



\* Communion is gluten-free and travel communion is available.

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## Melbourne Church of Christ

"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."

## Unshakeable Faith in the Immoveable Kingdom by Kerry Duke

In the heat of the Civil War, Moses Lard wrote: "More now than ever before in this country; do even Christians need to be placed completely under the influence of Christianity. In mind and heart they are deeply and painfully agitated. Christianity alone can tranquillize and soothe them. In thought they are distracted and unsettled, and in affection alienated one from another. Truth alone can unitize, settle, and reassure them. Their zeal has cooled, their energy lost its ancient tone. Fresh, living pictures of the love of Christ, more than anything else, can rekindle the former, and vitalize the latter. Exciting political news so engrosses their attention that their views of the Gospel are in uncommon danger of becoming dim and unreliable. Nothing can so effectually prevent this as sharp, spirited discussions of the great elementary themes of Christianity. Indeed, never before did so high a necessity exist in our ranks for sound elementary preaching, and sound elementary writing as now. Let such preaching, and such writing, guick with the noble warmth of preacher and writer, be sent home to the hearts of the people, and salvation, and joy, and gladness will be the result...We cannot desert it now in this hour of trial. No: we must work for it with pen, work for it with tongue, work for it with prayer, work for it in hope, work for it the livelong day, and dream of it in watches of the night—work for it and never faint" (Lard's Quarterly, September 1863).

These same restless feelings can distract us today and dampen our spirits. If we learn from history, we will see that the key to our faith's survival is persistence, holding to what we've learned. Let the Bible put things into perspective and not lose focus. This is not easy especially when we hear so much. In times of great distress we tend to be preoccupied with threats to physical life. We are to keep teaching the foundational truths of the gospel. This is our only protection against something far worse—spiritual death.

At those low points David remained faithful to God. "Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer...I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock...higher than I" (Psa. 61:1-2). "Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast" (Psa. 57:1). God heard these prayers then. He will hear them today. The only question is whether we will trust the Lord and continue trusting Him.

SONG LEADER OPENING PRAYER CLOSING PRAYER	TBA	<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> TBA TBA TBA
Тн	E LORD'S S Self-Serv	
Bible		ter 3:13-17
1. "And who is	-	you if you become
	hat even if one re	e suffers for
always be r	eady to give a _	rd God in your hearts, and to everyone the hope that is in you"
	evile your good	tain a good conscience, d conduct in Christ
	se: It is better t r doing good.	to suffer for doing

	Prayer Lis	<u>st</u>		
Military: Derek Love	, Tyler Talkington, A.J.	Talkington		
	erry Davidson, Josh M fe, Blake Johnson	orehead, Jamie	Irvin, Tyler Webb,	
Joe Guiltner Tracy Thomas Bill Roland H Bill Wiseman De Mary Kosmitis Tomr Buddy James Johnny Guthrie Cl Bob & Arlene Davidso Dorothy Teague Te	Dan Clark W Brooke Partin Hayden Phillips I bbie Nicholson ny Washington Ivy Jo Slade harlotte Cooper Cecili	gina Masters	Joanna Smith Wayne Crosby James Nicholson Joanne Weston Phil Haagenson Dale Smith Andrew Weaver Sue Campbell Earl Stephens Richard Gunter	
0	na Jean Cooper			
	February Birt	<u>hdays</u>		
Frank Fowler 1 <sup>st</sup> Cindy Phillips 11 <sup>th</sup> Davy Wyatt 14 <sup>th</sup> Kaleb Moser 25 <sup>th</sup>	Joyce Newbrey 5 <sup>th</sup> Brighton Beebe 11 Harris Wyatt 14 <sup>th</sup> Chipper Lamb 27 <sup>th</sup>	th Dewey David	Aaron Young 8 <sup>th</sup> Dewey Brightwell 13 <sup>th</sup> David Lawrence 19 <sup>th</sup>	
	February Anniv	<u>ersaries</u>		
		a 10th		
	Acy & Iris Beeb	e 13		

Proverbs 27:19, "As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man."

- Solomon the son of David, king of Israel