

# The Terre Haute

# SPEAKER

*“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).*

Volume 10

July 4, 2021

Number 27

## WISDOM FROM ANTS

*John Edwards*

The wise man said, *“Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest”* (Prov. 6:6-8).

Here are some lessons from ants:

### ANTS ARE INDUSTRIOUS.

There is not an insect more industrious than the ant — not even the honeybee. There are no drones, slackers, or shirkers in the ant family! The Bible teaches us to work (Eph. 4:28; 2 Th. 3:10). Idleness and slothfulness lead to hunger (Prov. 19:15), to rags (Prov. 23:21), and to gossip and talebearing (1 Tim. 5:13). How industrious are you?

### ANTS WORK TOGETHER.

Ants work together in building colonies and providing their food. Some people just simply refuse to work together. The Bible stresses the importance of togetherness (2 Cor. 6:1; Phil. 1:27). Think how much we could accomplish if we would but work together!

### ANTS ARE SELF-ACTING.

Ants do not have a guide, overseer, or ruler telling them what to do (Prov. 6:7). Ants just work and act automatically. Some do not work unless there

is someone overseeing them. We should work without being told.

### ANTS MAKE

**PREPARATION.** *“The ants are a people not strong, yet they prepare their meat in the summer”* (Prov. 30:25). We must prepare to meet God (Amos 4:12). Preparation should be made in the summer of life (Jer. 8:20). Are you prepared?

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## BIBLE RUNNERS

*John Edwards*

The Bible catalogues several individuals who ran. The fact that they ran shows their eagerness and enthusiasm in serving God. Here are some who ran:

**JOSEPH RAN.** Potiphar’s wife caught Joseph *“...by his garment, saying, Lie with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out”* (Gen. 39:12). Joseph ran from the temptation to sin! One reason we may succumb to temptation is because of tarrying (2 Sam. 11:1-4). The word of God admonishes us, *“Flee fornication...”* (1 Cor. 6:18).

**THE MAN WITH AN UNCLEAN SPIRIT RAN.** *“But when he saw Jesus afar off, he*

*ran and worshipped him”* (Mk. 5:6). This man ran to worship the Lord! Worship is one of God’s greatest blessings to man. We need to be eager to worship God. *“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth”* (Jn. 4:24). If you had been this man, would you have run to worship the Lord?

### THE RICH, YOUNG RULER

**RAN.** Mark records, *“And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?”* (Mk. 10:17). This young man ran to learn what he had to do to be saved. He had a problem on his mind. He had not found that which would put his soul to rest. Are you eager to find out how to have eternal life?

### ZACCHAEUS RAN.

Zacchaeus sought to see Jesus. *“And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that way”* (Lk. 19:4). Zacchaeus ran to see Jesus! He was so interested that he ran. Some today will never see Jesus because they allow too many things to get in their way. Remove the barriers that keep you from seeing Jesus.

**PHILIP RAN.** When Philip was instructed to go to the Ethiopian eunuch, *“Philip ran thither to him, and heard him*

read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?" (Acts 8:30).

Philip ran to teach the eunuch about Christ. As a result, the eunuch was baptized "and he went on his way rejoicing" (Acts 8:36-39). We are commanded to "teach others" (2 Tim. 2:2). How eager are you to teach others about Jesus?

**PAUL RAN.** Paul said, "I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air" (1 Cor. 9:26). Life is compared to a race (Heb. 12:1-2). Paul entered the race of life and finished the course (2 Tim. 4:7). Will you?

Have you ever run in doing the will of God?

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## THINGS TO SEEK

John Edwards

The word "seek" is found a number of times in the Bible and suggests earnest looking. The Lord said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he

that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Mt. 7:7-8). Here are some things we should seek:

**THE LORD.** Paul told men, "That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from everyone of us" (Acts 17:27). If we expect to find the Lord, we must seek Him with the "whole heart" (Ps. 119:2). The Lord "...is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb. 11:6). Do you diligently seek the Lord?

**THE LAW OF THE LORD.** Notice the purpose of Ezra: "For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments" (Ezra 7:10). We would all do well to follow this example. The Psalmist penned, "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul..." (Ps. 19:7). Have you sought the law of the Lord?

**THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS.** Jesus taught, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto

you" (Mt. 6:33). The Lord's church must come first in our lives! You can put the church first by attending regularly, giving liberally, and being zealous in the work and worship of the church!

**THINGS ABOVE.** The Spirit of God revealed, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1-2). This involves laying up treasures in heaven (Mt. 6:19-21). Things on the earth are only temporary, but the things above are eternal in nature (1 Jn. 2:17).

**A BETTER COUNTRY.** We ought to confess, as others have confessed, that we are strangers and pilgrims on the earth. "For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country" (Heb. 11:14). Heaven is depicted as a city in the country (Heb. 11:16). Are you seeking the heavenly country?

**THE LOST.** Jesus asked, "Either what woman having ten pieces of silver, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find it?" (Lk. 15:8).

**The Terre Haute **SPEAKER**** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

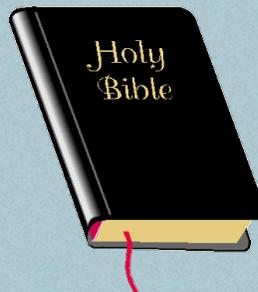
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[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,  
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### **Assembling Times:**

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.  
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**We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.**

**We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.**

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