

### Those to Serve

(B) Calvin Burks  
(FV) Vernon Houts  
(O) Keith Stifflemire  
(A) Kyle Stifflemire  
1st prayer Jack Wall  
2nd prayer Doug Pruett  
Announcements: Judd Wall  
Singing: Mike Mallett



**Tammy Burks Nov. 3rd**

**Theresa Pruett Nov. 14th**

**Calvin Burks Nov. 26th**

**Linda Houts Nov. 28th**

### Proverbs 29:2 (KJV)

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

### Congress, U. S. House Judiciary Committee, 1854

Had the people, during the Revolution, had a suspicion of any attempt to war against Christianity, that Revolution would have been strangled in its cradle... In this age, there can be no substitute for Christianity... That was the religion of the founders of the republic and they expected it to remain the religion of their descendants.<sup>25</sup>

### Prayer List:

Virginia Lovell  
Letha Sheldon  
Mildred Lovell  
Janese Lancaster  
Ruby Jones  
Loyd Crownover  
Pray for our Nation  
Our Troops  
Law Enforcement  
Rescue Personal

### Dates to Remember

**November 5th**

*Mission Sunday  
& Day Savings Time Ends*

**November 7th**

*Election Day*

**November 11th**

*Veterans Day*

**November 17th**

*Food for Families*

**November 23rd**

*Thanksgiving Day*

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

*310 W Brooks Drive*

*Evant, TX 76525*

*254-471-5705*

**November 5, 2017**



*Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."*

**Sunday Worship:**

**9:30 am Bible Study**

**10:20 am Worship**

**12:30 pm Afternoon**

**Wednesday Night**

**7:pm**

**Will Vann, Preacher**

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## One Sinner Destroys Much Good

by Ron Daly

*Wisdom is better than weapons of war; but one sinner destroys much good.* Ecclesiastes 9:18

The title of this article comes from a statement of the writer of the book of Ecclesiastes in chapter 9, verse 18. It conveys a thought that each of us must consider. It tells us that a sinner wields a lot of influence, but it is the wrong kind and it is destructive! Notice that the text doesn't say that "many sinners destroy much good," but "one sinner destroys much good." Many times one sinner does more harm to the cause of good, than one righteous person does to a stampeding herd of ungodliness.

A preacher may be a very effective pulpiteer and he may have a firm grasp on the truth of scripture, but if he doesn't believe what he preaches enough to live it, he is himself a sinner who destroys any good that he achieves (I Timothy 4:11-12).

An elder may have tremendous leadership skills coupled with a broad knowledge of God's word, but if he doesn't practice what he requires about honesty, controlling the tongue, moral purity, and all else, he isn't fit for the position of overseer. He will destroy any good that he accomplishes (I Timothy 5:20; Titus 1:7).

A Bible class teacher may be kind, knowledgeable, and very practical in his application of scripture, but if he is a gossip, quick tempered, listens to slander, and never asks forgiveness from those against whom he has sinned, any good that he accomplishes will be destroyed by his sins (Romans 2:19-24).

If one hundred people obey the gospel every week and gather for worship and if they see people in the assembly who also claim to be Christians, but frequent drug houses, strip clubs, bars, prostitution and gambling houses, receive and conceal stolen property, and swindle others out of their belongings, any good that is accomplished by the congregation will be destroyed (Hebrews 10:26-29).

We should promote good instead of destroying it. If our lives are not what God says they should be we are destroying the good that we or other saints seem to be achieving. We must repent of our sins and start anew. Grieving in sin isn't the answer. We've got to get over the "self-pity complex." If there is sin in your life, stop it and turn to God. Then and only then will the good that we and others are trying to do will not be destroyed.

## From a Fortune Cookie

by Jeffrey W. Hamilton

I was at a Chinese restaurant the other day. It had been several years since I had been there, and the food quality had gone downhill in the meantime. But at the end of the meal came the traditional fortune cookie. As I munched on the treat I read the slip of paper inside: "God will give you everything that you want." Odd, I thought, fortunes have changed over the years as well, apparently for the better. It almost reminded me of a verse my mother has hanging on a wall at home. But as I recited the verse from memory I realized that the fortune cookie did not say exactly the same thing; the change is significant.

The verse is [Philippians 4:19](#) which reads, "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Paul told the Philippians that God would supply all their needs, but my fortune cookie would have me believe that God would supply all my wants. Most people's wants far exceed their needs. Most parents realize that giving a child everything they want will produce a spoiled brat, but giving a child everything he needs will produce an upstanding citizen.

Paul told the Corinthians, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work" (II Corinthians 9:8). The abundance that God gives is not arbitrarily given. He gives so that we may do good with His riches. The Psalmist notes, "For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly" (Psalm 84:11). God doesn't richly bless everyone. His generosity is reserved for the good. Those who follow after God will see their needs provided for so well that they will not want anything more ([Psalm 23:1-5](#); [Matthew 6:25-34](#)). But it is God who provides and not man who demands.

Yet, if we examine the context of [Philippians 4:19](#), we see there is more to Paul's statement. The Philippians have been generous with their goods, seeing to Paul's needs as a preacher ([Philippians 4:14-18](#)). And Paul is stating that God would return to them blessings in kind. It is much as was written by Solomon, "There is one who scatters, yet increases more; and there is one who withholds more than is right, but it leads to poverty. The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself" ([Proverbs 11:24-25](#)). Or as Paul worded it, "Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" ([Galatians 6:6-7](#)). God is not blessing spoiled brats who demand that all their wants be fulfilled. God heaps blessings on those who use His gifts to do good in this poor world.

I would rather serve God who supplies all we need in Christ Jesus than the imaginary God of the fortune cookie writer who would create a world of disgruntled, spoiled brats. We have enough of these already, thank you very much!