

**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Don't beat Yourself Up

By Casey Head

I'd like to begin by directing your attention to the parable of the Pharisee & the tax collector, which can be found in Luke 18:9-14. Although this parable is well-known in religious circles, many often walk away from this parable with a false and very dangerous assumption.

"Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men - extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

In this parable, we see a contrast between two men: the Pharisee and the tax collector. While the Pharisee exuded arrogance unbecoming of any child of God, the tax collector freely acknowledged his shortcomings and humbly sought God's mercy. The Pharisee in this parable was condemned by Jesus. The tax collector went home "justified."

Many read this parable and conclude that all of us fall into one of two categories. Either we are arrogant and self-righteous like the Pharisee or we are humble like the tax collector. Either we boast about our good works and see ourselves as better than everyone else (the Pharisee), or we beat ourselves up and see ourselves as nothing but perpetual sinners and failures (the tax collector). Remember, this parable was intended, not to degrade righteous people, but to humble self-righteous people (vs. 9). Thus, the tax collector is not being held up as a model for us; he is being used to further enrich and deepen the ugliness of arrogance in religion by way of contrast.

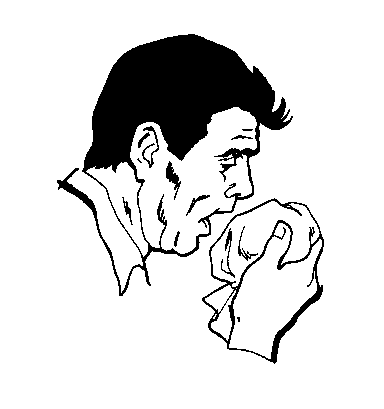
To put it another way, Jesus isn't saying that we must always carry with us a self-defeating attitude, and that if we don't, we must be self-righteous like the Pharisee. He's simply telling us not to be self-righteous like the Pharisee. That's the point of the parable.

Consider with me the following statements and tell me which category these statements fall into; do these statements reflect (a) self-righteousness (like the Pharisee), or (b) the self-defeating attitude many impose upon the tax collector?

"For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord" (1 Cor. 4:4).

"Therefore let us, as many as are mature (perfect in the KJV), have this in mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you" (Phil. 3:15).

**Volume 5 January 6 2013 #1**



Leprosy!

By Paul Williams

The repulsive disease of leprosy has a strange fascination. God's law for Israel described its symptoms in detail and gave minute instructions to the priest for its diagnosis. This law also said, "As for the leper who has the infection, his clothes shall be torn, and the hair of his head shall be uncovered, and he shall cover his mustache and cry `Unclean! Unclean!' " (Lev. 13:45).

So it was with interest that I listened to two members of a Leprosy Mission interviewed on Radio South Africa (Mar. 2, 1976). This ancient disease is still a terrible scourge, especially in the poorest countries. The good news is the sulfa drugs can now cure it, so that it is not the sentence of a slow death it was in Bible times.

But what caught my ear was said at the end of the program. The interviewer asked, "How is leprosy spread?" The experts replied, "It used to be thought that it was spread only by prolonged skin-to-skin contact. But now we think it is spread by coughing and sneezing."

So it has taken medical science 3,500 years to discover that God's way of preventing leprosy is medically correct. His law said, "he shall cover his mustache." The leper was to wear a cloth, what we would call a face-mask, which would hang down from his upper lip. The spread of the disease was thus prevented because the sneeze or cough was covered. God's people were in this way protected from the spread of the terrible disease by the law of a loving God.

Nothing about leprosy would lead a person to guess it could be spread by droplets in the breath of a sufferer, for leprosy is a [skin disease](http://www.aubeacon.com/Articles2012/Article_Leprosy.html?utm_source=The+Auburn+Beacon+-+September+16%2C+2012+Edition&utm_campaign=The+Auburn+Beacon+-+September+16%2C+2012&utm_medium=email). Certainly Moses, the lawgiver, had no human way of discovering that the disease could thus be spread. But God knew, and He gave the law that protected His people. He gave a law which only now is appreciated for its wisdom. He gave a law which, in its nature, shows that it came from God, not man, for it contained this, and other, provisions which show a knowledge which science did not attain until thousands of years later. Praise be to our wonderful God!



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**

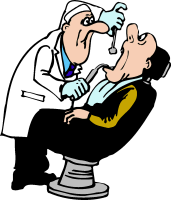


NO! Everyone Is Not Right!

"Then His disciples came and said to Him, 'Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?' But He answered and said, 'Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.'" (Matt. 15:12-13)

I'm always taken aback by anyone who thinks all roads lead to God, that all religions are equally valid. Nobody believes that about anything else. I wonder why anybody believes that about religion.

Last summer, I had to have a root canal. It wasn't as bad as I had been told, but there are more fun ways to spend a summer morning. If my endodontist had said, "You know, Mr. Elzinga, it really doesn't matter how I do a root canal. Eventually, all roads lead to that problem tooth. I can go directly to the tooth, or I can go in through your ear, or I can go in through your nostril, or I can drill into your neck and work my way back up to that gum," at that point, I would look for a new oral surgeon! (From Kenneth G. Elzinga)



[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew

5:27-48 6:1-24 6:25-714 7:15-29 8:1-17 8:18-34 9:1-17



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

**CAN CHURCHES HEAL AMERICA?**

By Jeff May

A few years ago the cover to a 1996 edition of U.S. News caught my attention. It asked, “Can Churches Cure America’s Social Ills”?  Hmm.

Now, as a Christian my chief allegiance is to God’s holy nation of which I am a citizen (1 Pet. 2:9; Phil. 3:20); but since America is where I reside for now I want to see it do well for if it has peace, I have peace (Jer. 29:7).

As I pondered the question, “Can Churches Heal America?”, I thought of some things churches are going to have to do if they hope to have an impact.

Churches must call people back to the book (the Bible). (That’s going to be difficult to do because they are first going to have to get back to the book themselves! ERH) It’s what America needs more than anything else. Just this morning, my “check engine” light came on. I didn’t know what to do.  Of course, I knew to check the engine, but where do I start? I immediately reached into the glove compartment for the owner’s manual. It told me what I needed to know. Friend, that’s what your Bible is. It’s  a manual from the Owner who made us all and knows what’s best. No matter how broken down your life is the Bible can fix it. In it, we have all we need (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Why would so many people ignore a book that is so good for us? Too many people just don’t want to be accountable to God. So, they reason Him away and deny the Bible as His word.  Someone has said, “The atheist cannot find God for the same reason a thief cannot find a policeman.” He doesn’t want to. America is not the first nation to try to push God out. Jehoiakim, the king of Judah, took God’s word, cut it up with a knife and through it in the fire (Jer. 36:23). Perhaps he thought he had done away with God’s word but he had not because He couldn’t touch its Author. Try as we may to push God’s word out of our lives, it lives and abides forever (1 Pet. 1:22-25). Like an anvil wears its hammers one by one, God’s word has outlasted all its skeptics. Oh, how we need this book!! America’s hope is to come back to the Bible.

Churches must remember the mission of the church. People long before us saw “going to church” very simply. God’s word was highlighted above all. Some have even said that when preachers spoke you could “feel the heat.” How do people see churches now? As people see so many denominations with recreation centers, cafeterias, gymnasiums and the like, are people impressed with the need for the spiritual over the physical? Jesus had to deal with that problem. People came in hoards wanting physical food. When He made it clear that His mission was to provide spiritual food, most of them walked away (Jn. 6:26-27,66-68). A few in the religious world have been willing to admit that without all the physical attractions their numbers would drastically fall off. Jesus didn’t worry about that.  He sadly let them walk away. In fact, if you’ll notice, every time crowds began to build, Jesus’ teaching became even more challenging (Lk. 14:25-25). He wanted those who wanted Him. That’s it. The mission of the church is to preach the truth, period (1 Tim. 3:15).  Many years ago, a French statesman, Alexis De Toqueville (1805 – 1859) came to America trying to find the secret of its greatness. What he found is interesting. Listen to this!! “I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her commodious harbors and her ample rivers >>>

**Volume 5 January 13 2013 #2**

>>> –in her fertile fields and boundless forests – and it was not there… in her rich mines and her vast world commerce – and it was not there…in her democratic Congress and her matchless Constitution – and it was not there. Not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because she is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.” Local churches must remember their mission.  Preaching is growing weaker in far too many places. Preachers must call sin, sin (Jn. 8:31). Faith comes by hearing God’s word (Rom. 10:17). Without God’s word, America will be faithless.

Churches must encourage members to come home to family.  Too many  homes   hardly  have  anyone  home. Dads must provide (1st Timothy 5:8) but they can be gone far too much in their pursuit of climbing the ladder of success. Moms need to focus their minds on being keepers at home (Titus 2:4-5). Even kids can be away from home too much. We must spend time together. I’ll never forget brother Connie Adams telling of a yard sale at his parent’s home.  Reluctantly, they decided to sell the family dinner table he had sat around all of his growing up years. There were so many good memories. For most of the day, it had not sold. Inwardly, Connie was sort of glad. Then…a buyer came, loaded it up and drove away.  Connie said as he saw it go away, he cried. I understand. How many families today would have such sentimental thoughts about their table? We just need to come home and build our homes on Christ (Mt. 7:24-27).

Churches must teach members to deny worldliness in their lives (Rom. 2:17-24; Mt. 5:13-16). If we, one-by-one, will let the Lord put our lives together, the world will fall right into place. If you want to heal America, start with you. May God bless the United States of America.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Developing a Proper Attitude Toward Reading the Bible

By Greg Gwin

Who can deny the importance of reading the Bible? It is the inspired word of God (2 Tim. 3:16.17), the light to guide us in this life (Ps. 118: 105), the standard by which we will be judged (Jn 12:48), and is able to save our souls (James 1:21).

And so, for most or us the question is not: ‘Should we read the Bible?’ We know that we should. But in all honesty, we have to admit that we don't read it as often or as thoroughly as we should. The reality of this situation reflects a basic problem or attitude on our part. Too often the few moments that we do spend in study of God's word are prompted from an ‘I have to’ viewpoint. We'll never be very good Bible students until we can approach this study with an ‘I want to’ attitude.

Someone has suggested that the Bible should be read in much the same way that you might read a love letter. Did anyone ever have to force you to read a love letter? Or course not! When such a letter arrives in the mail, you tear open the envelope and quickly read through the letter to get the main ideas. But then, before laying the letter aside, you read it again, this time more slowly, hoping to get even more meaning. You will probably read the letter again several times, pondering carefully over every word, before finally putting it away in some special place to be saved. Why all the interest in this letter? Because it is from someone you love. Now, have you ever thought about the Bible in this same way? It will affect your attitude toward this ‘love letter’ from God.

“Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine”(1 Tim. 4:13).

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew

9:18-38 10:1-23 10:24-11:6 11:7-30 12:1-21 12:22-45 12:46-13:23



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

When Should We Oppose Departures?

By Gardner S. Hall

We all admit that departures from the Lord’s way should be opposed. At least, we all say we do.

When should our opposition begin? Should it begin the minute unauthorized devices are introduced? Or should we wait until they have led to much greater apostasies? Should one cry out the moment he sees the danger or wait until many see it?

If one warns as soon as he sees danger, he will be misunderstood, and good people will accuse him of jealousy and persecution against his brethren. Some will call him an old grouch and a faultfinder, a mote hunter.

Should this deter him? Not if he loves the church and the souls of men more than himself and popularity. John the Baptist lost his head because he condemned sin. How many talked Herod’s conduct over the back fence but dared not to do anything? Paul fought the encroachment of Judaism from its incipiency and his fight brought him into conflict with Peter (Gal. 2:11-21). Peter was saved by Paul’s bold reproof, and no doubt many others were. He could have waited till the error had built great strongholds, and allowed many more to be lost.

Many thought David Lipscomb was straining out gnats when he opposed societies and instrumental music. But the element of the church that introduced these innovations was on its way to modernism. It was not so easy for many good men to see then what the end would be; but we who have seen the outcome recognize the foresight and wisdom of Lipscomb. In the present institutional battle, those who are truly awake can already see that to be acceptable to the institutional brethren one must not simply accept church related orphan homes. There is a big package in which these homes are wrapped and one must accept the whole package.

The innovations of this generation will not be the last ones. They will multiply rapidly in the next generation; extreme will follow extreme. If I accept the present innovations but then get my eyes shocked open by the flood of new ones soon to come, then begin opposing them, I will really be called a crank. This is what a few will do, whereas the masses will be swept away in the apostasy. If I do not oppose the first ones, I will be responsible for some who will begin sliding downward and never stop until they hit the bottom.

All Christians ought to study. But all who lead or teach certainly should study and be sure they are safe leaders and teachers (James 3:1). They should be able to discern the Scriptural from the unscriptural, that which has New Testament authority from that which is of man (Mk. 11:30). They must be able to see, not only for themselves, but for great numbers who lack the power of discernment – the ones Paul speaks of as simple, or innocent (Rom. 16:18).

Blessed is the church whose elders test every move by the Scriptures and cry out against everything not backed by divine precedent or authority.

It is unfortunate when a church has leaders who receive everything with open arms, provided it is big and is launched by big men.

**Volume 5 January 20 2013 #3**

If you are visiting with us we are glad you are here!

If you would like a Bible study please let one of the brethren know!

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Many Things Remain Unchanged

By Greg Gwin

It seems that the problems which exist in the church today are much the same as have existed in years gone by. This includes the problem of those who are disorderly in the public worship. If you don't think this is true, just read the following statement by Alexander Campbell, made in 1835:

“To be habitually late in attending the appointments of the brethren, is most indecorous; and, except in cases of sickness, to withdraw from any meeting before the final amen, is a violation of the most obvious rules of order, Next to those who permit barking and fighting dogs and screaming children to torment the audience, I know of none more obnoxious to censure than those disturbers of the peace, who are ever and anon of foot, going out and coming in, as if to arrest attention, or disturb the speaker and the audience. These, and they who whisper and mutter to their companions while one is addressing the audience, except on some paramount occasion, belong to the first class of transgressors of the plainest principles of good education and good order.”

In the last 175 years we have largely overcome the annoyance of "barking and fighting dogs," but much improvement is still needed in the majority of categories mentioned by Campbell.

Think about it!



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



**"Jesus is My Savior and not My Religion"**

**By Edward O. Bragwell, Sr.**

This is a catchy phrase that is making the rounds among professed Christians that is quite troubling. The sentiment is expressed by many on the internet in charts, videos and other ways.

The message conveyed is subtle. It subtly suggests that there is a disconnect between [accepting Jesus](http://www.aubeacon.com/Articles2012/Article_JesusIsMySaviorAndNotMyReligion.html?utm_source=The+Auburn+Beacon+-+October+21%2C+2012+Edition&utm_campaign=The+Auburn+Beacon+-+October+14%2C+2012&utm_medium=email) as Savior and accepting Him as Lord. The idea what Jesus is all about His saving the soul without giving us any “rules” to keep. Another way of putting it, accepting Christ is to accept His gift of salvation without having to follow Him with acts of worship and service in obedience to His commands.

The website “dictionary.com” defines RELIGION as “a set of beliefs concerning the cause, nature, and purpose of the universe, especially when considered as the creation of a superhuman agency or agencies, usually involving devotional and ritual observances, and often containing a moral code governing the conduct of human affairs.”

The life that Jesus requires as Lord of my life and His grace teaches fits this definition. The “set of beliefs” that I hold concerning the nature and purpose the universe as His creation involves “devotional and observances” (acts of worship) and it contains His “moral code governing the conduct of human affairs.” The is “pure and undefiled religion.”

Jesus is my Savior AND my Religion!

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew

13:24-46 13:47-14:12 14:13-36 15:1-28 15:29-16:12 16:13-17:9 17:10-27



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

"Better to be of a Humble Spirit"

By R.J. Evans

"God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6). "Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud" (Prov. 16:18-19).

A person does not have to be proud, boastful or arrogant to be great, as is believed by so many today. Moses was truly a great man, and at the same time, "very meek, above all the men which lived upon the face of the earth" (Num. 12:3). King Saul was told by Samuel that "When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel?" (1 Sam. 15:23). But with the passing of time, Saul became "big" in his own eyes and, because of his proud, sinful actions, the Lord rejected him as king (1 Sam. 15:23).

David, a man after God's own heart, was humble. His humility is evident by some of his statements found in the Psalms. He said, "My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; The humble shall hear of it and be glad" (Psa. 34:2). He also stated that "The sacrifices of God are of a broken spirit, A broken and contrite heart -- These, O God, You will not despise" (Psa. 51:17).

The Apostle Paul, from the world's viewpoint, had every reason to be proud. He was highly educated, having been "brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our father's law" (Acts 22:3). He had the honor and privilege of being a Roman citizen (Acts 22:25-29). Paul told the Philippians, "If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless" (Phil. 3:4-6). Yet, Paul was a man of humility. Concerning the facts just stated, he went on to say, "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ" (Phil. 4:7). In fact, he later called these things "rubbish" (v. 8). As an apostle, he spoke of himself as "the least of all the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God" (1 Cor.15:9). He also spoke of himself as the chief of sinners (1 Tim. 1:15).

All through the scriptures, we can observe that God used the ones of a "humble spirit" for His service. If we are going to be truly great in the service to the Lord today, then we too must be humble. Jesus said, "but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant" (Matt. 20:26). James tells us to "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, And He will lift you up" (Jas. 4:10).

