Clips from Psalms

Psalms 113:2-3

God praised for exalting the Humble

"Blessed be the name of God from this time forth and for evermore. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised."

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The Elder's Wife

The following article is written in memory of Toline Witherspoon, wife of Tom Witherspoon who serves as an elder at the Floral Heights church of Christ. Toline died this past Tuesday evening, February 4, at around 9:00 PM. Toline will be remembered for her sweet, gentle, and kind disposition that she consistently displayed toward all.

The Apostle Paul gives the qualifications of elders in the body of Christ at 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1. Elders are not single men and neither are they men who have gone through a divorce. Elders are those who have given heed to the teachings of Jesus on marriage at Matthew 19. Elders, and the woman they are married to, consider each other bound for life. Consider the elder's wife with me.

The elder's wife is not the one superintending the church. She is not the one who sits in meetings with unruly brethren. She is not the one who has had to look into the eyes of a false teacher or factious brother who seeks to destroy a local church and reprove him. The elder's wife is not the one who stands before the congregation to make soul stirring announcements about withdrawing from a wayward member or warning those who are straying. Though she is not in the public eye she nonetheless sits quietly by her man and is a source of great strength to him.

She is the one who holds her husband's hand when all seems to be falling apart. She clings to him during times of great distress and anxiety over church issues. She prays for her man and with her man.
Welcome to all Our Visitors. It is our prayer that you will be edified by our worship service today. If you have any questions regarding what we teach or practice please be our friend and talk with us.

Toline Witherspoon died this past Tuesday. Her memorial service was held on Saturday. Please do keep the Witherspoon, Jackson, and Duty family in your prayers. The father of Larry Salmon died after a long battle with cancer this past Friday morning. Mike Salmon was 68 years old and will be buried in Houston. Please do keep the Salmon family in your daily prayers too.

The elder's wife is not a young lady of smooth youthful skin. She does not have the strong back of her earlier years. Her voice and words also reveal a woman of advanced age. Her beauty is found in the hidden woman within that holds dear to the word of God.

She is wise in her council and careful with her words. Her response is measured and her words of comfort fall on ears that absorb them like a dry soil does with water. Her love for the Lord's church is evidenced in her very place next to the elder. She is a woman of faith. She is a woman of grace. She is a woman of charity and hospitality. She is a woman who knows her place in the home and in the church. The elder's wife is humble and contrite. Her interest is Christ's interest and Christ's interest is the elder's interest. Her life is like a joyous dream because she is serving the Lord and her husband both of whom she adores.

I came to the Floral Heights church thirteen years ago. I have met many good and Godly people through the years. One of those Godly people that stand out in my mind is Toline Witherspoon. Toline was everything an elder's wife should be. She faithfully stood by Tom's side for fifty five years of marriage. Everything I saw in her was good and Godly. She was at all the services and displayed a kindness that went above and beyond simple greetings.

Toline had many health struggles through the years. She battled through cancer and beat it. She battled through a very extensive back surgery and came through very well. She even grew two and half inches after the surgery (smile). She recently broke her hip in a couple of places yet battled through that injury as well. Toline was a fighter but the one thing she could not beat was an aggressive aneurism that took her life unannounced and unexpected by all.

Toline's example of what a Christian should be will not be forgotten. We will miss our beloved sister in Christ and long to be with her and others that have gone on before us. The Psalmist said, "Precious in the sight of God is the death of his saints" (Psalms 116:15). Farewell our beloved sister until we meet again on that beautiful heavenly shore.

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Shut ins
Stella Davidson
696-1030
Darlene York
Living with Gary and Rita

Psalms 64

"Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint; preserve my life from dread of the enemy. 2 Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked, from the throng of evildoers, 3 who whet their tongues like swords, who aim bitter words like arrows, 4 shooting from ambush at the blameless, shooting at him suddenly and without fear. 5 They hold fast to their evil purpose; they talk of laying snares secretly, thinking, "Who can see them?" 6 They search out injustice, saying, "We have accomplished a diligent search." For the inward mind and heart of a man are deep! 7 But God shoots his arrow at them; they are wounded suddenly. 8 They are brought to ruin, with their own tongues turned against them; all who see them will wag their heads. 9 Then all mankind fears; they tell what God has brought about and ponder what he has done. 10 Let the righteous one rejoice in the LORD and take refuge in him! Let all the upright in heart exult!"