

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

1136 Baseline Road
Grand Island, New York www.bfcgi.org 716-773-3748

THE LORD'S DAY

June 11, 2017 8:30 & 10:15AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Organ Prelude Carol Dammann
Piano Wendy Baldwin

Prayer and Scripture Reading Psalm 119:129-136 Ron Mock
Pastoral Prayer Pastor Cal VanderMey
Worship Songs led by Nate Wolfe
Message Luke 23:39-43 John Hoegg
Closing Hymn
Benediction

THE MINISTRY OF MISSION

For the glory of God, Bible Fellowship Center is committed to spreading the Good News of salvation, equipping the believers, that they might become more Christ-like, worship God and enjoy Him forever.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Youth Group Monday at 6:30pm
Hour of Prayer Monday at 7pm in sanctuary
Tuesday Bible study at 7pm on Titus – Pastor Cal teaching
Wednesday Men's Bible study – Jim O'Rourke teaching
Choir Rehearsal Wednesday at 7pm
No Precept study Thursday at 9:15am till Sept – "Romans"- Margaret Was
Ladies fellowship Thursday at 10am – Elsa Peters
Adult Bible study Friday at 7pm - John Woodell teaching

The offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary

Anyone interested in joining the choir please see Dawn Fraser

Sunday messages are available online, CD or e-mail. See Bill Schultz

"The Believer Warned"

II John 8

Look to yourselves, that we do not lose those things we worked for, but that we may receive a full reward.

The presence of many deceivers in the world is cause for the warning. "Look to yourselves" would in a modern idiom be "Watch your back." The present tense of the verb "look" indicates that there must be a continued vigilance, for the danger is ever present that heretical teachers may steal from believers of the spiritual gains which have been made.

Just like a commander on the battlefield, John urges the elect lady and her household to not retreat from the beachheads that have been gained.

Note that he says "things we worked for." In that statement, John reminds the elect lady that the spiritual gains in this war with the deceiver have been won by the labors of the apostle and his associates.

John lastly speaks of the "full reward" that he desires from the work that has been accomplished in the lives and testimonies of the elect lady and her family. The word "reward" is *misthos*, which has the concept of wages or pay. John is concerned that the elect lady not allow false teachers to so influence her that, when she stands before Christ's judgment seat, she will not receive the full reward which she might have had.

In application, I believe this concept of missing the "full reward" extends to us in every area of life where we allow the devil a foothold. I have seen over the years so many young people that were sold out to the Lord as teens/young adults, as well as adults, but then the cares of this world caused them to concede territory to the enemy. Their testimony as well as their presence at church was diminished. That full reward for faithfulness is lost. However, God gives second, third, fourth, etc. chances to come back, and carry the battle for the Lord forward. Remember Peter's repeated failures at crucial moments, and yet Jesus restored him to full service. If this describes you--get off the shelf and get back in the battle. The victory is the Lord's!