The person of a "humble spirit" realizes that he is nothing without God. He is genuinely happy to obey all of God's commands and to receive His rich blessings. He is like an empty vessel which only God can fill. Paul said, "For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith (Rom. 12:3). May we always remember that "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble" (Jas. 4:6).

**Volume 5 January 27 2013 #4**

‘I Don’t Want My Kids To Be Different’

By Greg Gwin

Although most Christians wouldn’t say it in so many words, many parents seem to be very concerned about things that might make their kids look ‘different’. They are concerned about raising their children in strict, disciplined ways that might make them stand out in contrast to others. They mistakenly feel a need to have their kids ‘blend in’ with kids at school, etc.

Well, let’s see about that . . . Statistics indicate that 13% of teens in America have had sex before their 15th birthday, and 70% have had intercourse before they reach 201. ‘But, I don’t want my kids to be different.’ Really!?! Are you sure about that?

6.5% of 8th graders, 17% of 10th graders, and 23% percent of 12th graders used marijuana in the past month, while 3.6% of 8th graders, 14.5% of 10th graders, and 28% of 12th graders reported getting drunk in the past month2. But you say, ‘I don’t want my kids to be different.’ Are you kidding!?!

35% of teenage boys and 26% of teenage girls admit to shoplifting. 83% say they have lied to their parents about something significant, and 64% admitted to cheating on tests3. Yet, you’re still worried about your kids being ‘different’? How can that be!?!

Why are parents so worried about their children being viewed as ‘normal’ in such a wicked, immoral world? NOW is the time to be teaching them, training them, and helping them to realize that pleasing God will require a way of life that is truly ‘different’ – even ‘weird’ – by the norms of the ungodly society that surrounds us.

If you don’t instruct them in their youth to “come out from among them and be separate” (2 Cor. 6:17), don’t be surprised if they reach adulthood without a true and sacrificial love for God. Think!

1 Guttmacher Institute

2 National Institute on Drug Abuse

3 Josephson Institute



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Seed and Soil - by Jim R. Everett

The producivity of seed is directly proportionate to the fertility of soil. It matters not how good the seed is, if it is planted in bad soil; either it will not germinate or, having germinated, it will produce a sickly plant. So it is with the word of God and human hearts.

In the parable of "The Sower," stress is laid, not on the power of the seed, but, on the kind of soil in which it is sown. Four kindst of soil are mentioned in which the seed is sown -- the wayside, rocky places, soil in which thorns are abundant, and good soil (Lk. 8:1-15; Matt. 13:1-23). Each of these represents four different kinds of human hearts, while the seed is called "the word of God" (Lk. 8:11).

The deficiencies of the first three kinds of soil do not, in any way, cast reflection upon the power of the seed to produce life. The problem is in the soil and not in the seed. Neither should men speak of the word of God as powerless to convert men -- the potential to produce new life and to change men is found in the word of God (see Romans 1:16; 1 Peter 1:22-25). So why doesn't it always bring forth an abundant harvest? -- because the soil, the human heart, is not receptive or it is encumbered with the cares of the world. So, let's not blame God for our lack of productivity -- the kind of soil we are has been our choice.

What are the ingredients of fertile soil? Jesus defines it thusly: "... they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience" (Lk. 8:15 ). I believe there are still human beings with good hearts that want the word of God. Is your soil good?

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew

18:1-20 18:21-19:12 19:13-30 20:1-28 20:29-21:22 21:23-46 22:1-23



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

HOW DOES ONE BECOME A FRIEND OF JESUS?

By Carrol R. Sutton

One cannot become a friend of Christ by going "to the altar and praying through to salvation." Advocates of the "praying through" theology never give a Scripture that teaches that alien sinners can be saved from their past sins by going to the altar and praying. No where in the Scriptures do we find where any alien sinner was ever told to "come to the altar and pray."

Neither does one become a friend of Christ by "picking out some good church" he likes

and joining it. Every denominational church is destined to "be rooted up." (Read Psalms

127:1 which says, "*Unless the Lord builds the house, They labor in vain who build it,*"

and Matthew 15:13 which says, "*Every plant which My heavenly Father did not plant*

*shall be rooted up*".

A religious "experience" does not make one a friend of Christ. There is no Scriptural

evidence that one is a friend of the Lord just because he may have had a religious

"experience."

Giving so-called "testimonials" about how good the Lord is and how much one loves Him does not make one a friend of Christ. The fact that one lives an upright moral life does not necessarily mean that he is a friend of the Lord.

In John 15:14 Jesus told His disciples: "*Ye are my friends IF ye do whatsoever I command you.*" It is quite obvious from this statement of Jesus Christ that one can not be, and thus cannot become a friend of His unless he does what Jesus commands. To do what Jesus commands one must learn and believe what Jesus says. Only then can he truly do what Jesus says. The source of). information must be the Scriptures. As we study the Scriptures we learn that FAITH, REPENTANCE, CONFESSION, and BAPTISM are conditions set forth by the Lord that we must meet in order to become His friends.

Please read and study carefully Heb 11:6; John 20:30-31; Rom 10:17; Acts 17:30-31; Rom 10:9-10; Mark 16:15-16 and Gal 3:26-27. Do you believe what these verses say? If so, you will become a friend of the Lord when you obey them!

To continue to be His friend, you must continue to learn, believe and obey whatever Jesus commands. This is how one becomes and remains a friend of Jesus Christ.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people. - Proverbs 14:34

**Volume 5 February 3 2013 #5**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+people&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=bMqOXW7He1b2BM&tbnid=lR8aIHHq06UscM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.sophia.org/know-your-audience-tutorial&ei=QfsLUb6PPIHa8wSuhoHIBg&bvm=bv.41867550,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNGFzUL-lhBSYnsFHAGWEvXdonKc_g&ust=1359826046687637)

I Love the Church That Jesus Built

By Gus Nichols  
  
I love the church that Jesus built,  
And know that it is right.  
I go there every Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

I love to sing the songs of God;  
Such worship must be right.  
And this I do on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

I love to hear the Gospel too,  
It gives me pure delight.  
I hear it every Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

And may God bless our preacher too,  
And give him power and might,  
And put a sinner in my place  
At worship Sunday night.

It’s true, the church can save the world,  
If good light shines bright;  
I help it every Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night.

Yes, all of us must one day die,  
I hope I’ll be doing right;  
So may I die on Sunday morn,  
But not on Sunday night!

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,

25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. - Hebrews 10:24-25



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



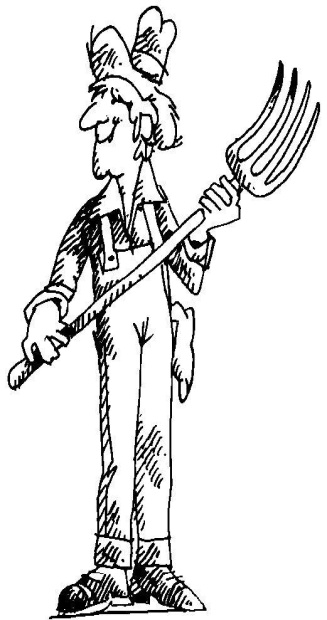
The Price To Pay!

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace..." (Eph. 1:7)

Suppose that a man rented a large field from another and promised to pay a thousand dollars for the rental at the end of the year. The agreement is signed. If the harvest has been poor because of drought, pests, storms, poor fertilizing, or whatever, the man who rented the field may wish he had never signed the agreement. He may wish that the owner take half of the harvest instead of demanding cash. However, the agreement had been signed and there is nothing to do but abide by it.

If, however, the owner should say that he would accept fifty bushels of corn instead of the money, compliance would put an end to the agreement. If the owner should say he would accept twenty bushels of grain, that is the end of the matter. If the owner should say that he would free the man from his debt if he would sing him a song, that ends the matter. It is the owner who must be satisfied.

God must be satisfied in the matter of our sin. When one believes and obeys the Lord, God declares a man free from his sin. God declares Himself fully satisfied because of what the Lord has done for us. Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift.

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+farmer&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=m1D-5vdo8fBiLM&tbnid=qDRstCDZqQNMWM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.garden-services.com/gallery/garden_clipart/farmer%20bob.htm&ei=E_oLUbyTO4T-8ASeyYGgCQ&bvm=bv.41867550,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNEDnpuL40Fk30fTCFVxmi6KF0_f1Q&ust=1359825805133918)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew

22:34-23:12 23:13-39 24:1-28 24:29-51 25:1-30 25:31-26:13 26:14-46



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

He Being Dead Yet Speaketh

By Greg Gwin

Concerning Abel, the Hebrew writer said, “he being dead yet speaketh” (11:4). This, of course, is a reference to the fact that Abel’s example of faith and obedience continued to serve as a lesson to others long, long after his death – continuing even to those of us living today.

While none of us will ever attain to the reputation of Abel, it is still true that our example – for good or bad – will endure after we are dead. Think about that for a moment: what will your life, your work, your service to God say about you when you are dead and gone? Here are some possible outcomes – some things your example might ‘say’

after your death:

- ‘He never really put God first in his life. For him, it was all about his work, his career, the accumulation of material things. When he died he had a huge bank account, lots of investments, a big house, etc. But, as they say, you can't take it with you . . .’

- ‘She was all about appearances. She spent lots of time and money making sure that she had the latest fashions and the best of accessories. She really looked nice. But, you know, in the end she only wore one dress to her funeral. . .’

- ‘He loved to hunt and fish, to go camping, play golf, etc. He had all the top-of-the-line equipment. And, oh yes, he’d frequently miss worship services to engage in his recreational pursuits – even got his golf ‘handicap’ down in the single digits. But, I heard they sold all of his gear for pennies-on-the-dollar when he was gone . . .’

- ‘She didn’t like it when the preacher delivered strong doctrinal sermons from the pulpit. Her constant complaint was that this sort of preaching would ‘drive folks away.’ Sad to say, but none of the folks she was so concerned about offending even showed up at her funeral.’

We could go on, but you get the point. Is this how you want to be remembered after your death? It would be far better if it were said:

- ‘He loved God, and his life showed it. He would forego anything in order to put the Lord first. Career, money, possessions, recreation, the admiration of worldly minded people, etc. – none of that compared in importance to serving faithfully in Christ’s kingdom. He sure set a great example, and he will not soon be forgotten.’

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; Proverbs 3:5

**Volume 5 February 10 2013 #6**

Slaves to Recreation

By James W. Adams

“Make thy recreation servant to thy business, let thou become a slave to they recreation.” - Francis Quarles

The primary “business of every professed child of God should be so to live in this life as to spend eternity with God in that life which is to come. Yet, this all important business often takes second place to modern man’s recreation. This is particularly noticeable in the summertime. Attendance, interest, contributions have an embarrassing way of taking a proverbial nose-dive in the summer months.

Recreation is a necessity. It is extremely doubtful that any individual can have a completely healthy body or mind without seasons of recreation. Recreation is precisely what the word indicates - a means of recreating the used up forces of mind and body. Recreate means to create again, to renew. As a servant to minister to the well being of the mind and body, recreation is a great blessing. As a master to control our lives and actions, it is a great curse.

The amount of time, thought and money that professed Christians are devoting to recreation indicates unquestionably that it has ceased to be the servant in many lives and has become the master. Jesus warns in the parable of the sower against our allowing “the pleasures of this life” to choke out the “good seed.” Have you ever sat down with pencil and paper and compared with figures the amount of time, thought and money you dedicate to the Lord’s work as compared to the amount of time, thought and money that you dedicate to recreation? You should do this. We feel that to many this would bring an enlightenment and challenging experience.

As a side-line, recreation is a worthwhile activity. But, infringing upon the main-line, godliness, recreation becomes a snare and a curse.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



No Debt Limit

By Charlie Gamble

The Federal debt limit debate has been in the news for a while now.  All sorts of scary scenarios are being put forth as each side postures at the negotiating table. I pray for those who rule.

I am so thankful that God doesnt have a debt limit for forgiveness of sin. His grace is unlimited. His forgiveness is extended from the Garden of Eden to the end of the world. Of course, this is not an invitation for us to sin as Paul pointed out in Romans 6:1-2 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? (NKJV)

Instead it is a reason for us to rejoice and live for the one who paid the debtJesus. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. Romans 6:10-12 (NKJV) Live for Jesus!  
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, "I have no pleasure in them" - Ecclesiastes 12:1

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Matthew Mark Mark

26:47-68 26:69-27:14 27:15-31 27:32-66 28:1-20 1:1-28 1:29-2:12



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Drawing Strength from the Courage of Others

By Bill Hall

How thankful we should be for wonderful examples of courage that spur us on to greater strength in the Lord's service.

Paul was just such an example: "And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear" (Phil. 1:14). These brethren, formerly timid and reticent, were drawing strength from the courage of Paul.

Other examples abound. Stephen's plea, “Lord, lay not this sin to their charge," surely had for its source of strength the forgiving spirit of the Lord (Acts 7:60). The Thessalonian church found a source of strength in the example of the churches in Judea (1 Thess. 2:14).

The Philippian church, a model of courage and conviction, could no doubt trace much of its strength back to the wonderful example of patience and equanimity demonstrated by Paul and Silas while in their midst. The Hebrew Christians were admonished to "remember them that had the rule over you, men that spake unto you the word of God; and considering the issue of their life, imitate their faith" (Heb. 13:7).

Christians of this generation are similarly drawing strength from the courage of others. Young men who refuse to miss services of the church to play on a ball team; young women who refuse to be seen in public in scanty attire; businessmen who would lose their jobs rather than compromise their convictions; women who continue to adorn themselves in "meek and quiet spirits" whatever the sophisticated world thinks or says of them; sick people who bear their afflictions with patience and faith; elderly people who continue to attend worship when they are hardly able to go anywhere else; dying people who demonstrate how Christians ought to die; all are sources of strength and courage for others as they face similar circumstances. These all share a common spirit with the great characters of the Bible: they see in their temptations, trials, afflictions, and persecutions a special opportunity to be like Christ, to demonstrate their fidelity to Him, and to provide a source of strength for those who might be weak and wavering around them. They seize the opportunity and stand, and all of us are stronger because of them. Of these courageous people this world truly is not worthy.

Are we, however, to be always on the receiving end of the strength of others? As we draw strength from the courage of others, we must in turn become sources of strength and courage. Others look to us. In the words of Charles Wesley, each of us has a "charge to keep," and "God to glorify," a present age to serve."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

"And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom

you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side

of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me

and my house, we will serve the LORD." - Joshua 24:15

**Volume 5 February 17 2013 #7**

Teaching for Eternity

By Norman Midgette

Accepting the responsibility to teach in a Bible Class is a very important and serious matter. One of the gifts Christ gave to the church along with apostles, prophets, evangelists and elders was "teachers" (Eph. 4:11). The gravity with which this duty should be faced is further emphasized in James 3:1. "Be not many of you teachers, my brethren, knowing that we shall receive heavier judgment."

There are two things that make this work so important. One is the nature of the book you are teaching. It is the only divine book in the world. Some of the words, though written in the book by man, were first written by the finger of God (Ex. 31:18; Dan. 5:5-28). All of it is inspired or "God breathed" (2 Tim. 3:16, 17). Peter said men spoke as they were "borne along by the 'Holy Spirit'" (2 Pet. 1:21). When you hold in your hand before a class of students the Bible, you are holding the book God has revealed, protected, preserved and made available to us in our own language through His providence and the one, when obeyed, which will save us (Jas. 1:21). It is the last book each of your students will face and at that time the destiny of their souls will be determined by its content (Jn. 12:48). Are you a teacher of this book? If so, teach it with preparation, seriousness, and make sure what you are teaching from it is the Truth. A Bible classroom is no place for an unfaithful person as a teacher or the place for an unprepared person as a teacher. Being "faithful" and "able" were the two qualities Paul told Timothy to look for in those who would teach others (2 Tim. 2:2).

The other factor making teaching the Bible so important is the nature of the ones you are teaching. Their spirits and souls are as eternal as the Book from which you are teaching them. They will live forever and what you are teaching them has to do with God. You are not teaching them how to fix a car, punch data into a computer, fly an airplane or even fly into outer space. You are teaching them how to go much farther than that. And when they get there they are not there for a week or two but forever. Each student brings you a soul to instruct and help prepare for eternity. What an opportunity this is and what a responsibility!



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



SIN TAKES OUR STRENGTH

By Shane Williams

Sin gives us the illusion of power and freedom, yet takes away our God-given strength. We become spiritually weak and feeble but we usually imagine that we're just as tough as ever.

That's the deceitfulness of sin. Gradually we drift away from God. We lose our desire to spend time in His Word and in prayer The current of this world carries us away from good friends and godly influences. We drift deeper into sin -- our sad, weak state often evident to all eyes but our own.

Samson was a man who had immense strength, yet he told of his secret to Delilah. He laid down and slept on her lap. She had his hair shaved and then woke him up. He thought he would be fine, just like before (Judges 16:20). He didn't know that  
the Lord had taken away his strength.

Many years later, the prophet Hosea confronted the people of Israel and said that they too had lost their strength because of sin. They didn't even realize it (Hosea 7:8-16). Hosea commanded them to "return to the Lord. Say to Him, 'Take away all iniquity;  
receive us graciously'" (14:2).

