

that if any would not work, neither should he eat.” (2 Thess 3:10).

Though God requires us to work to provide physical necessities for our families He also desires us to work the work of the Lord (1 Cor. 16:10). We are to be “workers together with Him” (2 Cor. 6:1), “labourers together with God” (1 Cor. 3:9) and “always abounding in the work of the Lord” for “our labor is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:58). Jesus shows how imperative the Lord’s work is in His words of John 9:4, “I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work.” Hard work in this life is good. Diligent labor in the kingdom of the Lord is rewarded with **eternal rest**. “And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may **rest from their labours**; and their works do follow them.” (Rev 14:13).

**The hope of heaven is a hope of a joyous eternal existence with God.** The following poem by brother J.C. Choate expresses this future existence well.

“How great and glorious it will be,  
To cross the river dark and deep;

**MESSAGE OF TRUTH**  
**Sundays 8:45 am on WACB 860 AM**

To land upon the gilded shore,  
And dwell with God forevermore.”

To walk on streets all paved with gold,  
And live with saints from days of old;  
To talk with Peter, Paul and John,  
While ages roll forever on.

To sit beside that river there.  
And never know another care;  
To see the tree of life in bloom,  
And dwell in mansions safe from doom.”

To sing in rapture with the throng.  
And praise the Lord in word and song;  
To walk with Him who died for me,  
And live with God eternally!

How many blessings are in store,  
For those who ope that narrow door.  
And walk along that path so strait,  
Until they enter heaven’s gate.

A place, a land forever fair,  
How sweet ‘twill be to worship there;  
How bright a hope that Christian owns;  
To call God’s land his final home.

Let us make the necessary preparation to obtain and maintain the hope of heaven, which “hope we have as an anchor of the soul” (Hebrews 6:19).

# Liledoun Road ANCHOR

January 11, 2004

## *Church of Christ*

240 Liledoun RD SW  
Taylorsville, NC 28681  
(828) 632-2998

[churchofchrist@w4aw.org](mailto:churchofchrist@w4aw.org)

<http://w4aw.org/church>

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday

Bible Classes – 10:00 am  
AM Worship – 11:00 am  
PM Worship – 6:00 pm

### Wednesday

Bible Classes – 7:30 pm

### Elders

Fred Watkins  
632-5542  
Ralph Lowtharpe  
632-6145

### Preacher

Jonnie Hutchison  
632-7344

## THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

Jonnie Hutchison

The promise God has given to those who dedicate their lives to following His divine will is the hope of eternal life in heaven. “In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.” (Titus 1:2). This promised existence will be granted as the result of justification by God’s grace through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. “That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.” (Titus 3:7). “Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.” (Rom. 5:9).

**The hope of heaven is a hope for relief from the trials and sorrows of this present life.** The very fact that we live in this world potentially subjects us to those things that commonly afflict mankind. Though God promises to supply the faithful Christian with bountiful spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3) and to provide the way for having the necessities of life (Matthew 6:33) He has not promised nor does He grant us the right to violate either his natural law or His spiritual law without suffering

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## News and Notes

### To Our Visitors

It is always a joy to welcome visitors to our services. We are thankful for each one who has chosen to be present. A number of tracts and other materials are available in the lobby of the building. There is no charge for any of this material. If you would like to enroll in a free Bible Correspondence Course or an in home Bible study please mark that on your visitors card. We hope you will return and be with us at your every opportunity.

### Remember In Prayer

Alvin and Phyllis Bullington, Ethel Watson, Dena Bishop, Sandra Dixon, Donna Bowles, Philip Bullington, Alex White, Loretta Philips, Kris Koko, and Hubert Keys. Ken Koko spent a few days in the hospital this past week but is now home. If you know of others who should be added to this list please let it be known. Several have suffered from flu and colds. Some have improved and others are still battling.



**Welcome!**

Madge Lowtharpe, Don Carpenter, Jimmy Williams and Ben and Belle Alexander are among them.

### Our Sympathy

Our continued sympathy is extended to Joyce and all the family of Roy Herman. Roy will be greatly missed by all of us. Let us be reminded of the scripture, "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." (Rev 14:13). Roy's good influence and works will follow him. We are confident that he is now at rest.

### Lessons Today

**AM: "How To Be Transformed"**

**PM: "Daniel—The Man"**

### House to House

We have delayed preparation for the mailing of the House to House/Heart to Heart paper until next Sunday evening (the 21st). Please make your plans to participate.

### Directory

We are presently working on the new directory. If you have not yet submitted your information it is not yet too late. Please fill out a form and leave it in the box on the large table in the lobby.

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the consequences. God will not **miraculously** deliver us from accidents, illness or death for miracles have served their purpose of confirming the Word of God and the Deity of Christ and are no longer necessary in God's plan to save man from sin (1 Corinthians 13:8-13; Hebrews 3:2-3). Though this writer accepts the teaching of the Bible regarding the providence of God he recognizes that God always knows best for God sees more than man sees and knows more than man knows. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." (Isa. 55:8-9).

The bottom line is that God has not promised that Christians will escape injury, accident, illness or death. What God has promised is His divine help in dealing with these in our lives as we look forward to something "far better" than our present existence. That "far better" place is heaven. The "home of the soul" will be free from everything that afflicts us in our present lives. Surely heaven is described in the statements given to John in Revelation 21:4, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall

there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." The last phrase of this passage gives every faithful child of God hope for that which is better than what we are now experiencing. The "former things" - tears, sorrow, pain, crying, and even death - are those things we experience in this life which will not be experienced in heaven for they will not exist there.

**The hope of heaven is the hope for rest from our labors.** "And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." (Rev 14:13). The reason for the necessity of human labor is found in the words of Gen 3:19. "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." In the garden of Eden every physical and spiritual need of man was supplied. But sin changed all of that. Now it is the will of God that men labor for their meat. "Six days thou shalt labor, and do all thy work" (Exodus 20:9). 1 Thess 4:11, "And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you." "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you,

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