



**Forest Hill
Church of Christ**

3950 Forest Hill-Irene Rd.
Memphis, TN 38125

Office: (901) 751-2444
Fax: (901) 751-9711
Info Line: (901) 531-8849
www.foresthillchurch.org

Elders:

Anthony D. Callahan
Floyd M. Hayes
Harold D. Mangrum
Leonard Watson

Ministers:

Barry M. Grider, Pulpit
Matthew Martin, Associate
Douglas Alvarenga, Hispanic

VISIT US SOON!

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship.....10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship..... 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday:

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

HOME OF THE
MEMPHIS SCHOOL
OF PREACHING

www.msop.org

Missions Supported:

Far East/World Evangelism
Gospel Broadcasting Network
Iglesia de Cristo (Getwell)
In Search of the Lord's Way
Kakinada, India
Manila, Philippines
Murmansk, Russia
Truth for the World
Words of the Master (Memphis
Time Warner Cable ch17)

Volume 33

May 23, 2006

Number 20

**GOSPEL MEETING
FOREST HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**SPEAKER:
GEORGE BAILEY**

**June 16-17:
7:00 P.M.**

June 18: 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.

6:00 PM MSOP Graduation

**Brother Bailey will deliver
the Commencement Address.**

George Bailey is one of the most highly regarded evangelists of the past 60 years. Untold thousands have heard and obeyed the gospel through his preaching. His warm and resonant voice always causes his audience to sit in rapt attention. Brother Bailey loves the Bible, which is evident when you hear his scripture saturated sermons. A genuine Christian gentleman, all those who know brother Bailey are better for it. Please join us for this series of messages. You will be blessed!

RESPECT FOR THE AUTHORITY OF CHRIST

George Bailey

“And when he was come into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came unto him as he was teaching, and said, By what authority doest thou these things? And who gave thee this authority?” (Mat. 21:23). In every generation, there have been those who have questioned the authority of Christ.

On one occasion, after Christ had cast out an unclean spirit, “they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? What new doctrine is this? For with authority commanded attention, though some did not want to submit to it.

Christ “taught them as one having authority” (Mat. 7:29). He teaches us today as one with the authority of heaven! His word becomes final! He also gave the apostles authority over the unclean spirits (Luke 9:1).

A certain centurion respected the authority of Christ (Mat. 8:5-10). He knew what authority was, for he was a man of authority, and he himself was likewise under authority. He had the authority to say to a soldier, “Go,” and he would go; and to another, “Come,” and he would come. He knew the value and need for authority.

The centurion came to Jesus asking Jesus to heal his servant who was sick of palsy. “Jesus said, I will come and heal him.” The centurion very quickly said, “Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.” Jesus marveled, and passed on this man one of the greatest compliments of all time: “I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.”

Why that compliment? Simply because of this man’s great respect for the authority of his Lord! He said, “*But speak the word only*,” as if to say, “That’s all I need; I will respect whatever you say, for you are over me!” He dared not belittle the word that Christ had spoken. How we need that same respect today!

Christ has been given all authority, or power, “both in heaven and in earth” (Mat. 28:18). God gave him that authority, even the authority “to execute judgment” (John 5:27). If not in this life, you will, at the day of judgment, come to reckon with such authority!

Don’t argue with anything Christ has done or said! Man is prone at times to say within his own heart, “The Lord just doesn’t know what he’s

talking about,” or “The Lord just doesn’t understand my case.” The Lord does know! And the Lord does understand every man’s case! He understands as no one else does!

Peter was so prone to question his Lord. In a vision, Peter “saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill and eat. But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean. And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common” (Acts. 10:11-14).

“*Not so Lord*,” was Peter’s first reaction. Has this ever been your reaction to something the Lord has said? This was not the only time Peter argued with his Master. In a sense, he said, “Not so” to the Lord’s cross (Matt. 16:21,22).

Jesus had told Peter that the time would come when he would deny his Lord. Again, Peter’s reaction, in essence, was “Not so, Lord” (Matt. 26:34, 35). Christ wanted to wash Peter’s feet, but that same questioning reaction came out, which amounted to what he had said on three other occasions, “Not so, Lord” (John 13:8).

After so long a time, Peter learned his lesson—never to question the Lord’s authority, or doubt his word! Have you learned that lesson? Think of all the Lord has said about the “one church” (Eph. 1:21, 22; Eph. 4:4,5; Col. 3:15, etc)! Do you question it? Think of how he exalted his church above all other institutions (Eph. 5:23-33), and arranged that through it the world should receive the gospel (Eph. 3:8-11). Do you doubt, or question, the exalted place the church occupies, or the divine arrangement of it?

Consider what the Lord said about baptism (Mark 16:15, 16; Matt.28:19, 20). Observe his teachings on the Lord’s supper (Luke 22:7-20; 1 Cor. 11:20-23). Take note of what he said on any subject. Then ask yourself the question, “Have I had proper respect for the authority of Christ?”

(from *Great Preachers of Today, Sermons of George W. Bailey*, 1961)

(Continued from Forest Hill News, May 9)

**EDOM WAS HIDING IN THE
ROCKS OF PRIDE**

Notice verse four of Obadiah:

Though thou exalt thyself as the eagle, and
though thou set thy nest among the stars, thence
will I bring thee down, saith the Lord.

For the nation of Edom to even have the idea that
it even stood a chance against God is prideful and foolish.
But they did. Edom thought they were as so great and
powerful. They thought they were as high as an eagle, but
God said he would bring them down to the ground.

There are a lot of individuals today who will, one
day, face the judgment of God. But until then, they
(being filled with pride) believe they are untouchable, like
an eagle in the sky. Like Edom, God will bring them
down. They were hiding in the rocks, but God can get
through a rock. The rocks of pride in which Edom hid
broke at God's command, likewise will the rocks of pride
today break at the shouting of the archangel (1 Thess.
4:16).

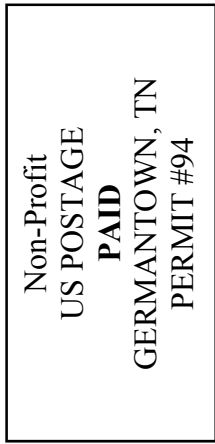
**EDOM WAS HIDING IN THE
ROCKS OF SECRECY**

The area in which Edom was located, was a very
rocky mountainous region. Edom had an advantage over
most foes in that they could hide secretly behind their
rocks and launch surprise attacks on their enemies. When
Obadiah wrote to God's people concerning His coming
destruction of the nation, he assured them that Edom
could not hide in secret from God: "How are the things of
Esau searched out! How are his hidden things sought
up!" (Oba. 6).

Consider all the people who try to hide things
from God. The old saying is still true: *You can fool some
of the people all the time, and all the people some of the
time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time.* Like-
wise is it true that you cannot fool God **at any time.**
There are no secrets with God. Some may think they
have things hid, but they will not be hidden forever. They
may seemingly get away with their secrets, but one day
their hidden things will be revealed.

Edom was hiding in the rocks, but God can get
through a rock. The rocks of secrecy in which Edom hid
broke at God's command, likewise will the rocks of se-
crecy today break at the sounding of the trumpet (1 Thess.
4:16).

To be concluded.



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3950 Forest Hill Irene Road
Germantown, TN 38125
Address Service Requested