Sin can take away our strength also. That 's why we must deliberately take time to examine ourselves, as to whether we are in the faith (2 Cor. 13:5). David said: "Search me; O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psa. 139:23,24). When we turn to Him, He will receive us graciously. He wants us to be free from sin's domination. He desires us to be strong with Him (Eph. 6:10). Are you with Him?

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark

2:13-3:6 3:7-30 3:31-4:25 4:26-5-20 5:21-43 6:1-29 6:30-56



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

“How Do I Know There Really Is A God?”

By John D. Morris

The other night at bedtime, after we had read a Bible story and prayed, my oldest daughter, Chara, aged 8, fired a series of questions at me which came from her innermost being. "How do I know if creation is true? In fact, how do I know if there really is God, I've never seen Him? The girl next doors' teacher believes in evolution. How am I supposed to know?" Appreciating her questioning spirit, I promised to do a set of creation "experiments" with her that weekend, and her excitement grew as the week- end approached.

When the time came, I presented her with a series of four grocery sacks, each to be examined in turn. I explained that God no longer creates as He did during creation week (Gen. 2:1-4, Ex. 10:11, etc.), but that if He has created we ought to be able to tell it by observing the things He has made. By way of analogy we discussed how to tell if a person had "made" (i.e., created) something. She determined that a human "created" object would be designed, it would have some purpose, and it would require some intelligence to make it.

The first sack contained a series of rocks, several from the driveway and a piece of polished marble, a rounded turquoise, a stone arrowhead and a concrete brick (i.e., man-made "rock"). She methodically examined each one, correctly identifying those with design, purpose (even though she didn't always know the specific purpose, she knew it must be there) and underlying intelligence. The next sack was a similar array of wood, several pieces quite rough, a twig, a tongue depressor, a wooden button and a carving. Again, she could easily discern the evidence for "creation."

Next, she examined a stack of paper. One page was blank, one had random blobs of paint on it, neither showing human intelligence. A page of scribbling was correctly identified as of human origin, for although it was a mess, it was not something that could "just happen." Next were a page from a magazine and some of my own sloppy artwork. Then came a note from me expressing my love and support for her in her quest. She was getting the point. There is a difference between things that are purposefully made and things that just happen.

Next, I showed her pictures of animals and plants from a biology book, and explained how each living thing is made up of many complex cells, which were also shown. At a smaller scale, I explained the DNA code, which was both pictured and sketched, which contains more information and design than is in all the books in a library put together. All of that information must be read and followed for each cell to continue living. She recognized that such marvelous design could only come about if designed by someone very intelligent; more intelligent than any of today's scientists.

The last sack contained several more driveway rocks (granite, with no fossils), several rocks with fossils in them, a dried sea horse and sand dollar and a flower. Her questions were answered, all living things are the handiwork of a creator, and even non- living rocks accomplish a wonderful purpose, for without them there would be no place to live.

There may be other questions or times of doubt ahead for her, but I am sure she will never forget the conclusions she reached that day. No amount of "education" will convince her that order can naturally come from disorder.

**Volume 5 February 24 2013 #8**

Learning to be Glad When God is Glad

By Gary Henry

“. . . as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death” (Phil. 1:20).

*There will be times when an event is both a gain for God’s Kingdom and a loss for us personally, at least in the short run*. Progress never comes except at a price, and it must occasionally be true that we have to bear a part of the price personally. At such times, we should be glad that the event represents a gain for God’s cause and His kingdom, in the larger perspective.

John the Baptist is a study in the attitude that we need to have. As Jesus’ forerunner, John’s role was only temporary. Once Jesus appeared, the progress of the kingdom would require John to leave the stage, so to speak. To his credit, John had the right attitude: “He must increase, but I must decrease”(John 3:30). If the kingdom was going forward, God would be glad, and so John would be glad too, no matter what the private implications were.

Our highest joy should always come from God’s purposes and their fulfillment. We should define as “good” anything that forwards the Lord’s cause, without regard to any gain or loss of a private nature. Yes, we will have our preferences, as Paul must have had when he wondered whether he would continue to live or be put to death. But deep down, Paul only wanted that “Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.” If a gain for God’s kingdom required a loss for Paul, he was only too glad to accept the loss. On a much higher plane than Nathan Hale ever knew, Paul would regret that he had but one life to give.

Having this attitude does not mean that we don’t grieve what we’re called upon to give up. Jesus willingly — we could even say *gladly* — gave up His life to make possible some things that would bring His Father joy, but if you think His loss did not bring Him grief, you have never read the account of Gethsemane. A willing sacrifice and a broken heart very often go together, and if you haven’t learned that lesson yet, you probably will before you die.

It all comes down to looking at things from the larger perspective. Things that make us sad in the “small picture” are very often those that, in the “big picture,” should make us the gladdest of all.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Living and Worshipping in

‘Loafer’s Glory’

By Greg Gwin

On a road trip through the mountains of western North Carolina, I happened upon a tiny village named ‘Loafer's Glory.’ There was no one around to say how that name became associated with the little community. (Probably everyone was taking a nap or something like that!) But, the very thought of it put me to thinking. What a place to live! If you don't want to mow the grass, or paint the house, or haul off the trash, don't worry! After all, such things are surely not expected in a place with a name like that. And, if anyone complains, you can simply tell them that you're doing what comes naturally in ‘Loafer's Glory.’

I have an idea that it might be an excellent place to begin a church - right there in the middle of ‘Loafer's Glory.’ I think that lots of Christians would be ready to join. In the ‘Loafer's GloryChurch’ there wouldn't be anyone hounding you to teach a class, or do personal work, or volunteer for service around the building. No one would expect you to be faithful in attending all of the services of the church, or to study your Bible. Bible classes would be unheard of, because no one would come even if they were scheduled. And a mid-week meeting for study and prayer - NO WAY!

The problem, I suppose, would be that such a church would die before it got started - for no church, regardless of its size, can ever succeed without members who want to work. And that goes for this church, too. As a member of this body, you need to work - not loaf - for there is no glory in that.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark

7:1-23 7:24-8:10 8:11-38 9:1-29 9:30-10:12 **Mak-Up Day** Mark 10:13-31



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Attitudes Toward Preaching

By Roger Hillis

"Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him" (Lk. 8: 18).

The Savior used these words to instruct His disciples concerning their reception of the truth. In order to accept His words and conform their lives to His teaching, His followers would have to possess the proper attitude. Moses had prophesied of Christ: "The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. And it shall come to pass that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people" (Acts 3:22,23). With respect to the seriousness of that statement, each person should re-examine his attitude toward the preaching of the gospel.

The book of Acts contains examples of various attitudes men manifest toward the truth of God. As these attitudes are examined, let each reader conduct an honest self-examination to determine his own attitude.

Indifference - Many people display the outward appearance of indifference. Gallio, a Grecian deputy, is an example of such a deplorable attitude (Acts 18). When the Jews had kidnapped Paul, forced him to court against his wishes and made false accusations against him, Gallio refused to sit in judgment over the case. Then the Greeks brought the chief ruler of the synagogue and physically beat him in the presence of Gallio. The inspired record says: "And Gallio cared for none of those things" (v.17).

All too often we come in contact with this type of individual -- too busy, too important, or too bored to be bothered with religion. Indifference is a most unfortunate response to the word of God.

Ridicule - Almost every Christian has run into this attitude. "Religion is just for children and old ladies." "Only a sissy would be a Christian." There are numerous manifestations of ridicule. As Paul was preaching to King Agrippa and Bernice (Acts 26), Festus interrupted to inform the inspired apostle that he was crazy. "Now as he thus made his defense, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, you are beside yourself! Much learning is driving you mad!" (v. 24) Many believe that when Agrippa said, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian" (v. 28), the words were not spoken from a sincere heart, but rather with ridicule or sarcasm. Such may have been the case.

Ridicule is often used as a cover-up for ignorance. Rather than admit a lack of knowledge, a sarcastic remark seems a convenient response.

Closed Mind - The Jews constantly exhibited this attitude, The envious Jews of Thessalonica are an excellent example (Acts 17). Rather than hear simple truths of God's word, they started a riot and attempted to kill Paul and Silas. Not even willing to listen to the apostle's doctrine, they closed their minds. Jesus expressed the situation this way: "For the heart of this people has grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, And their eyes they have closed, Lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, Lest they should understand with their heart and turn, So that I should heal them" (Mt. 13:15). >>>

**Volume 5 March 3 2013 #9**

>>> Open Mind - In contrast to those mentioned above, there are some honest and sincere people who will receive the gospel, examine it, and then obey it. The Jews of Berea were such people (Acts 17). "These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so" (v. 11). All should manifest this attitude. This is the person that Christians must always be looking for.

How is your attitude?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Something Learned From Mules

By W.R. Jones

A mule can’t pull while he’s kicking, and when he is pulling he won’t be kicking. It is the same in the church. When saints have their feet in the sand pulling hard to do the will of God, there is no time for kicking, nit-picking and complaining. To the contrary, when weare given to kicking, gossip, and idleness we never move the gospel chariot forward. Also, when one has two or more mules hitched together they have to pull at the same time to move the load. This is also true in the Lord’s church. Pulling ‘together’ accomplishes great things.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

**www.chapmanhwychurchofchrist.com**



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



**The Devil's Bible**

**Popular 6:9**: "Go ahead, everyone else is doing it."

**Cowardly 1:10**: "The best thing to do when the church and it's members are criticized is to keep silent. The critic might get angry with you if you try to defend the church."

**Indifference 3:4**: "I'm tired after working all day and I cannot attend services."

**Excuses 1:1**: "I'm afraid to discuss the Bible with others lest I offend them. They won't listen anyway."

**Foolishness 19:7**: "I'll try anything once."

**Deceit 8:15**: "It makes no difference what one believes as long as he is sincere."

**Pride 4:7**: "If someone offends you and hard feelings result, let him come and beg for your forgiveness; after all it was his fault."

**Apostasy 2:5**: "What difference does it make whether we follow the New Testament or not."

**Hypocrisy 6:5**: "When we go home from college on weekends we always go to church so mom and dad will think that we are faithful while we are away at school."

**2 Opinion 2:4**: "One church is as good as another, therefore attend the church of your choice." - (Author Unknown)

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." (1 Pet. 5:8) "And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works." (2 Cor. 11:14-15)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+kicking+mule&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=osVQKzu6BvnOrM&tbnid=A-W0zmydAY7bOM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.clipartof.com/gallery/clipart/kicking_mules.html&ei=8N0sUZrWD4Ow8ATfoICYBA&bvm=bv.42965579,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNELtxc3oyYgsfnq0UIzyiS1a4wQ4A&ust=1361981281727844)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+computers&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=awJKxuHQsaBwtM&tbnid=8RtIeZBlNMgczM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.oxfordcs.com/&ei=4t4sUYu1OJLy8ATp24A4&bvm=bv.42965579,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNHfZ9gLu1bI8-nlSBzbT94KeFHKYQ&ust=1361981501800172)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark

11:1-25 11:27-12:17 12:18-37 12:38-13:13 13:14-37 14:1-21 14:22-52



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+meteor&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=BH5DWm3ry_7gMM&tbnid=D8Uh5Uigq5DMEM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.photos.com/clipart-vectors/fireball&ei=SDc2UbWEEIb29gTNyYDYBA&bvm=bv.43148975,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNGyHxUkW40vFI6hdBxtfTE_kKUtxA&ust=1362593911688069)

SPACE ROCKS

By George Hutto.

The recent meteor which blazed across the sky over Russia was surely a sensation! Brighter than the sun? A three minute delay before the sonic boom broke out $33 million worth of windows, garage doors and brick walls. Video cameras took us right to the scene where people were screaming, sirens were wailing, and that streak of smoke lingered in the atmosphere.

If a rock the size of an SUV can cause that kind of commotion, what might a rock the size of a football field do? There are pockmarks all over the globe with the answer. Without the residual dust storms and climate change which would accompany such a catastrophe, they are simply there for our learning. The forces at work in the universe are often overlooked by us non-astronomers, but they are there.

l suppose these astroids are "leftovers" from the creation. There was a beginning, we are told by scientists. The word of God says it like this: "...Things which are seen were not made of things which do appear" (Heb. 11:3). To think otherwise is to assume that matter has always been, that there has forever been some   
cosmic work going on. If astronomers talk about "black holes" and "big bangs" by faith based on the evidences available, why can't believers talk about "the creation" from those same evidences?

Gen. 1:1 is really quite rational: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Although it might deny some of their speculations, it does not deny the facts of the astronomers (See Robert Jastrow, God and the Astronomers).

Space rocks then, First, turn our attention to the skies, where God surely had done His handiwork. (Psa. 19:1-3; Acts14:17). Second: As suggested above, these flying rocks say something about science itself, which is no better than religion to exclude prejudice and wrong conclusions. On July 24, 1790 a shower of meteorites hit southwest France, samples of which were sent to the Academie Francaise, along with statements from three hundred witnesses. The scientists there discarded the whole of their evidences as a "physically impossible phenomenon." The evidence did not conform to their prejudiced thinking, that falling stars are something akin to lightning (Wm. R. Fix,The Bone Peddlers, Macmil..1984).

So, not only do space rocks serve to remind us that surely there was a beginning of the natural universe, but also that "Traveling twice the speed of sound. It's easy to get burned" -- as Crosby, Stills, and Nash put it -- even by scientists. (Actually, this rock was going 40,000 mph!) Scientific theories, in the best tradition of science, are like Colorado weather: "If you don't like it, stick around a few minutes and it will change." God's Word does not change.

Third: that rock from space made witnesses aware that they are not altogether in control of their own destiny. Some Russians thought that their country was under attack, others thought that the end of the world had come. >>>

**Volume 5 March 10 2013 #10**

>>> While one of these assumptions involves hostility from our enemies, the other involves the natural course of things, as in the difference between "dying of natural causes," and dying as the result of some sort of foul play. Natural phenomena we accept, but personal hostility arouses the fight in us, along with a call for justice. If our insurance companies mark off a tsunami as "an act of God" we might accept our losses, but if we have any notion that an enemy launched an attack we mount up for war.

Here's the point: what if a personal God is behind some natural cataclysm? Would Noah's sinful contemporaries rise up in wrath against God who punished them with the flood? How would the inhabitants of Sodom demonstrate their outrage at God who judged their sins with fire and brimstone from the heav-  
ens? "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God."

Any rock from space deserves serious consideration. One of the anchors on television wondered out loud hat the "Russian" meteor hit just six hours from when a really big astroid barely missed the earth (17,000 miles away). And within hours, again, another bright light zoomed over San Francisco. Coincidently.

Well, I'm not one to look for or explain all the "signs in heaven". but somewhere the natural and the Divine meet, and picking a fight with God is never a good idea. If He created the universe, there should be no doubt that He can at some appointed time fold the heavens up like a cloak and put them away. (Heb. 1:12; 2 Pet. 3).

We will do well to "bow before the Great I Am" and submit in humble obedience, whether or not my rocks have fallen out of the sky recently. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (Eccl. 12:13,14).



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



If God Should Go On Strike

By Walt Huntley

How good it is that God above  
has never gone on strike,  
Because He was not treated fair  
in things He didn’t like.

If only once, He’d given up and  
said, “That’s it. I’m through.  
I’ve had enough of those on Earth  
so this is what I’ll do:

I’ll give my orders to the sun  
cut off the heat supply!  
And to the moon–give no more light,  
and run the oceans dry.

Then to make things really tough  
and put the pressure on,  
Turn off all the vital oxygen till  
every breath is gone!”

You know He would be justified  
if fairness was the game,  
For no one has been more abused  
or met with more disdain  
Than God, and yet He carries on,  
supplying you and me  
With all the favors of His grace,  
and everything for free.

Men say they want a better deal,  
and so on strike they go,  
But what a deal we’ve given  
God to whom all things we owe.

We don’t care whom we hurt  
to gain the things we like;  
But what a mess we’d all be in  
if God should go on strike.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Mark Mark Mark Luke Luke Luke Luke

14:53-72 15:1-47 16:1-20 1:1-25 1:26-56 1:57-80 2:1-35



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com



Maturity

By Irvin Himmel

All of us are babes when born into God’s family, but maturity should be our aim. A mature person is fully developed, grown up, seasoned, experienced; he has attained spiritual adulthood or wholeness. The word “perfect” sometimes is used in the Bible in the sense of mature or complete, rather than meaning flawless (Eph. 4:13; Col. 1:28; 4:12; Heb. 6:1; Jas. 1:4). The following are some indications of maturity:

***Childish Things Are Put Away*** - Paul once remarked, “When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things” **(1 Cor. 13:11)**. His illustration of a point about the duration of spiritual gifts may be applied to our subject. Childish speech is put away. A child’s speech may be broken, incoherent, and confused. Clear speech requires clear thinking**(1 Cor. 14:20)**. Childish attitudes and reactions are discarded. Grown men and women who whimper and whine to get attention are childish. Reacting to a problem like a spoiled brat is a childish thing. Arguing as if to get in the last word is a childish thing. All such actions are put away by the mature.

***Ability to Take Solid Food*** - Some Christians who ought to be teachers still need first principles; they need milk, not solid food. “For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil” **(Heb. 5:12-14).**Many church members prefer spiritual pablum to divine T-bones! Growth comes through use or practice. Experience in the word of God is gained by searching the scriptures (**1 Tim. 4:13; Acts 17:11)**, by meditation (**Psa. 1:1-2; 119:97)**, and by being taught and by teaching others.

