



THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

Brooksville church of Christ
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

January 30, 2022

But He Never Enlisted (Sewell Hall)

He served in the Army but ...
"He isn't a soldier." We believe there is a lesson in the following Associated Press report: An Army spokesman said Friday that 15-year-old Walter Lee Martin "Is not recognized as a soldier - despite two periods of serving in Vietnam because he did not enlist, was not drafted and did not enter the Army through any regular means."

"He was not officially in, did not officially enlist or enter through any normal means," Barrante said. "He was, in fact, not a soldier. He isn't a soldier." Two periods of service in Vietnam, twice wounded in action; yet not purple hearts, no honorable discharge, no veteran's benefits; he did not legally enlist."

This reminds us of a host of men and women whom we have observed serving among the soldiers in the Army of the Lord. They serve faithfully and even

sacrificially. They reject the sins of the flesh and live a pure life. They attend services regularly, give liberally of their money, and are ready unto every good work. They often study the Scriptures, defend the truth and attack error. Often they are outstanding in their performance as soldiers, except that they have never enlisted!



The "Captain of our Salvation" knew in advance there would be such individuals. He warned in advance of the fate they may expect: "Many will say to Me in

that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" (Matthew 7:22-23). What a pity to spend a lifetime enduring "hardships as a good soldier" only to miss the veteran's benefits because of a failure to enlist.

There was no way that the young man described above could

have legally enlisted; he was ineligible. But anyone who is a sinner can enlist in the Army of the Lord if he is willing to leave his sins. The conditions are simple: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." (Mark 16:16). "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)



Judging In Context (Robert Turner)

Scriptures are not the only things that must be judged "in context." Human relationships are largely a series of "interpretations" of one another and will be grossly in error unless we take our fellowman "in context." This is the principle back of the proverb: "Judge a man only after you have walked a mile in his moccasins."

Sometimes the seeming "chip" on a brother's shoulder may actually be his way of reaching out to you. It may be a burden you

should help him bear. We do not seek to justify sin with psychology nor to deny individual responsibility before God. But there can be no "righteous judgment" apart from the "whole story."

From Joe Creason of the Louisville Courier Journal comes an illustration of my point. It seems an elderly mountain farmer, driving a mule-driven wagon, had been involved in an accident with an automobile. Now he was suing the motorist, claiming personal injuries.

"But isn't it true," the defense attorney asked, "that after the accident, you said you never felt better in your life?"

"Well," the claimant began, "that morning I got up, hitched up my mule, put my hound dog in the wagon, and ..."

"Give us a yes or no answer to my question," the attorney interrupted.

At this point, the Judge tapped the gavel and directed the lawyer to let the farmer answer in his own way.

"Well," the claimant began again, "that morning I got up, hitched up my mule, put my hound dog in the back of the wagon, and jest got over the rise in the road when this big car barreled into my rear end."

"My mule was knocked to one side of the road, my hound dog to the other, and I was pinned under the seat. Directly a police officer

came along, seen my mule had her leg broke, pulled out his pistol, and shot her dead. He went over to my dog, seen he was hurt bad, and shot him in the head."

"Then," the farmer continued, "He came over to me and asked, 'Well, how are you feeling?' And shore enough, I said, "I never felt better in my life!"

Get The Man Together For A Better World (Clarence DeLoach)

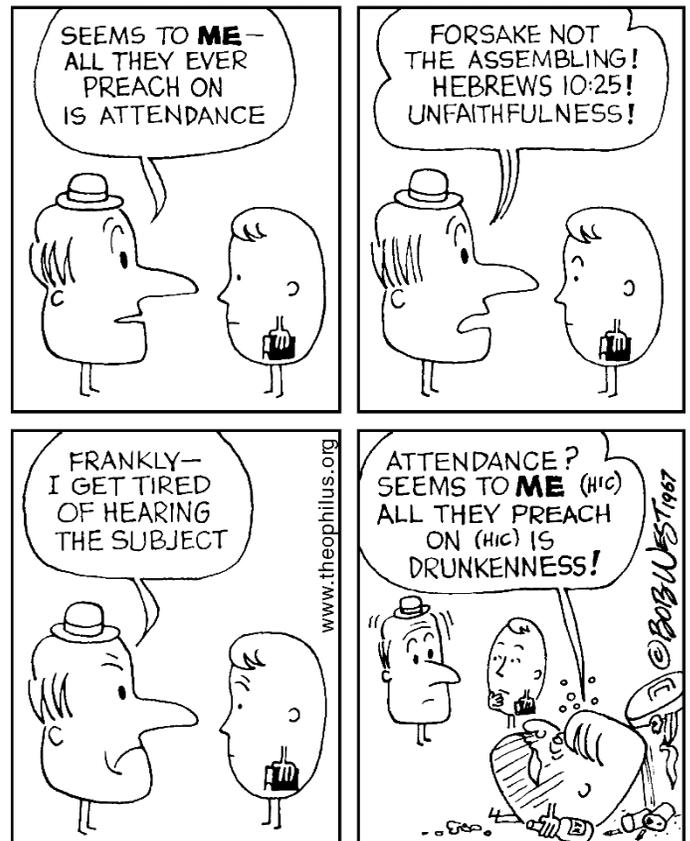
A small boy anxiously waited all day for his dad to get home. Finally, his father arrived, dragging his body into the house from an especially hard day's work. The little boy had all kinds of playful ideas he wanted to share with his father. Over and over the boy tugged at his dad's leg for attention. Finally, with frustration, the father ripped from a magazine a picture of the world and tore it into several pieces. "Here," he said, "go put the world back together."

Ah, "peace at last," he thought. But in just a few minutes, the boy was back with a crudely scotch-taped picture of the world. "Son, that's incredible; how did you get it back together so fast?" the father asked.

"It was easy," said the boy, "there was a picture of a man on the back, and as soon as I got the

THEOPHILUS

It Seems to Me...



man back together, the world came together."

How true of all troublesome situations, get the man "together" -- and our world usually "comes together"

Consecration (Anonymous)

I am part of the "Fellowship of the Unashamed." The die has been cast. I've stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I am a disciple of His. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still. My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, and my future is secure. I am finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, chintzy giving, and dwarfed goals.



GOSPEL MEETING
With Brent Hunter

February 11 – 13, 2022

Friday	7:00 pm	Sunday	10:00 am
Saturday	10:00 am	Sunday	11:00 am
Saturday	10:50 am	Sunday	6:00 pm

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded, or rewarded. I now live by presence, learn by faith, love by patience, live by prayer, and labor by power.

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my guide reliable, my mission clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, diluted, or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table

of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, let go, or slow up until I've preached up, prayed up, paid up, stored up, and stayed up for the cause of Christ. I am a disciple of Jesus. I must go till He comes, give till I drop, preach till all know, and work till He stops.

And when He comes to get His own, He'll have no problem recognizing me. MY COLORS WILL BE CLEAR.



January's focus was to ***"Renew a Hunger for the Word of God."*** Keep the word a part of your daily plan.

February: ***"Renew a Love for God!"*** Let's learn to fall in love with God.

Brooksville Church of Christ

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Times of Services

- Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)
- Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)
- Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:

- ☞ Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida
- ☞ Zeke Flores, Columbus, Texas; Philip North, Branson, Missouri
- ☞ The saints in Nicaragua

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