

Hold That Beginning!

It is not very common to tell someone to remain at the beginning of something, is it? If there is a beginning, then there must be an end, right? It seems safe to assume that, if a person makes a beginning of something, it is because he wants to see the end. But, can a person have both the beginning and the end at the same time? God can do that because He is eternal: the Beginning and the End. But can we?

For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end. Hebrews 3:14.

I can remember running the 440-yard race in school. The start line was the finish line. Technically, you could be at the beginning and at the end without moving. But what about the race? Can you imagine a stadium full of people watching twenty or so of the world's best athletes standing on the start/finish line not wanting to begin the race for fear of not being first over the finish line? The starter runs out of blanks for his starting pistol, but no one is willing to start!

It is tempting to stay on the start/finish line, isn't it? And, if we are in Christ, we are at the beginning and the end, so why bother racing?

We run against the evil one and against his schemes and wiles. We run for the salvation and hope of others. The world has to witness the race. They have to see what happens when a Christian falls down, how others who are racing come alongside and help him back on his feet. The world has to see how spiritual athletes help one another to the finish line.

And so God tells us to keep the confidence we had at the start line and that is how we will make it to the finish line. Remember how real Jesus is, and push on. Feel again the excitement and the hope, and run harder. Drink in His love and power again, and be refreshed.

It helps to know that the One who began us is the One who will finish us (Philippians 1:6), and that He runs with us always. When you run the LORD's race you are always on the finish line when you line up on His start line. So, keep the confidence you began with till the end...and run!

Arthur Barry



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, evangelist- (607) 280-1732

November 1, 2015

WELCOME!

Sunday Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.



Today's Sermon: *The Revelation of Jesus*

- Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.
- Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

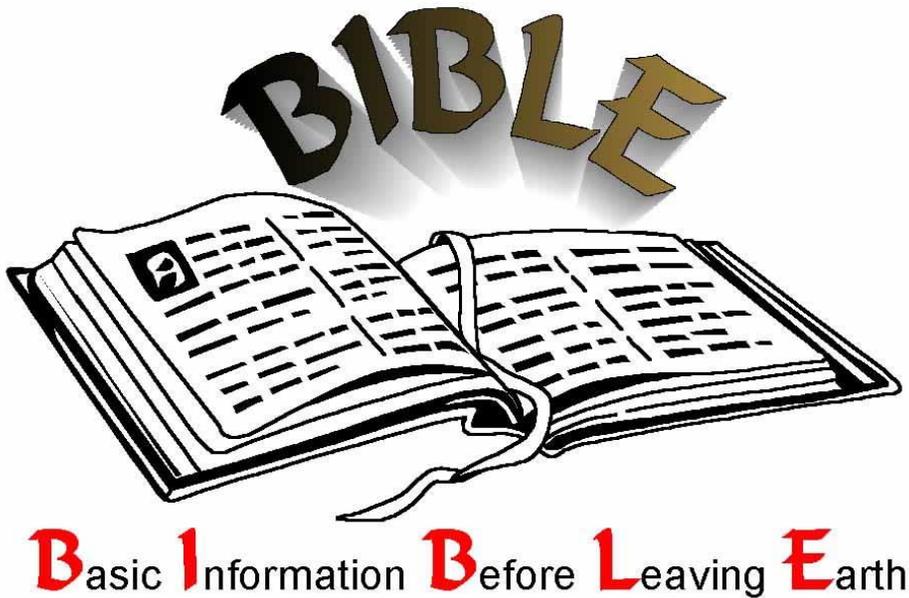
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Scripture: 1 Peter 1:10-12

Hymns: 711 Blest Be the Tie That Binds; **488** Into the Heart of Jesus; **945** Kneel at The Cross; **845** Walking Along at Eve; **909** There's a Fountain Free

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class**, Tuesday, November 3rd. Darlene will lead the discussion about pages 157-161 of our study book. Please invite friends! Also, we are nearing the end of our study book and will be deciding our new course of study. We will probably decide on a book of the Bible this time.
- **Men's Breakfast**, Saturday, November 7th.
- **Potluck Dinner**, Sunday, November 15th
- **Regional Singing**, here at Valley Cities church, 4:30pm, Sunday, November 29th. We will provide snacks and desserts, coffee and drinks.



PRAYERS...

- Pray for our children's classes and for the teachers. Pray for help with teaching, crafts and ideas from our group here.
- Pray for Katie Grissies, the friend of Tiffany Cantrell from Prattville, AL, who has cancer. She had her baby several weeks ago and is now going through an aggressive form of chemo, which is making her really ill.
- Suzie Temple's sister-in-law, Martha Todd, passed away last Saturday from breast cancer. She was a fine Christian lady and will be missed by many at the Margaret St. church in Milton, FL.
- Ron Moulton is in a lot of pain daily from his MD. Pray that he can find relief.
- Darlene Elsbree has several bulging discs in her lower back. She is starting on a course of spinal decompression treatments.
- Linda Hicks needs to have a procedure done on her spine that allows her to self medicate for pain. She is waiting to find a place that will accept her insurance.
- Please pray for Sandy and Arthur's daughter Molly's family in Nicholson, PA, and especially for Molly's husband, José, who has stopped fellowshiping with the church.
- Paula Gardner, known to several of us here, has been struggling to feel healed after recent hernia surgery.
- Lisa Washburn, also a friend to a few of us here, is dealing with depression.
- Pray for our church group here at Valley Cities. Help us to love and encourage each other with the love of the Lord.