***Ability to Discern Good and Evil*** - “But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil” **(Heb. 5:14, NASB)**. The faculties of the soul must “discriminate between those things which differ in their moral qualities” (R. Milligan). We are constantly confronted with decisions relating to morals and ethics. Mature minds are discerning minds. Skill in discernment is “the hallmark of maturity” (R.S. Taylor).

Isaiah charged that some in his day were so confused that they called evil good, and good evil. “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” (**Isa. 5:20).**Today, some do not see any wrong in dancing, mixed bathing, social drinking, buying lottery tickets, etc., because they lack mature discernment of the difference between good and evil. They fail to distinguish between that which brings honor to God and that which brings reproach on his name.

**Self-Discipline** - A mature person has learned to control anger. Someone has compared anger to a circus performer walking the high wire with no safety net. Even a quick flash of anger has great potential to lead to sin (Eph. 4:26-27). When someone gets mad, anger takes control of him.“He that is slow to anger >>>

**Volume 5 March 17 2013 #11**

>>> is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city”(Prov. 16:32).

A mature individual bridles his tongue (Jas. 1:26; 3:1-12). When properly used, our words perform much good in God’s service. When wrongly used, they produce enormous damage. The tongue, though a little member of the body, is a potential fire; it can generate a world of iniquity. Speech-control is a must. A mature Christian keeps his body in subjection (1 Cor. 9:27). He keeps a watchful eye on himself. The practice of self-restraint requires submission to God and denial of self. The desires of the flesh are not allowed to override the higher spiritual interests.

**Steadfastness** - A sure sign of immaturity is one’s being carried about with every wind of doctrine. Paul tells us to “be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness . . . But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ” (Eph. 4:14-15). A stern warning is issued inHebrews 13:9, “Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines.” Some people seem attracted to every novel idea that is introduced.

Instead of vacillating from one stance to another, the mature Christian is “stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord” (1 Cor. 15:58). His feet are planted solidly on the foundation of truth. He will not yield to popular trends and powerful personalities. He rises above petty bickering and perseveres in pursuing peace and holiness (Heb. 13:14). He runs with patience the race set before him, focusing on Jesus, the source and perfecter of his faith (Heb. 12:1-2).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

- Philippians 4:13



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



**Mama's Bible**

Mama's Bible, so ragged and worn,  
Its pages are scribbled, ripped and torn.  
Its been around for ages, she's had it for years,  
Some pages smudged by rain and some by her tears  
  
The name on the cover is faded, it's true.  
There might be a page missing, or two.  
To look at that book one might scoff and frown  
They may say, "Why, there's no use in keeping it around.  
  
"A new Bible, I'm certain, is what you must need,  
With pages so perfect, and pictures indeed."  
But friends, I know better and I'm here to persuade'  
There's more in that ol' book, more than I can say.  
  
For she read it and held it so close to her heart,  
Its Knowledge and Wisdom and Love to impart.  
She held it so tightly, through storm and through chill,  
But ever much closer when her children were ill.  
  
Her faith can be seen on each page and each line,  
Her writings of love time after time.  
She carried it high through thick and through thin,  
So proud of the holy scriptures contained within.  
  
Of all of the treasures in this world we can hold,  
The Bible of mom so ragged and old.  
Is far more precious than any other,  
For it was given to her by her dear mother.  
  
No memory is more precious, none that I hold so dear,  
When the storms of my life bring me much fear  
The vision of mother, the love on her face . . .  
I remember when mama would sing "Amazing Grace”!

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke

2:36-52 3:1-22 3:23-38 4:1-30 4:31-5:11 5:12-28 5:29-6:11



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

The Intolerance and Lies of Open-Mindedness

By Doy Moyer

We’ve all heard it: we don’t accept a particular viewpoint so, therefore, we are closed-minded bigots trapped inside some blind faith and hope fostered by an ancient, cultish superstition. Those who make such charges are, of course, the open-minded, loving, tolerant, compassionate people who are willing to accept others for who they are and what they believe - except those who disagree with them.

Surely one who thinks things through can see the irony in this. The viewpoint isn’t even subtle: open-mindedness is to be equated with the progressive, morally-liberated mindset. If you don’t accept their way of thinking, you are closed-minded. It’s okay for the open-minded, liberated, progressive thinkers to insult, call names, use vulgarities, and show obvious contempt and hatred for those who are more conservative than they are. Those stupid conservatives are the closed-minded ones, remember.

If open-mindedness is such a virtue, as is claimed by these self-proclaimed free-thinkers, then why are they so intolerant toward those who disagree with them? This just highlights the fact that the version of open-mindedness and tolerance they advocate is a lie. It’s a sham, and it’s geared more toward trying to shut up the opposition rather than actually demonstrate true open-mindedness and tolerance.

No truly open-minded person would condemn others for believing in God and holding to a strong code of morality fostered by standards higher than themselves. Even if these liberated ones don’t agree, they should still defend, with the same passion as they defend others, the more conservative person’s right to believe, practice, and teach their views without demonstrating such malicious hatred. Their vehement opposition to those more conservative betrays their claim to open-minded tolerance.

Why is it more virtuous to show open-mindedness and tolerance toward one group of people (say, homosexuals) than it is another (say, Christians)? Why is it more appropriate to condemn Christians than it is to condemn those of another lifestyle? If we choose the morally-liberated, free-thinking path, and in the process turn around and condemn, judge, and vilify those more conservative, then we have bought into a lie and are no better than what we think we are opposing. Why is it better to be compassionate toward one group but not the other? Why is it morally acceptable to bash Christians while claiming the high ground of open-mindedness? The answers to these questions will likely not be forthcoming, especially from those who have essentially trashed any universal standards. They are open-minded only because they say they are. In reality? Not so much.

The fact is that everyone has drawn a line in the sand. I respect that. What I don’t respect is the denial of a line, then the insulting intolerance of those who claim to be so compassionate. It doesn’t work. And the sad part is, they just don’t see it.

>>>

**Volume 5 March 24 2013 #12**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=JHzJjt4gQvpwKM&tbnid=ZPnpV8qpcyA1JM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://gradschooljourney.wordpress.com/2011/07/18/taking-the-time-to-reflect/&ei=WudJUfX1AoWa9QSg1YDADA&bvm=bv.44011176,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE9Flxnn595Qs_DIIv2CP8N-sJpcA&ust=1363883936586516)

>>> To those who disagree with me, I would say this: Be honest. If you hate Christians, then you are free to say so. I respect your free will and free speech. As a Christian, I’m even wiling to take abuse for the cause of Christ. But don’t turn around with some nonsense of being tolerant and bigot-free. That game is tiresome and demonstrates a lack of reason. The true motive, therefore, cannot be open-mindedness and tolerance, the very things you refuse to demonstrate toward those who disagree with you.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Don't Get Smacked Up Side the Head

By Cloyce Sutton II

For today — Proverbs 19.25: Strike a scoffer and the naive may become shrewd, But reprove one who has understanding and he will gain knowledge.

This intriguing proverb has as its main point the effects of corrective discipline upon different people. Three types of people are contrasted — the scoffer (one who mocks or scorns), the naive (the simpleton, the gullible), and the one with understanding. Two types of corrective discipline are also contrasted — corporal punishment for the scoffer and reproof for the wise.

How does each person respond? First, the scoffer learns nothing. The proverb begins by observing punishment inflicted on the scoffer, but then it says nothing about the effects upon him. This implies that there are none. In other words, some people, no matter how severely punished do not learn from their mistakes. They will pursue their stubborn course no matter what. Elsewhere in Proverbs, the scoffer is presented in just this way — Proverbs 9.7-8; 15.12; 21.24.

Second, the naive learns from the scoffer's punishment. Here, someone who is inexperienced and perhaps even gullible learns, not from the mistakes of others, but from the punishment of others. He becomes "shrewd" (sensible, prudent; ie, he will learn the lesson). He reasons that if others are slack and get punished, he will be punished if he is slack in his own work.

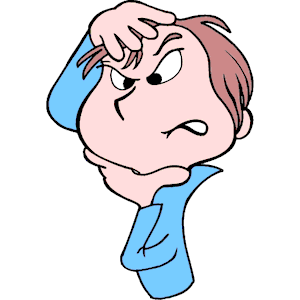
Third, the man who is wise and understanding will learn from mere reproof (rebuke, reasoning, argumentation). He doesn't need to be beaten. A simple word of advice will create the necessary correction. As we would say, "A word to the wise is sufficient."

There are two things that impress me about this proverb. First, that punishment DOES HAVE a corrective or deterrent effect on others. In our culture punitive discipline is frowned upon in favor of rehabilitation. This proverb reminds us that sometimes punishment of one offender can deter another person from making the same mistake.

Second, the truly wise person is humble enough to be corrected. If a problem is pointed out, he willingly changes. If he sees others making mistakes, he learns from it. Not everyone has this kind of humility, which simply says that not everyone is this wise.

For today, learn from the mistakes you see.

Have a Godward day!

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=c8o7uSSusnvfpM&tbnid=XPp_bXJb-oyqQM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://cliparts101.com/free_clipart/39720/Boy_Thinking_2&ei=KuZJUfyfM4X69QSi9oGQBA&bvm=bv.44011176,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE9Flxnn595Qs_DIIv2CP8N-sJpcA&ust=1363883936586516)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke

6:12-38 6:39-7:10 7:11-35 7:36-8:3 8:4-21 8:22-39 8:40-9:6



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Respect for God's Authority

By Paul Smithson

The standard of what is acceptable in religion for many is whether it satisfies the individual. Many "shop" for a religion that meets their personal preferences, treating the Scriptures as a salad bar-- picking things they like and passing over others. Many declare satisfaction with the course they have chosen in religion without ever considering the question, "Is God satisfied with my religion?" The whole conclusion is not, serve God as you please, but "Fear God and keep His commandments" (Eccl. 12:13). Our purpose in daily activities and in worship should be to strive to please God. Those who truly seek to serve God will not be satisfied until they do this. We must be willing to test our practices and beliefs to see if they agree with the Scriptures. "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves" (2Cor. 13:5).

The only way to please God in all that we do is to follow His revealed will-- to simply read and study the Scriptures and follow them in all we do, not adding to them or taking away (2Jn. 9; Deut. 4:2). Those who fail to do this lack respect for the authority of God as Lord and Master. The inspired apostle declared, "And whatsoever ye do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord" (Col.3:17). To "do all in the name of the Lord" means to respect the authority of the Lord in everything. We must have God's authority for all that we do and that authority must be established from the Scriptures; f or it is there that God has revealed His will for us.

So, our personal morality, conduct, religious beliefs, and things practiced in worship must be based on book, chapter, and verse. One may be satisfied with the manner in which they live and worship, while God may not be, making life and worship worthless before the Lord. As Jesus warned,

This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me. But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men (Matt. 15:8,9).

Therefore, let us search the Scriptures to establish authority for all that we believe and practice showing respect God's authority.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Selling Out on Morality

By Greg Gwin

Ohio Senator Rob Portman recently announced that he now supports same-sex marriage. This makes Portman the first sitting Republican senator to take this position, and is especially noteworthy since he was a supporter of the ‘Defense of Marriage Act’ in 1996. That act defined marriage as between a man and a woman.

So, what could cause this dramatic change in a previously conservative politician? Well, it seems that Portman’s son has ‘come out’ as a homosexual.

>>>

**Volume 5 March 31 2013 #13**

>>> We could spend time identifying the Bible proof that homosexuality is a sin. We could answer all the arguments of the many – including many ‘religious’ types – that claim otherwise. But our point of emphasis here is on the fact that this man totally changed on an important moral issue because a loved one is involved. We wonder what it would take to get Mr. Portman to ‘sell out’ his morality on other issues. Could he be swayed on abortion - Portman is currently ‘pro-life’ - if he had a daughter who was caught up in that sin? Would he ‘cave’ on pedophilia if a loved one was found guilty? What if another of his sons turns out to be a thief? a rapist? a murderer? Where does one stop once he surrenders his moral convictions?

Unfortunately this compromised senator is not alone. Too many – and not a few Christians – fail to stand up for what is right when their own families are entangled in sin. How often have we heard otherwise ‘sound’ brethren who offer excuses, failed arguments, and illogical explanations when their children or other loved ones are engaged is sinful conduct? Drinking, fornication, gambling, dancing, unscriptural divorce and remarriage . . . the list goes on . . . are all defended if it gets ‘too close to home’. Parents, grand-parents, siblings, and other relatives and friends become ‘enablers’ of such sins by their refusal to stand firmly for what is right.

Instead of this spirit of compromise, we must “earnestly contend for the faith” (Jude 3). Think!

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How are you doing with the Bible reading schedule?

Remember it is time well spent!

"He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. - John 12:48



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



YOU TELL ON YOURSELF

You tell what you are by the friends you seek.

By the very manner in which you speak.

By the way you use your leisure time

By the use you make of the dollar and dime

By the spirit with you bear your burdens.

By the kind of things that make you laugh.

By records you play for entertainment.

By the things you desire to talk about.

By the manner in which you bear defeat.

By do dimple thing as how you eat.

By the books you choose from well filled shelves.

You tell what you are by the way you dress,

You tell what you are by the way you walk.

In these ways and even more, you tell on yourself. So there’s Really no sense in the effort to pretend any more. – author: unknown - March 19, 2013

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Troubling Trends

A new report shows that for the first time in history the median age of American women having babies is lower than the median age of marriage – 25.7 and 26.5, respectively . . . By age 25, 44% of women have had a baby, while only 38% have been married. Overall, 48% of first births in America are by unwed mothers

- via CNSNews.com

I Corinthians 6:18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke

9:7-27 9:28-50 9:51-10:12 10:13-37 10:38-11:13 11:14-36 11:37-12:7



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

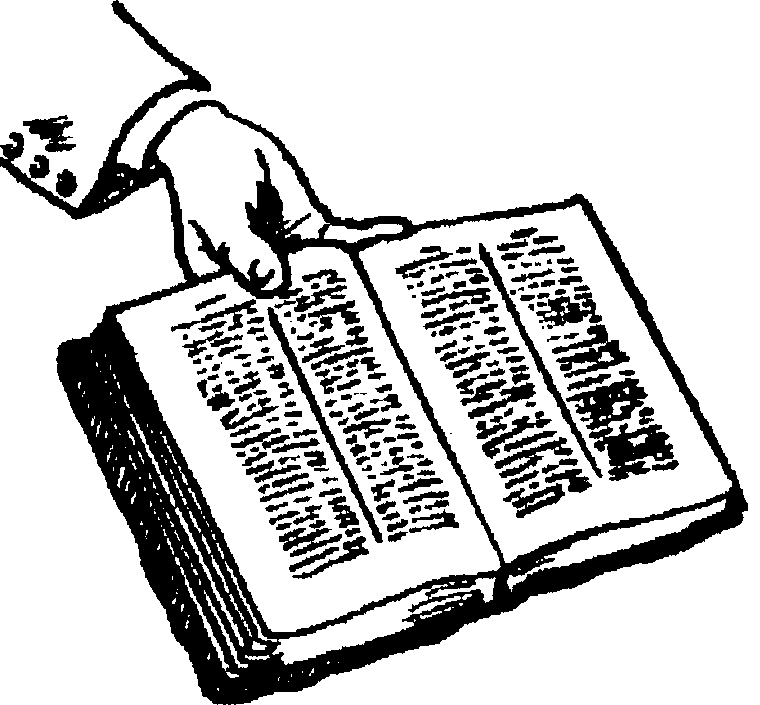
7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+Bible&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=hAzo2bRv-DohgM&tbnid=VXs1SKQuN3DybM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://bestclipartblog.com/26-bible-clip-art.html/bible-clip-art-15&ei=ZZxcUYq4Boec8gTy4YDYBA&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE79GctQsPHD-0kIVzMPvUZg3Z7lg&ust=1365110227150451)

Neither Protestant nor Catholic

By Robert Hines

It’s pretty easy to see that this congregation or church is not Catholic.

There is no Roman priest in charge of the parish or nuns to serve, no

Vatican connection or leader status for the Pope, and no incense or

infant baptisms in our worship and work. Since it is obvious we are not

Catholics most will say we must be Protestants.

The assumption made is that Christians are either Catholic or Protestant. If you are not one you must be the other. But we are not Protestants either. We are not of the Protestant Reformation that protested the excesses of the Catholic Church and sought to reform it. Beyond Catholic tradition and Protestant theology we are, simply, Christians.

We understand that this sounds strange in a religious world complicated with so many denominations. If you ask a man today what he is religiously he doesn’t say “I am a Christian.” He says he is a Baptist or a Methodist or a Presbyterian or a Pentecostal. In the New Testament followers of Jesus were content to be, simply, Christians (Acts 11:26).

Christ’s people were described by God in several ways in the Scripture, long before Catholics and Protestants existed. To God they were His children (1 John 1:1-3). To Christ they were His disciples (John 8: 31-32).

To each other they were brothers (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18). And to the world they were, simply, Christians (1 Peter 4:16).

We are not claiming to be the first denomination, the best denomination, the most conservative denomination, the non-denominational denomination, or a denomination at all! We simply follow the New Testament to be Christians, in the unity Christ called for (John 17:21) as an invitation to the world, there for all to see.

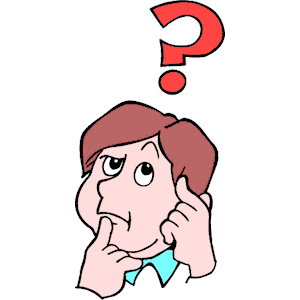
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Can you answer these "two" questions?

