christ.



Time to consider the children

Children are precious. They were brought into this world through no desire of their own. Many are abused, used as pawns, neglected, denied and betrayed. Such is not fair. Dr. R. F. Hertz, a British author and psychologist, engaged in a research project of wide interest. He has asked almost 100,000 children between ages 8 and 14 and from all walks of life in 24 countries to make a list of 11 rules concerning **BEHAVIOR OF PARENTS**.

Here is the list:

1. Do not quarrel in front of your children.
2. Treat all your children with equal affection.
3. Never lie to a child.

4. Develop mutual tolerance between parents.
5. Maintain comradeship between parents and children.
6. Treat your children's friends as welcome visitors in the house.

Behold, children are a heritage from the LORD, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate. (Psalms 127:3-5)

7. Always answer children's questions.
8. Don't blame or punish your children in the presence of children from next door.

9. Concentrate on your child's good points.
10. Do not overemphasize his failings.
11. Be constant in your affection and your mood.

This list should cause parents to stop, look and listen. Read over it carefully, thoughtfully and with self-inspection and evaluation of your home. How are children treated in YOUR home? They deserve the best. God gives this advice, *Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)*

—Carroll Sites, Higden, Arkansas

Mt. Hebron Church of Christ

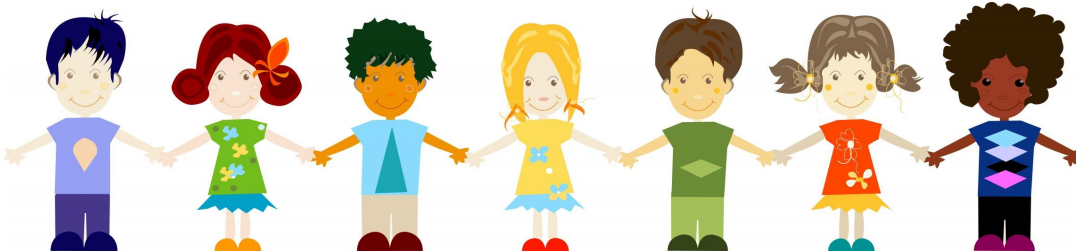
P.O. Box 240159
4530 Mt. Hebron Rd.
Eclectic, Ala. 36024

Come and visit us

Sunday
Bible Classes 10:00 AM
Worship Services
11:00 AM & 6:00 PM
Wednesday
Bible Classes 7:00 PM

Quote from a Nobel Prize recipient

The German physicist Max Born, who pioneered quantum mechanics, said, "Those who say that the study of science makes a man an atheist, must be rather silly people."



Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. (Psalms 1:1-2)

Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known. (Jeremiah 33:3)

Jeremiah was locked up in jail when God spoke to him. Where did he get pen and ink to write from prison? How could he concentrate on listening to God and write words of encouragement when bad things were happening around him? How was he able to protect his writings until he could get them to a safe place? I don't know.

I know this. In spite of his surroundings, God had good news for him and for the people! In the previous chapter, the word of the Lord came unto Jeremiah, saying, *Now therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning this city of which you say, 'It is given into the hand of the*

Good news for bad times

king of Babylon by sword, by famine, and by pestilence': Behold, I

will gather them from all the countries to which I drove them in my anger and my wrath and in great indignation. I will bring them back to this place, and I will make them dwell in safety. (Jeremiah 32:36-37)

My friend, I have no idea where you will be when you read these words. It may be at work; it may be at home. It may be at a time when you are "locked in" by your circumstances. Maybe this week has been one of the worst weeks of the year for you. No matter. When you are tied up doing things you didn't create or want, God has good news for you. The answer to "is there anything that God can't do?" is No! Take God at His word.

It was a town without God

Years ago, a group of atheists decided to show the world what a fine civilization could be had if only the --and this is the way they put it--the "superstitions of Christianity" were outlawed. They founded the little town of Liberal, Missouri. They boastfully advertised it as the only town of its size in the United States that didn't have a preacher, a priest, a church, that didn't have God, Jesus Christ, hell or the devil. The Saint Louis Post-Dispatch, a few months later, carried a lengthy article about the little town. It showed that, as a matter of fact, there was little else in the town except the devil. Its hotels had become houses of prostitution. Gambling, stealing, killing--it was all the standard conduct for the town. The newspaper article was so frightful that the men of Liberal had Clark Braden, the author of the story, arrested for criminal libel.

They also sued the Post-Dispatch for \$25,000. In the trial, though, the evidence was so overwhelming that the jury took only a few minutes to render a verdict--in favor of the defendant. The suit was dismissed and the town of Liberal, Missouri, had to pay all court costs. It wasn't long after that before even life-long atheists themselves left the town in absolute disgust. In fact, one of them confessed: "An infidel surrounded by Christians may spout his infidelity and be able to stand it, but," he said, "a town of atheists is too horrible to contemplate."

There are some among us who want God out of schools. Bible reading is totally unthinkable, the cry is, "Keep religion out of politics," and yet we expect to keep all the benefits of a God-blessed community. God in the heart of a com-



munity, whether it be a family or a whole nation, is the groundwork for its being a

"A town of atheists is too horrible to contemplate."

moral and safe place to live.

A Jewish gentleman not long ago stood up in a group and told of his own experience. He said, "A few years ago my bank sent me to make some studies of a place in Puerto Rico. It was the worst, the dirtiest city imaginable. It was a real hell." These are his words. Then he said, "Two years ago I went back to the same city. It was entirely new. The change was unbelievable. The houses, the streets were

all so perfectly clean. The taverns had gone out of existence. What had happened? Did they elect a new mayor? Was the place educated by new educators? No." He said, "A Christian missionary had come to work among them. He taught them Jesus Christ. I saw with my own eyes," he said, "what Christ can do in just a short time."

The Bible makes practical differences in people's lives. Shaky marriages are stabilized. Drunken lives are sobered. Whole communities are changed for the good. And you know? It changes whole communities only because it changes individuals.