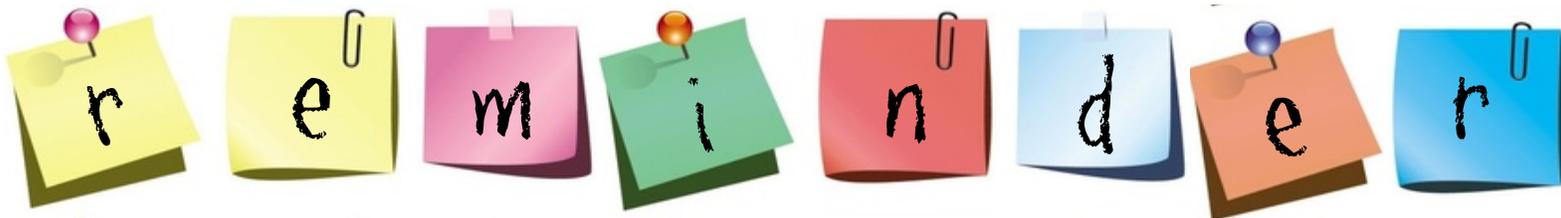


“I shall always be ready to remind you of these things...” (2 Peter 1:21)



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WESTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Where We Meet

1017 S. 2nd St. (Old Hwy. 367)
Cabot, AR 72023

When We Meet

Sunday

Bible Classes – 9:00 am
Worship – 10:00 am, 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Classes – 7:00 pm

Our Elders

R.D. Hopper
Norman Kemper

Our Deacons

Troy Hunter
Kelly Kendall
Tony Ramick

Our Preacher

Alex Hale



Sermon audio/notes
and articles available
online

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A Satisfied Life

by Alex Hale



Nestled in the hills of West Virginia, there is a cemetery where you will find the graves of some of the people closely linked to the Restoration Movement. It is here that the earthly remains of both Thomas Campbell and his more famous son, Alexander, are buried. The Campbell family has called this cemetery “God’s Acre.” If we were to come up with a place to have the graves of Bible greats, what would we call such a place? Furthermore, what would

their tombstones, their epitaphs, say?

- Perhaps we might find the disciple Antipas, and maybe on his tombstone would be written what is said of him in scripture, “Antipas, My witness, My faithful witness.”
- We might find the tombstone of the apostle Paul, which might have carved into it, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith.”
- What about the tombstone of Jesus? It could read, “He is not here.”

In Genesis 25:8, there is perhaps one of the best epitaphs of someone’s life. This verse tells about Abraham, and the New American Standard Bible reads, “*Abraham breathed his last and died in a ripe old age, an old man and satisfied with life; and he was gathered to his people.*”

Satisfied with life. Now that is a good saying to be on your tombstone. That is a good way to describe life. People talk about wanting “the good life,” or someone might say that they have had a “hard life,” but not too many people talk about being satisfied with life. Isn’t that really what we want? Unfortunately, many Christians go through life with a downtrodden, irritated, even angry outlook on life. I dare say that within any church on an average Sunday morning, if we were to go around the auditorium and ask, “How many of you are happy with your life?” there would be several who, if they were honest, would say, “Not so much.” How could Abraham die “satisfied with life”? We talk a lot about being satisfied when life is over, and indeed earth is not heaven, but I do not believe that God calls us to be miserable in the here and now. In our next few bulletin articles, let us consider some lessons from the life of Abraham.

First, in order to be fulfilled in life, you have to understand that *spiritual maturity is ultimately between you and God*. When we think of Abraham, we think of his faith. Hebrews 11:8, “*By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would afterward receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going.*” This is a recounting of the event which occurred back in Genesis 12. In the first three verses of that chapter, God told him what to do, and verse 4 says that he “*departed as the Lord had spoken to him.*” He went, not knowing what was going to happen. This was not, “Abraham, I want you to go from Cabot to St. Louis, and when you get there, there will be a new house waiting for you. Oh, and by the way, here’s the map.” No – it was “go” and he went. We need to understand something about where Abraham was. Ur of Chaldees was in what is modern-day Iraq. Historians say that it was at that time a well-developed area of land. Abraham was leaving a well-developed center of civilization for who knew what? But God said “Go,” and he went. Spiritual maturity is about hearing the voice of God and obeying it. It is about finding the will of the Lord and then doing it.