1. What "two" cities did God destroy with "brimstone and fire"?

2. What were the "two" thinks Paul was "pressed between"?

**Volume 5 April 7 2013 #14**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=iYwOc09CjipHlM&tbnid=-9sqwJMj-Oi70M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://cliparts101.com/free_clipart/39719/Boy_Thinking_1&ei=eJtcUYfuF47M9gT9yYHwDQ&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE4nKOH0EcRr7xnlZkS2dU_QIkCgQ&ust=1365109990348033)

Now Is The Time

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." (II Corinthians 6:2)

The story is told of a young man who wished to marry the farmer's beautiful daughter. He went to the farmer to ask his permission. The farmer looked him over and responded, "Son, go stand out in that field and I'm going to release three bulls, one at a time. If you can catch the tail of any one of the three bulls, you can marry my daughter."

The young man stood in the pasture awaiting the first bull. The barn door opened and out ran the biggest, meanest-looking bull he had ever seen. He decided that one of the next bulls had to be a better choice than this one, so he ran over to the side and let the bull pass through the pasture out the back gate.

The barn door opened again. Unbelievable! He had never seen anything so big and fierce in his life. It stood - pawing the ground, grunting, slinging slobber - as it eyed him. Whatever the next bull was like, it had to be a better choice than this one. He ran to the fence and let the bull pass through the pasture, out the back gate.

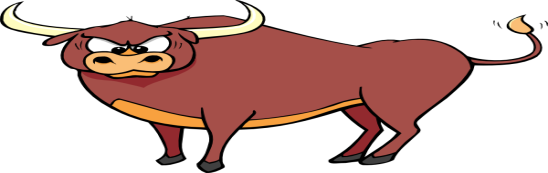
The door opened a third time. A smile came across his face. This was the weakest, scrawniest little bull he had ever seen. This one was his bull. As the bull came running by, he positioned himself just right and jumped at just the exact moment. He grabbed; but, the bull had no tail!

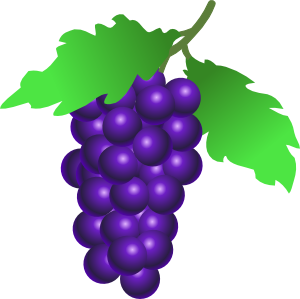
The lesson from the above story is that we must take advantage of opportunities when they are available to us. This is especially true in the spiritual realm. Let us avail ourselves of the present time and opportunity because it may soon be gone forever.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+bull&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=CEOFvL7yq8eZyM&tbnid=6UbMUutOEwbcXM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.clker.com/clipart-158477.html&ei=X5VcUZXdCIbe8ATjnoHICA&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNFC1n9oe9vuRNhH8a9Mnn6jiJU3vw&ust=1365108429794675)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+grape+vine&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=uUhrdkZgkRoERM&tbnid=6ZdBdAEklnA-tM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.clker.com/clipart-15580.html&ei=T5ZcUaqOEYK29gStlIHoDA&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNF2xKtY7ZM_Aea-2JdMeLQkAI8smg&ust=1365108620946902)

Pruning

For

Growth

"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit." (John 15:1-2)

"In pruning a vine, two principles are generally observed: first, all dead wood must be ruthlessly removed; and second, the live wood must be cut back drastically. Dead wood harbors insects and disease and may cause the vine to rot, to say nothing of being unproductive and unsightly. Live wood must be trimmed back in order to prevent such heavy growth that the life of the vine goes into the wood rather than into fruit. The vineyards in the early spring look like a collection of barren, bleeding stumps; but in the fall they are filled with luxuriant purple grapes. As the farmer wields the pruning knife on his vines, so God cuts dead wood out from among His saints, and often cuts back the living wood so far that His method seems cruel. Nevertheless, from those who have suffered the most there often often comes the greatest fruitfulness."(From **The Gospel of Belief**by Merrill C. Tenney, p. 227-228).

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke

12:8-34 12:35-59 13:1-21 13:22-14:6 14:7-35 15:1-32 16:1-18



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+old+man+with+cane&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=k329kjSPvJCn8M&tbnid=yMWU-1uluE6-1M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.illustrationsof.com/1047791-royalty-free-old-man-clipart-illustration&ei=k5RcUc7vK5P69gTKroHgDA&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNFvic_J6exlXjFe46O-m-v-1QZ-5g&ust=1365108229896343)

Love of the Brethren

"And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you,

inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you

did it to Me.'" (Matt. 25:40)

The little church building's aisles swelled with the unusually large

gathering until there were no more pews to squeeze into. A few

more latecomers shuffled down the aisle and leaned against the

wall. Then I noticed Andy's entrance. His smile beamed with a

special joy until he saw that "his" spot on the back row was filled. Regular attendees usually left the seat empty, knowing that Andy would arrive late from the home for the mentally handicapped. Confusion masked his face as the opening song ended and he had found no place to sit. With characteristic simplicity, Andy made his way up the center aisle to the large clearing just below the podium. He lowered his huge body to the floor, crossing his legs Indian style.

As the rest of us sat down, another man, a leader in the church for many years, left his place in the pew and started up the center aisle toward Andy. It took a long time for Marvin to reach the front. Respect for this eighty-year-old servant, much loved by all of us, or perhaps sheer curiosity, brought a hush over the whole church. Even the minister gripped the sides of the podium and watched. Slowly Marvin shifted his lean frame onto his cane and lowered his aged body to the floor beside Andy.

With tears in his eyes, the minister closed his Bible over his sermon notes and said, "Our sermon has just been preached." (Author Unknown)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Can you answer these "two" questions?

1. What "two" cities did God destroy with "brimstone and fire"?

**"...the LORD rained brimstone and fire on**

**Sodom and Gomorrah..." - Genesis 19:24.**

2. What were the "two" thinks Paul was "pressed between"?

**21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.**

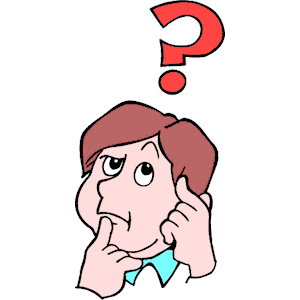
**22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit**

**from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell.**

**23 For I am hard pressed between the two,..." - Philippians 1:21-23.**

**Volume 5 April 14 2013 #15**

**HOW DID YOU DO?**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=iYwOc09CjipHlM&tbnid=-9sqwJMj-Oi70M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://cliparts101.com/free_clipart/39719/Boy_Thinking_1&ei=eJtcUYfuF47M9gT9yYHwDQ&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE4nKOH0EcRr7xnlZkS2dU_QIkCgQ&ust=1365109990348033)

IS YOUR BULB

BURNT OUT?

A man came into a garage the other day and requested that a mechanic check a noise in the engine of his car. Sure enough, a bearing was burned out due to a clogged oil line. ``But,'' the frustrated man exclaimed ``the light on the dash never indicated anything to be wrong.'' So they checked the warning light and found that the bulb was burned out. The bulb cost 55 cents, the bearing would be 90 dollars.

Conscience is somewhat like the warning light in your car. Yet there are certain circumstances under which the conscience will not work. Paul speaks of those who have their conscience “*seared with a hot iron*'' (1 Tim. 4:2). The idea here is that which we have of branding or cauterizing. It is the placing of a red hot iron against the flesh which burns or sears it over and seals it up. The area affected becomes dry, hard and insensitive. It describes a conscience which will allow a person to indulge in evil and error without any concern, or a conscience which fails to dictate in matters of right and wrong.

If our conscience does not dictate any moral restraint or judge our thoughts and motives, then we ought to become very much concerned. If you can deliberately miss the worship service without any pangs of conscience you ought to check your conscience. If your conscience fails to warn you when it comes to practicing that which is known to be wrong, then something is wrong with your conscience. And unless the matter is corrected, you are heading toward disaster. Some people seem to enjoy boasting about how their conscience never bothers them or interferes with anything they want to do. If this is the case with you, let me suggest that you have a spiritual checkup. Your bulb might be burned out.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



The Indestructible Bible

By A. G. Freed

The Bible is the oldest book the world has. It antedates the Chinese bible. It has come down to us through the ages. Its enemies have sought to destroy it. Its pages are stained with the blood of martyrs. Empires, kingdoms and states have crumbled around it. How do you account for the Bible surviving the wreck of time? The answer is that God is with it and in it.

It was Mears who said, "The lyric poetry of the Hebrews was in its golden age nearly a thousand years before the birth of Horace. Deborah sang a model of a triumphant song full five hundred years before Sappho was born. The book of Esther was a venerable fragment of biography, more strange than fiction, at least twelve hundred years old at the dawn of the romantic literature of Europe. The proverbs of Solomon are by eight hundred years more ancient than the writings of Seneca."

Though it has been exploded, demolished, and made ready for the grave countless times, it goes on its triumphant way, giving light, hope, and salvation to unnumbered millions in many lands and many tongues.

The Bible lives in spite of men. False theories of religion profess to be built upon it. A relentless war is waged upon it by those who hate it, and friends to it have become lukewarm. Yet the Bible is here. It is the deathless book. It is as eternal as God. "The word of the Lord endureth forever."

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=check+engin+light&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=rFPfiAH1Tf4-0M&tbnid=goti4N_gj86xRM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.blogseitb.us/basque_boise/2011/08/24/check-engine-light/&ei=HYplUdCLKJHa9AT--oCQAg&bvm=bv.44990110,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNF9Rrxh9vuipEDFHTCb5S52elD60Q&ust=1365695379496753)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke

16:19-17:10 17:11-37 18:1-17 18:18-43 19:1-27 19:28-48 20:1-26



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+Apostle+Paul&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=wXJVyTdgUUPzmM&tbnid=waAHz8hPFsYZ5M:&ved=&url=http://www.webweaver.nu/clipart/religion/christian/2.shtml&ei=WUptUeC7BpPA9QTvlIHoBQ&bvm=bv.45175338,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNGFwcuSUY26YqcFAhPG5dKYyIR6Gg&ust=1366203353616753)

"The Gospel Which Was Preached of Me"

By H. E. Phillips

No man in New Testament times received more attacks and criticism for his preaching than did the apostle Paul. Again and again he was called upon to defend his apostleship and the gospel which he preached. The book of Galatians is largely devoted to the proof of his apostleship and the divine origin of the gospel which he preached in contrast to the false doctrines which were carrying them away from the Lord. The ideas of what constitutes proof of sound doctrine today may vary, but the one way to prove what is sound doctrine was used by the apostle in Galatians 1:11,12: "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ."

Of course, we do not today receive the gospel directly from Jesus Christ, but we do receive what was delivered directly to the apostles. What we read in the New Testament is the word of Christ just as Paul and the other apostles received it. But usually when one comes to prove a proposition or establish a practice he uses other arguments besides the fact that it is written in the New Testament. Those who do such are occupying the grounds of the false teachers against whom Paul wrote in the Galatian epistle. A certain doctrine is taught; and to make the hearer believe it, the teacher or preacher resorts to the following claims:

1. ‘My years of experience.’\* Paul could not say much for his years of experience in the gospel as compared to the other apostles. He speaks of himself as "of one born out of due time." Now one of the first arguments made is that of preaching so manyyears. That is supposed to make the hearer accept what he says. This is no proof because a man may preach error for fifty year s and never get it right.

2. ‘My education.’\* Paul mentioned his education in the righteousness of the law at the feet of Gamaliel (Acts 22:3), but he counted all this for nothing in preaching the gospel delivered to him by Christ (Phil. 3:7-9). One does not know God by the wisdom of this world (I Cor. 1:20,21). The number of degrees a man has does not prove his preaching to be true.

3. ‘I stand with great men of the past.’\* Paul stood with one of the greatest teachers of his day – Gamaliel - but he did not offer that as proof of the truth he preached. Often great men of the past were wrong in what they taught. The thing to do is to prove that these men stood upon the only foundation of truth - the New Testament, then we have only proved that we have the truth because it is taught in the word of God. Just the fact that we stand with great men of the past does not give credence to what we teach; it is the fact that it comes from the New Testament.

>>>

**Volume 5 April 21 2013 #16**

>>> 4. ‘The majority agree with my stand.’\* Not one time do we read of Paul, or any other apostle, using this argument to prove either apostleship or truth of the gospel which they preached. History abounds with proof that the majority are always opposed to the gospel of Christ. It is true that many people are more persuaded by the stand of the majority and the elite than they are by what is taught in the gospel of Jesus Christ, but this does not prove their doctrine to be true. Just the fact that one stands with the minority does not prove him right. It must be proved by what is taught in the word of God. Neither the majority nor the minority proves a man to be teaching the true gospel.

5. ‘I have never changed.’\* This is supposed to guarantee that the position held without change is the true one. This is certainly not the proof Paul used to establish his apostleship and his gospel. He freely admitted his change and told why. His proof was not in the consistency of his own belief and practice through his years, but rather that he had learned and received the truth that did not come from man, nor by man, but from the Lord himself. He says that in his former course he "thought" he was right, but learned of his error and changed. The mere fact that one has never changed his teachings does not prove his doctrine to be true. The only proof of sound doctrine is what is taught in the New Testament. Let that be our only appeal.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Think About IT!

"As a partridge that broods but does not hatch, So is he who gets riches, but not by right; It will leave him in the midst of his days, And at his end he will be a fool." - Jeremiah 17:11



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



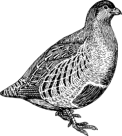
Two Types of Workers

By Greg Gwin

Someone suggested that, while there are many different kinds of jobs, they could all be broken down into two categories: a) the kind of jobs where you shower after you finish working and b) the type of jobs where you shower before you go to work. Obviously, the first sort of job involves more intense physical effort – the kind where you ‘work up a sweat’.

This put us to thinking about Christians and their level of activity in the kingdom of Christ. Some are very hard at work, doing all they can for the Master. They study hard, pray frequently, attend faithfully, and teach others at every opportunity. They are the ones who step up when volunteers are needed to teach classes or to do chores around the church building. They visit the sick, reach out to the lost, and support the weak. They love the Lord, their brethren, and the lost - and they ‘roll up their sleeves’ and do the work necessary in all of those realms. These are the ones that serve as the real ‘back bone’ of any congregation. Without them the church would suffer, shrivel, and finally die. Such workers are truly needed and much appreciated - may their tribe increase.

Sadly, other Christians are not so energetic when it comes to working for the Lord. They attend services, but not too faithfully. They are not great Bible students and rarely spend time prayer. They don’t try to teach the lost, and they seldom reach out to even their own brethren. These ‘lukewarm’ Christians are certainly not ‘working up a sweat’ in the kingdom, and need to be reminded of how the Lord views such mediocre performance: “I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth” (Revelation 3:15-16). Think!

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+partridge&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=bJpN220Gbd0gmM&tbnid=TBdr1iCnvlS4MM:&ved=&url=http://www.clker.com/clipart-partridge.html&ei=NExtUYzVHIek8QSb-YDgCw&bvm=bv.45175338,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNGiiOHKT9WAUG0A6KIVdZ_sa3pPYQ&ust=1366203828704453)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke Luke

20:27-47 21:1-28 21:29-22:13 22:14-34 22:35-53 22:54-23:12 23:13-43



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.” Philippians 4:4

By Bob Dickey

Are you unhappy today? Do you find yourself depressed of late? Have you considered what the cause of your depression might be? Usually unhappiness stems from some circumstance of life in which you find yourself. You may be depressed by some physical ailment. Perhaps you are frustrated because you cannot have something you feel you need or want. It could be that you are disturbed by disadvantages or difficulties that appear to be insurmountable. Maybe you are disappointed with yourself and your station in life, or with someone else and what they may have done or failed to do.

Whatever the reason for your unhappiness, there is no reason for you to remain in that state. Have you stopped to count your blessings lately? When was the last time you spent a few minutes reflecting on the things for which you should be thankful? Instead of continuing to take these things for granted, why not ponder their worth and consider the treasure of happiness that they hold. Let your mind dwell on your blessing if you want a brighter outlook.

Do you have eyes with which to behold the wonders and beauty of God's creation? Remember that many are blind. Do you not live in a warm, comfortable house and have plenty to eat? Imagine the plight of those who are homeless and starving. Are you able to hear, speak, and write? Consider a life without expression, understanding, and education. Do you have friends, relatives, loved ones? Contemplate how lonely it would be if you were the only person alive. Have you found salvation in Christ Jesus? Do not forget the countless billions who are lost and dying in a sin-sick world.

Depression and unhappiness find no room in the heart of the child of God who counts his blessings, thanks his Father, and places his trust in Him.

Whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he\*." - Proverbs 16:20

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

So Many Will Be Lost Because:

In youth, they are "too young."

In manhood, they are "too busy."

In maturity, they are "too worried."

When aged, they are "too old."

When sick, they are "too ill."

When dead, they are "too late."

Are you making excuses to God?

**Volume 5 April 28 2013 #17**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=Clipart+of+Thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=cYoerkh0eIpe2M&tbnid=lR8aIHHq06UscM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://blog.focusedtrainers.com/2011/02/&ei=i6B2UZbmLpSm8ASM3IDQCQ&bvm=bv.45512109,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNHlG5zTnv2pJq9CfQmUXWRw9IpikQ&ust=1366815238316400)

ARE THEY ALL FROM GOD?

By Leslie G. Thomas

Let us suppose that an evangelist comes to our community to conduct a religious meeting and proceeds as follows:

At the first service he preaches that salvation is by faith only. but at the next one he contends that it is by faith exercised in obedience to the gospel rather than by faith alone.

At the third service he declares that either sprinkling, pouring or immersion is baptism, but at the fourth service he plainly shows that immersion is baptism.

At the fifth service he says that penitent believers are the only spiritual subjects of baptism, but at the sixth service he teaches that babies should be baptized due to original sin.’

At the seventh service he preaches once in grace, always in grace, but at the eighth he tells the people that it is possible for them to fall from grace, that some have fallen, and that the Bible tells how to keep from falling.

At the ninth service he teaches that it is right to have human creeds, but at the tenth he declares that we should take the Bible as our only guide in religion.

No thoughtful person would continue to listen to ONE preacher like that, but the majority of people 'are perfectly willing for TEN preachers to preach these conflicting ideas. They say that if one man should preach that way he would contradict himself and be inconsistent, but what kind of a God do they suppose we have if He endorses all these conflicting doctrines and has sent out these preachers to present them?



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



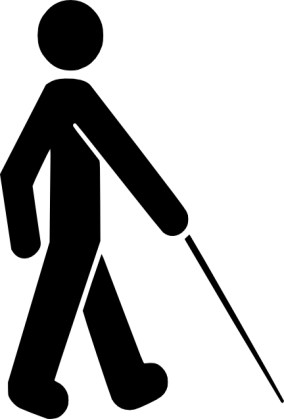
Can You See?

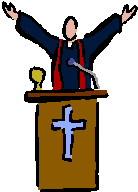
"Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.'" (John 8:12)

"The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." (Matt. 4:16)

A woman named Rose Crawford had been blind for 50 years. "I just can't believe it!" she gasped as the doctor lifted the bandages from her eyes after her recovery from delicate surgery in an Ontario hospital. She wept for joy when for the first time in her life a dazzling and beautiful world of form and color greeted eyes that now were able to see. The amazing thing about the story, however, is that 20 years of her blindness had been unnecessary. She didn't know that surgical techniques had been developed, and that an operation could have restored her vision at the age of 30. The doctor said, "She just figured there was nothing that could be done about her condition. Much of her life could have been different." (From Bible Illustrator)

Today, millions of people unnecessarily remain in spiritual darkness. If only they would come to the Great Physician - in accord with His truth - and He would give them the light of life!

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=Clipart+of+blind&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=ujE8ckMyG2LfEM&tbnid=jmFelIZNXKsLEM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.clker.com/clipart-43499.html&ei=76B2UYD7OYqc9QSu6oHAAw&bvm=bv.45512109,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNEIlUXiatoWp9x7g46amEhWOlRNCA&ust=1366815314399791)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=Clipart+of+preacher&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=MMlEHomFQ2O_MM&tbnid=9LBYdiXvw-JLyM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.knowingtheworld.com/clipart/christian/Preacher/index.html&ei=LqJ2UdWEIofy9gSs-YHoBw&bvm=bv.45512109,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNHHmjnCtmZ43Ql0F4-oHtOPyG1PvQ&ust=1366815436702892)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Luke Luke John John John John John

23:44-24:12 24:13-53 1:1-28 1:29-51 2:1-25 3:1-21 3:22-4:6



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+envy&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=rTfz0y_c58eX_M&tbnid=HIGoNI3dGpIi-M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://storytimekatie.com/2011/02/05/clip-art-flannelboard-mary-had-a-little-lamb/&ei=LdZ_UaWpIoe49QS6-YCgCA&bvm=bv.45645796,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNHVICizkjFkhrBe5yldhBvcuY3tkQ&ust=1367418737777337)

Envy and Jealousy

By R. J. Evans

Envy and jealousy are often used interchangeably, but strictly speaking, the words denote two different emotions. Jealousy is the fear of losing someone or something to whom or to which a person is attached. Envy is a feeling of discontent and hatred of another person because of his advantages, possessions, etc.

In Psalm 73:2-3, Asaph stated, “But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; My steps had nearly slipped. For I was envious of the boastful, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.” Asaph admitted he envied the wicked in their prosperity, their strength in death, even their pride and cursing. It has been said that “malice rejoices at another’s and jealousy begrudge another’s success.” Solomon said, “envy is rottenness to the bones”  (Prov. 14:30). W.E. Vine defines envy as “the feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others.”

In Genesis 37, we read of the envy and jealousy of the brothers of Joseph, which turned into hatred, causing them to sell their brother into slavery. Envy and jealousy are each listed as a “work of the flesh” in Galatians 5:20-21.  And “those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God”  (v. 21).

The writer of Psalm 73 was envious of the wicked “until” he went into the sanctuary of God and then understood their end(v. 17). He came to realize that it only takes a “moment” for God to bring them low (v. 19). He learned that God is contemptuous of the wicked (v. 20).  With this knowledge, Asaph reviews his past and expressed it in verse 22:  “I was so foolish and ignorant; I was like a beast before You.”

The Apostle Paul said that “love does not envy”  (1 Cor. 13:4).Love and envy or jealousy cannot abide in the same heart. If we are Christians, then envy and jealousy must be put away! Paul gave instructions to “Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others”  (Phil. 2:3-4).  When we have a genuine concern and interest in others, there will be no room left in our hearts for envy and jealousy.

Have we been envious or jealous of the prosperity and worldly success of the wicked and foolish? If so, may we gain strength to overcome these sins from the example of Asaph. “Do not let your heart envy sinners, But in the fear of the Lord continue all day long” (Prov. 23:17).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**GOSPEL MEETING**

MAY 12-15

7:30 PM

Invite Others To Come And Hear The Gospel of Christ

**Volume 5 May 5 2013 #18**

No Time Like the Present

By Steve Klein

The old saying is that the past is a canceled check, and the future is a promissory note; only the present is cash on hand.  The year of our Lord 2012 is in the record books.  Nothing about it can be changed.  The year 2013 lies before us like a clean canvas before a blind painter.  Who knows how it will look when finished?  The only moment of time we can do anything about is the moment we're in right now.  There is no time like the present because it is the only time that we really own.

We must leave the past in the past.  We can learn from our past, but we mustn't live in it.  Perhaps our better days are behind us, but even so, we cannot go back.  Solomon instructs, "Do not say, 'Why were the former days better than



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Thank God For Godly Parents!

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

2 "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise:

3 "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth." - Ephesians 6:1-3

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

these?' For you do not inquire wisely concerning this." (Ecclesiastes 7:10).  Or perhaps our former days are filled with regrets.  Paul's were (1 Timothy 1:13-15).  We cannot change them.  We can get forgiveness if needed, and we can choose to do better today, but we cannot go back.

We must prepare for the future, but live in the present.   The future is uncertain. We do not have full control of it. "You do not know what will happen tomorrow" (James 4:14).  Tomorrow is only ours if the Lord wills (James 4:13; Luke 12:16-20).

The apostle Paul's approach toward both past and future is ideal.  He said, "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13-14).  Paul forgot the past, reached toward the future, but lived in the present.  Notice the use of the present tense in the preceding verse: "I do not count . . . one thing I do . . . forgetting . . . reaching . . . I press."

What are you doing with the present?  Are you making the most of this day and doing your best to serve the Lord in this moment of time?  Live in the moment.  The Bible says, "Whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord" (Colossians 3:23a).  And, "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10).   And a poet wrote . . .

*Today is mine to do with what I will*  
*Today is mine my own special cup to fill*  
*To die a little that I might learn to live*  
*To take from life that I might learn to give*  
*Today is mine*  
*Like most men I cursed the present to avoid the peace of mind*  
*And raise my thoughts beyond tomorrow*  
*and vision there more peace of mind*  
*But as I view this day around me I can see the fool I've been*  
*For today's the only garden we can tend*  
*Today is mine*

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

John John John John John John John

4:7-42 4:43-54 5:1-24 5:25-47 6:1-21 6:22-40 6:41-71



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

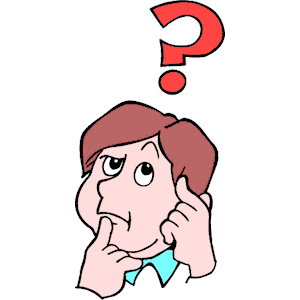
7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=iYwOc09CjipHlM&tbnid=-9sqwJMj-Oi70M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://cliparts101.com/free_clipart/39719/Boy_Thinking_1&ei=eJtcUYfuF47M9gT9yYHwDQ&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE4nKOH0EcRr7xnlZkS2dU_QIkCgQ&ust=1365109990348033)

Responding to Our Enemies

By R. J. Evans

*“Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say*

*all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake”*(Matt. 5:11).

How do we handle a person who reviles us, persecutes us, and says things about us which are not true? The natural response is to retaliate and get even. But how are we to respond to our enemies and be pleasing unto God? Let us go to His Word for the answers.

1.  *REJOICE* if we are being mistreated because we are faithfully serving the Lord. If we are suffering because of our evil deeds, then we should be ashamed. However, the Apostle Peter tells us— “Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter”   
(1 Pet. 3:15-16). Notice the next verse following our text: “Rejoice and be exceeding glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you” (Matt. 5: 12). Although some may seek to make our lives miserable here on earth, our reward in heaven will be great if we remain faithful while we are hurting for His sake.

2.  *LOVE THEM, DO GOOD TO THEM, AND PRAY FOR THEM.*This is what Jesus was teaching in Matthew 5:44: “But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.” Normally, we will have to do a lot of praying for *ourselves,*asking for strength, before we will be able to do this for our enemies. But we will reap many benefits if we can sincerely do what Jesus commands in this passage. Again, let us observe the inspired words of the Apostle Peter, as it relates to this kind of situation.  “...not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing”  (1 Pet. 3:9).  Remember—this is the example Jesus left for us and we are to follow in His steps.  “For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: ‘Who committed no sin, nor was guile found in His mouth,’ who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously”   
(1 Pet. 2:21-23).

3.  *TURN IT OVER TO GOD.*When men crucified our Lord, He prayed, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do” (Lk. 23:34). In one short prayer, we find Jesus loving His enemies, blessing His enemies, and praying for His enemies. The Apostle Paul tells us to *turn it over to God*when he said: “Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord. Therefore if your enemy hungers, feed him; if he thirsts, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head: Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good” (Rom. 12:19-21). This is basically what Christ was teaching in His “Sermon on the Mount” in Matthew 5:38-48.

In a sense, we are being good to ourselves when we are good to our enemies.  May the Lord help and be with us when we are meeting the challenge of correctly ***responding to our enemies.***

**Volume 5 May 5 2013 #19**

"Confused" by Truth

By Jonathan Perz

Have you ever had a discussion where the truth seemed more confusing than the lie? If you have, you know that awkward, discombobulating feeling that arises because something you have believed for an extended period of time—even a lifetime—has proven to be false. It can be quite overwhelming.

It is natural that your instinctive response is defensive, even hostile. "Who do you think you are?" and "How dare you judge me?" are phrases on the tip of your tongue. In the heat of the moment, you might even rationalize, "That can't be right." Should you utterly reject the "preposterous idea" while in your "confused" state of mind or should you recognize this feeling of "confusion" as a mental flag that moves you to openly reconsider a conviction, no matter how deeply held it might be?

We often become emotionally attached to what we believe and it is rarely pleasant to be proven wrong. This explains the initial defensive response. However, the real quality of a heart is seen after the initial emotional roller coaster ride ends. Will we stay "confused" by the truth or will we embrace it, giving up the lie?

We can fear and procrastinate like Felix (Acts 24:24-25). We can shoot the messenger, as we reject "his truth" and "gnash at him with our teeth"  (Acts 7:51-60).

We can be moved by every wind of doctrine (Eph. 4:14). We can even remain in a perpetual state of "confusion" and have God reinforce "our lie" (2 Thess. 2:11-12)! On the other hand, we can simply receive the "love of the truth" (2 Thess. 2:9-10).

Momentary confusion at having a conviction disproven is understandable. Choosing to reject the truth or remain "confused" is simply inexcusable. What ever you choose, remember, your response will demonstrate the quality of your heart (cf. Matt. 13:18-23).

.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Mothers Are Special

By Edd Sterchi

When God made mothers He made a very special creature indeed.

The unconditional love God gave mothers for their children is probably the closest thing on earth to His incredible love for us.

The gentle tenderness a mother expresses in handling her newborn child is so reminiscent of the tender loving care God promises to the faithful.

The sincere sympathy mothers show for hurt elbows and hurt hearts is not unlike the compassion God has for us.

The sacrificial unselfishness mothers demonstrate time and time again towards their children reminds us of how benevolent God has been to us.

The soft special kisses and the always sweet smiles that mothers so generously give can help us to understand and appreciate the joy God has designed for families in the here and now and for Christians forevermore.

God bless loving mothers for showing us many important things about God.

=======

Proverbs 31:26-28 - She opens her mouth with wisdom, And on her tongue is the law of kindness.

27 She watches over the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness.

28 Her children rise up and call her blessed; Her husband also, and he praises her:

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

John John John John John John John

7:1-31 7:32-52 8:12-20 8:21-30 8:31-59 9:1-41 10:1-21



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

ATTENTION LADIES

By Joe Fitch

Ladies, your short dresses are making it more unlikely for you to be surrounded by honorable minded gentlemen. Dresses too short, too low, and too tight may attract men, but such do not attract gentlemen. And, they are not inclined to produce honorable thoughts. Think for just a moment — honestly now; you must admit this is true. If you want the men around you to be gentlemen and think about you as gentlemen should, dress (and act) like a lady — better still, as “*becometh women professing godliness*.” (1 Tim. 2:10)

Ladies, you sometimes make it uncomfortable for a gentleman to be in your presence. Your dresses are too short when you are standing, and when you are seated a gentleman cannot look in your direction without being embarrassed for you. This presents no problem to unprincipled men, but a gentleman expects, and respects the privacy of a lady. He seeks to maintain her dignity, and looks the other way when she is uncovered. But your indiscretion shows no respect for yourself, nor for his manners.

Frankly, you are embarrassing us. We cannot help being embarrassed when you do not wear enough clothes to hide your nakedness. One high school Bible class studied around tables arranged in a horseshoe shape. The young men continually refused to sit at the tables but rather went to the rear of the room. Finally it was discovered that they were embarrassed to sit facing the short skirted girls seated at the tables. But the brethren corrected the problem; they enclosed the tables with wooden skirts. I thought then it would be better to put skirts on the girls rather than on the tables.

I understand the boys’ problem. I teach classes and it is sometimes embarrassing to stand before the class. You find it impossible to freely look at the audience because some of the women do not have on enough clothes. If we can’t get ladies to wear more clothes, churches may need to consider buying some lap robes.

Ladies, can you honestly say you think these short, tight skirts are modest apparel? Not “Are they the style” but “Are they modest?” If so, how would a woman be immodest? A belt is about the only article of outer clothing that is tighter or shorter! Women who profess godliness ought to be concerned with adorning themselves “in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety.” (1 Tim. 2:9-f.) They should learn to be “*discreet, chaste.*” (Titus 1:5) Styles should be considered, but I fear some of my sisters in Christ have sacrificed modesty and discretion for style.

Ladies, consider the impression left by such scanty attire. It is by such “advertising” that the lewd and vulgar appeal to their counterparts. These are the “tools” of risqué cartoons, dirty “jokes”, and outright pornography. Do you suppose anyone suspects you are a Christian, on the basis of such clothing?

Ladies, wake up! Adorn your inner person for heaven, and allow this primary consideration to dictate correct outer garments.

- From Plain Talk, Vol. 7, No. 1. March, 1970.

**Volume 5 May 19 2013 #20**

GET THE FACTS

By Donnie V. Rader

All too often brethren hear some rumor or are treated to one side of a story and swallow it all. They may jump to conclusions, spread the story and even condemn those they have heard about. This has always been true, but is perhaps worse in the day of e-mail. It may be that some do this with evil intent. However, others may do this with pure motives because they have confidence in the source of their information.

If we would listen the the Proverb writer we would gain a little wisdom and keep ourselves from trouble. Two of the Proverbs come to mind as I reflect upon the problem described.

Proverbs 18:13 - "*He who answers a matter before he hears it, It is folly and shame to him*." Matthew Henry comments: See here how men often expose themselves by that very thing by which they hope to gain applause. 1. Some take a pride in being quick. They answer a matter before they hear it, hear it out, nay, as soon as they but hear of it. They think it is their honour to take up a cause suddenly; and, when they have heard one side, they think the matter so plain that they need not trouble themselves to hear the other; they are already apprized of it, and masters of all the merits of the cause. Whereas, though a ready wit is an agreeable thing to play with, it is solid judgment and sound wisdom that do business. 2. Those that take a pride in being quick commonly fall under the just reproach of being impertinent. It is folly for a man to go about to speak to a thing which he does not understand, or to pass sentence upon a matter which he is not truly and fully informed of, and has not patience to make a strict enquiry into; and, if it be folly, it is and will be shame.

Proverbs 18:17 - "*The first one to plead his cause seems right, Until his neighbor comes and examines him.*" This tells us that there may be another side to the story. There may be information that has been omitted. Again Matthew Henry comments: This shows that one tale is good till another is told. 1. He that speaks first will be sure to tell a straight story, and relate that only which makes for him, and put the best colour he can upon it, so that his cause shall appear good, whether it really be so or no. 2. The plaintiff having done his evidence, it is fit that the defendant should be heard, should have leave to confront the witnesses and cross-examine them, and show the falsehood and fallacy of what has been alleged, which perhaps may make the matter appear quite otherwise than it did. We must therefore remember that we have two ears, to hear both sides before we give judgment.

From these Proverbs we learn a valuable lesson. Before we swallow a story, retell it and pronouce condemnation upon another, we would do well to get the facts!



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Taking Turns

By Dennis Lynn

There is a tender story told about an ailing mother who was resting in her bed when her nine-year-old daughter walked in. The daughter quietly unfolded a blanket and tucked it around her mother.

You know, the mother said, It hasn't been that long since I was tucking you in, and now here you are covering me up. The little girl smiled, kissed her on the cheek, whispered, We take turns, and then skipped out of the room.

That little girl, with innocence and insight, stated a truth for our time. We take turns in the family of God when we love each other, serve each other, and encourage each other. Lets not miss the opportunities.

Lets not let them slip by. Lets keep our eyes and hearts open. Lets remember: we take turns!  
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

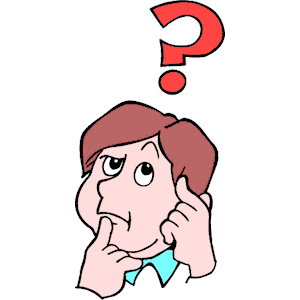
**Can you Answer these "TWO" Questions?**

1. Who were the only "two" that entered the

promise land from those who had left Egypt?

2. Who were the "two" that Paul referred

to as "a true son"?

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=iYwOc09CjipHlM&tbnid=-9sqwJMj-Oi70M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://cliparts101.com/free_clipart/39719/Boy_Thinking_1&ei=eJtcUYfuF47M9gT9yYHwDQ&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE4nKOH0EcRr7xnlZkS2dU_QIkCgQ&ust=1365109990348033)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

John John John John John John John

10:22-42 11:1-44 11:45-12:19 12:20-50 13:1-30 13:31-14:14 14:15-31



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

The Consequences of Procrastination

By H.E. Phillips

The term "procrastinate" is defined: "to put off doing something until a future time" -- "to defer, postpone." And of course, the word "consequences" simply means that which follows or results from a certain course or action.

The road to hell is paved with good intentions, someone has said. One of the easiest things to do is to plan and promise to do what is right and good, but when the time comes to fulfill the plan, something always happens and we do not get it done. Almost everyone intends to do right, straighten up and repent before he dies, but we always want to wait until tomorrow or some future convenient time.

The young people feel they must "sow their wild oats," because "we live but once." The middle-aged think they must work and make all the money they can while they are in their productive years, because the time will come when they cannot do so. "We must make hay while the sun shines, you know." The aged think they must enjoy a few years of retirement and fun before they settle down to seriously practicing religion. The cycle continues with every generation and every segment of our society. But we do not reckon with the fact that there is a judgment to which every one of us must give an account. This judgment is based upon our language (Matt. 12:34), upon our deeds done in the body (2 Cor. 5:10), and upon our works (Rev. 20:12).

The normal and almost natural schemes devised by man to defer his responsible and religious conduct to some future time while he imbibes the pleasures of sin for a season are all totally absurd. Men and women die at all ages, and many of them suddenly. Eventually all of us die (Heb. 9:27).

When death overtakes one at any age, his activity on earth ceases, and his intended good is never done. The Lord said, "Watch, therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh (Matt. 25:13).

In Luke 12, Jesus spoke a parable stating that a certain rich man increased abundantly from his labors. He planned to pull down his barns and to build greater ones. And having filled these new barns, he would say to himself: "And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God" (Luke 12:19-21).

The man in this parable made a number of fatal mistakes, one of which was to defer or ignore his present duty to God while he made all provisions for his present and future physical needs. The apostle Paul was called before Felix and Drusilla because they wanted to "hear him concerning the faith in Christ." As the apostle reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix reacted by trembling, no doubt at the realization of the consequences he must pay if he continued to pursue his present course of life. But in this he responded: "Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call >>>

**Volume 5 May 26 2013 #21**

>>> for thee" (Acts 24:25). Three important facts are to be noted in this verse: Felix listened and understood what Paul said. He understood his course of life was out of harmony with what Paul preached and understood the consequences if he continued, thus he trembled. Finally, he gave the indication that at some "convenient season"

he would hear again with a view to changing his life. All evidence indicated that Felix did what most people do today: he procrastinated until it was too late.

The plans to ignore the will of God in one's course of life, with the built-in plan to someday repent and reform, always results in leaving this life without God.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Suppose...

…That a group of N.T. Christians should come into your midst and establish a congregation with just the doctrine, practice, worship, organization and plan of salvation as in the N.T. day – would you say, “one church is as good as another, and you can be saved out of the church as well as in it…”?

…That Jesus should come into your community and single out this church and tell you that He “purchased the church with His own blood”, and “gave himself for it”. Would you ignore and oppose the church, or would you love it, too, and help to spread its message over the land? WELL, HE DID (Acts 20:28; Eph 5:25; Rom 16:16)

…That Jesus should come into your community and say to all His professed followers, “I pray for all them which believe on me through their word, that they all may be one, as Thou, Father, art in me, and I in Thee..”; would you be willing to quit every divisive name and organization and practice in order to bring about as much of this unity as possible? WELL, HE DID! (Jn 17:20-21)



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Every Part Is Important!

"He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much." (Luke 16:10)

From an experience of her childhood, Mrs. Floyd Crook recalls how a great truth was impressed upon her with special meaning. She writes, "I came home from school one day crying because I had been given only a small part in the children's program, while my playmate got the leading role. After drying my tears, my mother took off her watch and put it in my hand. 'What do you see?' she asked. 'A gold case, a face, and two hands,' I replied. Opening the back, she repeated the question. I told her I saw many tiny wheels. 'This watch would be useless,' she said, 'without every part - even the ones you can hardly see.' That object lesson has helped me all through life to see the importance of the small duties we're asked to perform."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DID you Answer these "TWO" Questions?**

1. Who were the only "two" that entered the

promise land from those who had left Egypt?

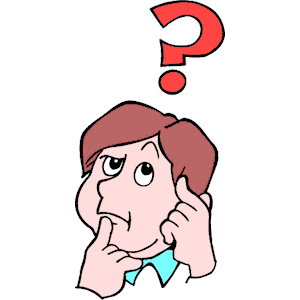
**Joshua / Caleb, Numbers 32:11-12**

2. Who were the "two" that Paul referred

to as "a true son"?

**Timothy, I Timothy 1:2 / Titus, Titus 1:4**

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=iYwOc09CjipHlM&tbnid=-9sqwJMj-Oi70M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://cliparts101.com/free_clipart/39719/Boy_Thinking_1&ei=eJtcUYfuF47M9gT9yYHwDQ&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE4nKOH0EcRr7xnlZkS2dU_QIkCgQ&ust=1365109990348033)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

John John John John John John John

15:1-27 16:1-33 17:1-26 18:1-27 18:28-19:16 19:17-42 20:1-31



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

THE HARDENING OF PHARAOH'S HEART

By David Padfield

Of all the characters in the Bible, few have caused as much speculation as the Pharaoh who ruled Egypt during the time of Moses. God spoke to Moses about Pharaoh and said, "*I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go*" (Exodus 4:21). This promise of God was repeated on several other occasions (Exodus 7:3; 9:12; 10:20,27).

Many fanciful theories have been devised to explain how God hardened Pharaoh's heart. Calvinists often point to this case and claim that God miraculously hardened his heart by the Holy Spirit. But, as is always the case, their argument fails in the light of other passages.

Three times in the narrative we read that Pharaoh "*hardened his own heart*" (Exodus 8:15,32; 9:34). Four other times the Bible simply says his heart "*grew*" or "*became*" hard (Exodus 7:14,22; 8:19; 9:7). The record also indicates the magicians had a hand in the hardening of Pharaoh's heart (Exodus 7:22, 8:19).

When we put all the pieces together, what do we find? Pharaoh was an insolent, arrogant and cruel man. He had two reasons for not wanting to release the Israelites: pride and covetousness. It would look bad for a monarch to allow nearly two million slaves to go free. It would also hurt the national economy if he lost his labor force.

It went against the grain for one to make demands in the name of Jehovah. Every time Moses spoke Pharaoh's heart grew harder. The magicians also played a part in the hardening of Pharaoh's heart. By the use of enchantments, they tried to minimize the miracles of Moses. Jamieson commented, "The art of those ancient magicians, who were not common jugglers, but educated men, was enlisted in support of idolatry of Egypt ... it is not difficult to imagine what immense power those professors of occult science must have wielded over the minds of men in an age of darkness, when the superstition of Egypt was in all its glory."

God hardens the hearts of men today the same way He did 3,500 years ago. Some will never listen to a simple gospel preacher. The "*pride of life*" (1 John 2:16) will cause them to close their ears. Pride kept many of the rulers from confessing Christ, "*Lest they be put out of the synagogue; for they love the praise or men more than the praise of God*" (John 12:42,43).

When a man repeatedly hears the gospel message, yet refuses to obey it, his conscience becomes "*seared*" (1 Tim4:2). To some men, gospel preachers are the "*aroma of life*," but to those who have had their conscience seared, they are the "*aroma of death*" (2 Cor. 2:16).

False teachers also help to harden the hearts of some. Pentecostal preachers, by their use of "*signs and lying wonders*" (2 Thess. 2:9), have deceived people into putting their trust in things other than God's word, Denominational creed-books and traditions have also blinded men to the truth (Matt 15:8, 9).

Pharaoh had the opportunity to heed the message of God. I am sure he would give 1,000 worlds like this one for another chance. You have the same choice Pharaoh had. The difference is that he cannot change his decision, but you can.

**Volume 5 June 2 2013 #22**

Jesus was a Follower

By Jonathan Perz

Great emphasis is placed, and rightly so, that Christians must be followers of Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself tells us, “And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me” (Matt. 10:38). Again He says, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me” (Luke 9:23). However, Jesus did not just issue an edict, He demonstrated what it means to be a follower, for He Himself was first and foremost a follower!

Seven of the most profound words in all of Scripture define exactly what it means to be a follower. These words were uttered by Jesus in the garden, just prior to the suffering He would endure to save us from our sins. He said, “...not My will, but Yours, be done…” (Luke 22:42). This is the heart of a follower and Jesus embodied this spirit under some of the most awful circumstances a man could imagine.

Jesus’ teaching demonstrated this essential spirit in every way. Explaining His purpose as a light sent into the world, Jesus says, “For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak” (John 12:49-50). Should it be any different for those of us today who claim to follow Him?

Regarding His actions, Jesus says, “I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me”(John 5:30). Along those same lines He later says, “For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me” (John 6:38).

Clearly, Jesus not only tells us to “follow Him” … He shows us what it means to be a follower. Do you embody this spirit in your walk with Jesus Christ? Based on your words and deeds, who is it that you are really following?



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Temptation: Jesus' and Ours

By Greg Gwin

The account of Jesus' temptation by Satan is very important for us to study.

First, it teaches that He was subject to temptation, "in all points ... like as we are" (Hebrews 4:15). It is great to know that Jesus understands the things we face. Why? Because He has been there.

Second we learn that, though tempted, He "did no sin" (1 Peter 2:22). This gives us the satisfaction of having a perfect sacrifice for our sins -- and a greater gift than that has never been given.

But, again, studying the actual record of His temptation (Matthew 4:1-11) we learn how Jesus overcame His temptations. Each time Satan approached Him, Jesus replied, "It is written". His strength against temptation was the Scriptures, and it must be our strength as well.

Finally, consider a fact that is often overlooked. Matthew says "then the devil leaveth him" (4:11) and we might assume that now Jesus would need to deal with him no more. Not so! Luke says the devil "departed from him \*for a season\*" (4:13), or as one version has it, "he left him until an opportune time". Our point is simply this: as long as Jesus walked upon the earth it was necessary for Him to resist Satan. Satan was looking for every "opportunity" to tempt Him. What does this tell us? It demonstrates that we can never let down our guard – that we must always be ready to "quench all the fiery darts of the wicked" (Eph. 6:16).

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

John Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts

21:1-25 1:1-26 2:1-47 3:1-26 4:1-37 5:1-42 6:1-15



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

"...RESTORE SUCH AN ONE..."

By H.E. Phillips

Those who have very little concern for the lost will not make much effort to restore them to the Lord. Those who love the lost and are concerned about their eternal destiny will work and pray for the salvation of their souls. The difference between these two groups is the difference between the spiritual mind and the carnal mind. This will depict the zealous and devout workers in the kingdom versus the indifferent bench warmer who finds fault and criticizes every effort on the part of the faithful.

Galatians 6:1 says: "*Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.*"

Restoring that one who has been overcome in a fault requires more than knocking at the door and scolding him for his sins. It involves more than sending a card, or making a phone call and talking with generalities. These things will help show the sinner that he has someone's attention, and that they are expressing some concern for him. Restoring the lost requires an attitude of love for the lost and a respect for the word of God that propels that person to seek opportunity to communicate with the one who has been overcome with sin and convince him to repent of his sins, confess his sins and pray to God for forgiveness.

There are so many hindrances to getting this work done. I suppose that is the reason we have so few who are willing and ready to attempt to restore the lost to the Lord. Often there is little interest in and desire for the salvation of the lost in the hearts of those who claim to restore the lost. These will talk about how others ought to be doing the work, but they will make no effort themselves. Some will boast of what they have done in this area, but they sometimes do more harm than good.

The Holy Spirit said the man to be "*restored*" is the one who has been "*overtaken in a fault*." The word used by the Holy Spirit for "*overtaken*" indicates one who has been caught in sin without premeditating the sin; his terrible trespass overcame him. His "*fault*" was not simply a mistake in judgment or a weakness he may have. It was a serious sin which would cause him to be lost in eternity. It does not mean that the "*spiritual*" person caught him in the act of sinning and therefore has the responsibility of restoring him. But he does observe that the person has been overtaken in sin, and he responds by trying to "*restore*" that one.

"... *ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted*." Those who are "*spiritual*" refer to the previous chapter where the works of the flesh are in contrast to the fruit of the Spirit. Those who walk in the Spirit will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh (5: 16). "*If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit*" (5: 25).  “*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit*" (Rom. 8: 1).

The "*spiritual*" one is sometimes too harsh and cold in his attitude and judgment of the sins of others. I do not suggest that one should compromise with sin to any degree or in any matter. Sin is sin and it damns one in hell if he does not repent. Godliness and love for the truth do not permit any deficiency in dealing with sin.  Love and kindness alone, without conviction and urging repentance, will not rescue from sin. If they could, no one would be lost because God has unlimited love and kindness toward mankind. God is no respecter of persons and we sin if we show respect to persons (Acts 10: 34, 35; Rom. 2: 11; >>>

**Volume 5 June 9 2013 #23**

>>> James 2: 9). The restoration of anyone overtaken in sin is not a penalty, but an attempt to rescue him from the consequence of his sin. It is an act of love, not revenge.

The "*spiritual*" one is admonished to give heed to himself as he goes about the work of restoring the overtaken. He is to do it in the spirit of meekness. In the previous chapter the fruit of the Spirit includes love, gentleness and meekness (5: 22, 23). Here the spirit of meekness must characterize the one who restores the offender.

But he is also to consider himself lest he be tempted. Tempted to do what? Clearly it refers to the trespass into which the one to be restored fell. One could hardly help another out of a situation into which he himself has fallen, or is likely to fall. One who has a reputation for gossiping, tale bearing and lying or adultery could hardly do much with one who was overtaken in a terrible sin which was destroying him. Could one cry out to another who is as weak in the same area of temptation? The deceitful and seductive nature of sin and the persistence and subtlety of Satan should put every Christian on 24 hours a day watch lest he be overtaken in a trespass. It is even more important that one watch himself and pray when he is trying to recover another from sin.

The "*spiritual*" person who attempts to restore the person overtaken in a trespass must remember where the power is that recovers the lost—the gospel of Christ (Rom. 1:16). Opinions, personal evaluations of behavior, psychological analysis and conformity to denominational doctrines will not restore anyone. We must teach the truth and encourage those who are in sin to repent and turn to the Lord for the forgiveness of their sins.

Every Christian who loves the lost, especially those who have fallen away, will put forth every effort to "*restore such an one*" to the Lord.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



BAD COMPANY

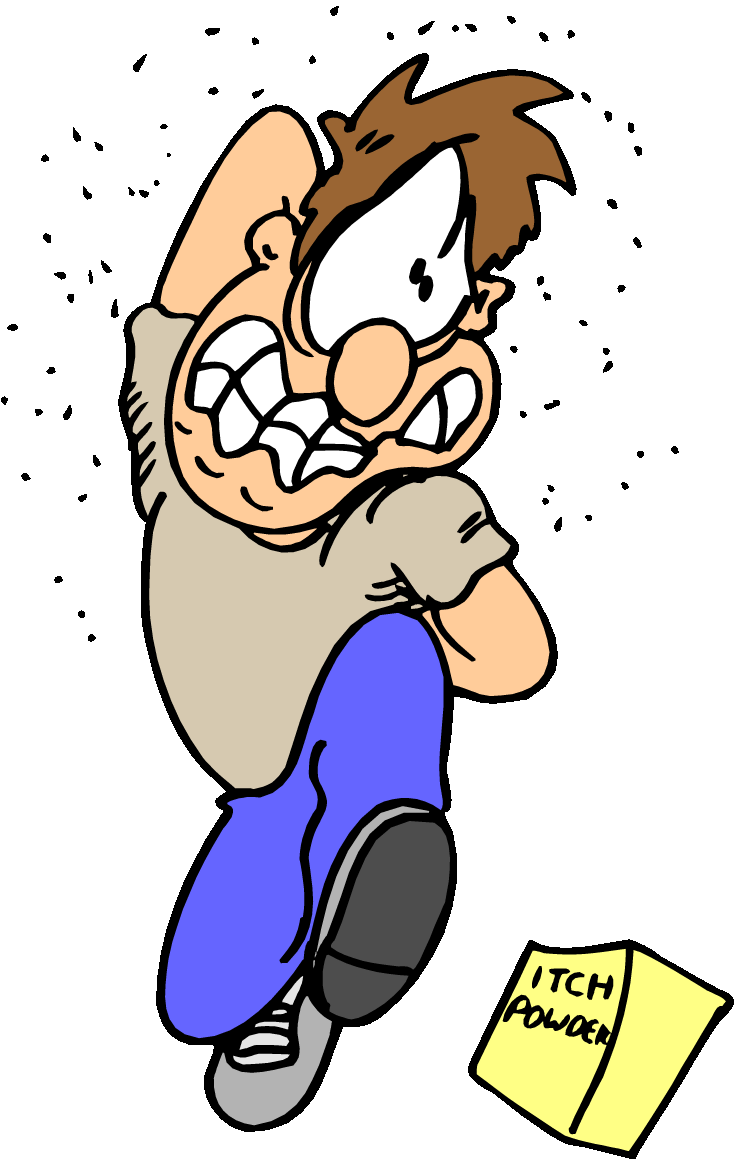
By Mike Johnson

The story is told of two parrots who lived near each other. The one was accustomed to singing hymns while the other was addicted to swearing. The owner of the latter obtained permission for it to associate with the former in the hope that its bad habit would be corrected. Instead the opposite happened as both learned to swear.

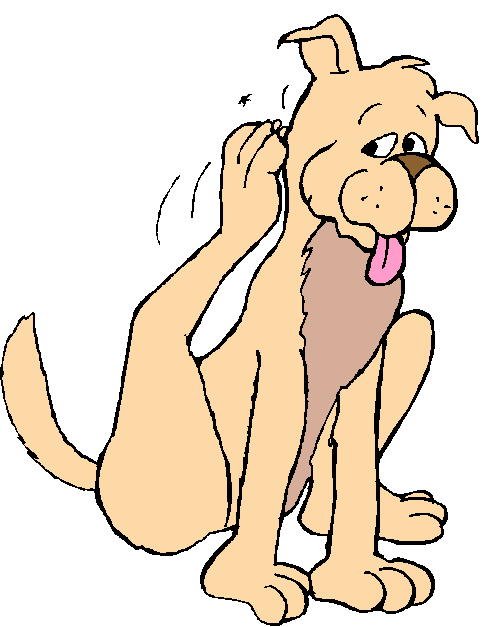
This little story reminds us of a passage in I Corinthians 15:33 which says, "*Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits*." A person may feel like he can associate with wicked people and not be hurt. He may think that he can be a good influence on the wicked person. Perhaps he can, but influence can go in two directions, and there is a great danger of the wicked person influencing the good person. If a person thinks otherwise, he is "*deceived*." Young people, as well as older people, need to pick their friends carefully. Remember, "*Evil company corrupts good habits.*"

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

As the old saying goes, *"If you lay down with the dogs you will get up with its fleas!"*

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+scratching&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=70FohhufmLgF4M&tbnid=tMXQBCw_m6LSXM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://bainesy.wordpress.com/category/sexual-integrity/&ei=FeytUaSGKpC68wSztoC4DA&bvm=bv.47244034,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNFdo4OnBNydsvssNXVbJQ262HWS2Q&ust=1370439054347293)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+dog+with+fleas&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=FixX4hV-82um2M&tbnid=WQQiIme-sFOtyM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://dogs-n-more.blogspot.com/2010_04_01_archive.html&ei=3-utUZHwF4yK9QTDkoHQBA&bvm=bv.47244034,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNFb7N1SnsFysZh9Jv7okodGNhe4aA&ust=1370439001143377)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts

7:1-29 7:30-50 7:51-8:13 8:14-40 9:1-25 9:26-43 10:1-23



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com



Edify One Another

By David A. Padfield

At the close of Paul's first epistle to the saints at Thessalonica, he

exhorts them to "edify one another" (5:11I). The word here translated

"edify" is the Greek word \*oikodomeo. \*It is found thirty-nine times in

the original text and all but eight times it is translated as "build" or

"built." This is the same word that our Lord used in Matthew 7:24

when He spoke of the wise man who "built his house on the rock."

The idea that Paul had in mind was that Christians should "build" one

another up in the faith. After defining the word, Thayer adds an

additional comment. He says it is "the act of one who promotes

another’s growth in Christian wisdom, piety, holiness, happiness."

One of the highest duties that a Christian has is to encourage others. In a world filled with pessimism, violence and despair, the need for encouragement is evident. While at work we become painfully aware of the defeatist attitude that has permeated the society in which we live.

After a week of listening to the gripes and complaints of this sin-sick world, Christians should look forward to an isle of retreat on the Lord's day, A place where the name of God is blessed and not cursed, a place where we can enjoy those "seasons of refreshing" that flow down from the bountiful hand of the Father.

It is truly a shame that Christians do not spend more time in one another's company. The Hebrew writer tells us to "consider one another so as to stir up love and good works," after this command he tells us how this is to be done, \*i.e., \*"not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another" (Heb. 10:24-25).

In Haggai 2:4, God told the people to get back to the work of rebuilding the temple. With this command God gave a word of encouragement, "For I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts." Please pause and consider what it meant for those Jews to whom Haggai spoke, to know that the Lord was with them.

Surely they could remember the stories of how Jehovah had been with their fathers as they passed through the Red Sea, how he had led them "by the hand" through all their wanderings in the wilderness, and now how He had released them from Babylonian captivity. Realizing their God was real and powerful, how could they question his guidance now?

As we run our race toward eternal glory, let us all learn the many virtues of encouragement and "run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.”

**Volume 5 June 16 2013 #24**

"City" Bible Quiz:

1. What city did God command Jonah to

go and preach?

2. What cities were build by the children of Israel while in Egyptian bondage?

3. What city is called the city of David?

4. What city did Jesus command the apostles to go and wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit?

5. What cities did Jeroboam set up golden calves for the 10 tribes to worship?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NO REASON TO BELIEVE THE ATHEIST

By C.S. Lewis

If the solar system was brought about by an accidental collision, then the appearance of organic life on this planet was also an accident, and the whole evolution of man was an accident, too.

If so, then all our present thoughts are mere accidents – the accidental by-product of the movement of atoms. And this holds true for the thoughts of the materialists and astronomers as well as for anyone else’s.

But if their thoughts – i.e., of Materialism and Astronomy – are merely accidental by-products, why should we believe them to be true? I see no reason for believing that one accident should be able to give me a correct account of all the other accidents.

It’s like expecting that the accidental shape taken by the splash when you upset a milk-jug should give you a correct account of how the jug was made and why it was upset.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



What Are Your Goals?

By Greg Gwin

The commentator William Barclay included these thoughts in his comments about the parable of the rich and foolish farmer in Luke 12:13-21 . . .

There is a story of a conversation between a young and ambitious lad and an older man who knew life.

“I will,” said the young man, “learn my trade.”

“And then?” said the older man.

“I will set up my business.”

“And then?”

“I will make my fortune.”

“And then?”

“I suppose that I shall grow old and retire and live on my money.”

“And then?”

“Well, I suppose that some day I will die.”

“And then?”

The point is obvious. If we live for what this life has to offer, when it is over we will have nothing. We'll leave it all behind, or, as we sometimes say, "you can't take it with you". If, on the other hand, we live for God, we have our "treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal" (Matthew 6:20).

What are \*your\* goals? Think!

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts

10:24-48 11:1-30 12:1-23 12:24-13:15 13:16-41 13:42-14:7 14:8-28



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

**CALL IT WHAT IT IS**

By Arthur M. Ogden

Someone said to me once, "If you call a dog's tail a leg, how many legs would he have?" This is one time I bit the dog. I answered, "five." After the laughter had subsided and I felt utterly ridiculous, I was reminded it does not matter what you call a dog's tail, it will always be a tail. I learned a good lesson from that incident, a lesson everyone needs to learn.

I suppose there is no area where people are guilty of calling a thing something it is not, more than in religious circles. I have observed a number of things practiced in religion which are not what they are said to be. Perhaps it would be worthwhile to mention a few of them.

One of the more familiar cases of this is the denominational practice of sprinkling and pouring which they call "baptism." Does calling sprinkling and pouring "baptism" make them such? Not at all. Paul says, "*we are buried with him by baptism*" (Rom.6:4). Baptism is a burial. Sprinkling nor pouring fit into this meaning, and to call them "baptism" does not make it so. Sprinkling is still sprinkling, and pouring is still pouring, and baptism is still baptism (a burial).

Most religious bodies today call Sunday "the Sabbath Day," but that does not make it so. The Sabbath was the seventh day of the week ( Ex.20:8-11), and Sunday is the first day of the week. To call the first day "the Sabbath" will not change it in the least. The Catholic counts his beads and calls it "prayer;" the Mormon uses water in the Lord's Supper and calls it "the fruit of the vine;" the Holiness jabber and call it "speaking in tongues;" they lay their hands on the sick and pray, and call it "miraculous healing;" and nearly all of the denominational churches use mechanical instruments and call it "singing."

Why not call it what it is? Or, are we afraid we cannot find scriptural authority for our practices if we call them what they really are?

Brethren are not immune to the use of this type of justification for their practices. They attend one hour of services a week and call it "faithful;" some take a little drink now and then and call it "being sociable;" and some dance and let their children dance, and call it "being graceful." Many congregations have built places to eat and to play with the Lord's money, and they call it "fellowship;" and they have built and maintained super organizations for the purpose of doing the work of the church and called them "methods." Brethren, it makes no difference what we call these things for which we have no Bible authority. To call them something other than what they are will not change them from what they are. A dog's tail is still a tail regardless of what you call it. Call it what it is, and you will not be deceived by it.

The apostles Paul said of those who received not the love of the truth that they might be saved, that "*God shall send them strong delusions, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness*" (2 Thess. 2:10-12). "*Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting*" (Gal.6:7,8). Call it what it is. If you don't, the Lord will! (Matt.7:21-23).

**Volume 5 June 23 2013 #25**

"City" Bible Quiz:

1. What city did God command Jonah to

go and preach?

**- Nineveh - (Jonah 1:1-2)**

2. What cities were build by the children of Israel while in Egyptian bondage?

**- Pithom and Raamses -** (Exodus 1:11)

3. What city is called the city of David?

**- Bethlehem - (Luke 2:4)**

4. What city did Jesus command the apostles to go and wait for the promise of the Holy Spirit?

**- Jerusalem - (Acts 1:4)**

5. What cities did Jeroboam set up golden calves for the 10 tribes to worship?

**- Dan & Bethel - (I Kings 12:26-29)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

"GOOD PEOPLE IN ALL CHURCHES?”

By Earl Fly

The statement that "there are good people in all churches" is usually made as a defense of the existence of the many different conflicting denominations. Certainly there are good people in all the churches. There are good people OUT of churches. There are good people who are infidels. But the question is not are they good, but are they saved people?

It is good to be good but it is not good enough. One cannot save himself by just being good. He must obey the gospel of Christ (2 Thess. 1:7-9) to be saved. Cornelius was a good man but he was a lost man! (Acts 10:1-6; 11:14). The good people in human churches are lost people, not because they are not good moral people, but because they have not obeyed the gospel of God. This is why we appeal to good people to leave their human churches and obey the gospel. There is no other hope for these good people.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Are You?

By John Clark

Are you one of those who has drifted out of attending Bible class? We are all creatures of habit, good or bad. Form good habits and good things can happen - and of course, vice versa (Gal. 6:7-9). Has it become a habit for YOU to 'skip' Bible study but come to worship? Which of the following fits you?

1. I come to Bible study every once in a while.   
2. I used to come but have quit.

3. I don't need to come. I know enough already.  
4. I don't think it’s important.

5. I really ought to come but I'm out of the habit.

6. I really want to come, but just haven't done it yet.

While you are pondering the categories let's see if you disagree with or dismiss the following Biblical principles:

1. Every Christian needs to grow. (2 Pet. 3:18)

2. God's word causes us to grow. (1 Pet. 2:2)

3. In time we should be able to teach others. (Heb. 5:12-14)

4. We should grow and help others grow by being together.(Heb. 10:24-25)

5. We have personal responsibility to share with others of our time, influence, talents, and knowledge. (Eph. 4:16)

It is said that the road to hell is paved with good intentions - never completed. The road to heaven is paved with good intentions; immediate action. and consistent effort. Why not get on the right road now? Start attending Bible classes regularly! The soul you save may be your own.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts

15:1-35 15:36-16:15 16:16-40 17:1-34 18:1-23 18:24-19:20 19:21-41



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

To Whose Tune Do You Hearken?

By Jonathan Perz

In the Brothers Grimm tale The Pied Piper of Hamelin, a small German town overrun with rats calls upon the services of “a tall thin man dressed in brightly colored clothes, with a long feather in his hat, waving a gold pipe at them.” The townspeople offer to pay the piper to remove all of the rats from their town.

The next morning the piper plays an irresistible tune on his pipe, leading the rats down to the river where they are drowned and swept away. The moral of the Brothers Grimm story is not realized in the Piper’s feat, but in the broken promise of the townspeople who fail to make their payment to the piper. At dawn he teaches them a painful lesson when he leads all of their children away and into a mountain never to be seen again.

Though the moral of keeping your promises is a needed one(Jas. 5:12),

one can’t help but reflect on the strange tune the piper played that

irresistibly led the rats and children out of the town.

Does not Satan have a way of playing just the right irresistible tune to

lead us to our destruction?

Sometimes the song Satan plays hits the chords of the “various lusts”

that dwell in our hearts  (2 Tim. 3:6). Some abandon the Lord’s ways,

however clearly expressed, for things as simple as preference of

music type or things as destructive as adultery and fornication. Satan

knows the song that resonates in your heart and he will not fail to play it.

Likewise, Peter speaks of those who “fail from their own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked” (2 Pet. 3:17). When we become discontent with the truth, Satan plays the songs of error that will lead us away. As Satan has contrived every flavor of error under the sun for our partaking, he has exactly the right tune to lead each of us away should the love of the truth not resonate on our heart (2 Tim. 2:9-12).

The redeemed sing a new song **(Rev. 14:3)**. This song resonates so strongly in their hearts that none will ever separate them from the love of God **(Rom. 8:35-39)**.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you are visiting we are glad you are here!

Please come again!

**Volume 5 June 30 2013 #26**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=JLBshFbcMX4ulM&tbnid=QbDywWGT2ckKKM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.oncoloring.com/pied-piper-of-hamelin-coloring-pages.html&ei=2bPJUdmVApDS9QSX6oHIDg&bvm=bv.48293060,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNHnz81_vA32lT_Sh2gEYfnyUymqHg&ust=1372259626972619)

Disguising the Bad

By Greg Gwin

A nearby bakery shop has a reputation for making some absolutely incredible cinnamon rolls. These rolls are huge, and are literally packed with brown sugar, cinnamon, and butter, and are topped with thick, gooey icing. The very thought of these can make one's mouth water.

But, alas, the health food craze has surely taken its toll on the cinnamon roll business. And though we love our sweets, we've been warned about all those calories - and we shutter to think of the cholesterol! What's a baker to do when cinnamon rolls are getting so much bad press?

The answer, of course, is to offer people an option that appeals to their health conscious sensitivities. And so, the baker of those delectable cinnamon rolls is now selling an oat bran muffin. Well, everyone has heard of the great benefits of oat bran. It has been touted as the remedy to a whole host of health problems. Surely then an oat bran muffin is just what the doctor ordered. Never mind that these particular muffins are as big as a softball, have more than a fair share of sugar, butter, calories, and even contain a huge dose of cholesterol! Which simply proves that if we can hide something bad behind a name that sounds good, most folks will "swallow it".

This same trick is being used by

Satan in the spiritual realm.

Homosexuality is now an

"alternate lifestyle" and no

longer no longer called an

"abomination" (Lev. 18:22).

Alcoholism sounds better

than drunkenness, and it is

easier to "swallow" if we call

it a disease rather than a sin. You get the idea. But, remember, calling something bad by a good name does not change the outcome.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Limping Between the Two

By James Hahn

When Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal at Mt. Carmel he also presented a challenge to the children of Israel. He said, "How long go ye limping between the two sides? if Jehovah be God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him" (1 Kings 18:21).

God has always expected His people to declare themselves. This same challenge needs to be presented to those who would identify themselves as the people of God today. If we are going to serve Jehovah then let's do so. There is no room in the kingdom of God for half-hearted, lukewarm service (See Revelation 3:14-19).

To those members of the body of Christ who are not faithful in their service to the Lord, we ask, "How long go ye limping between the two sides?

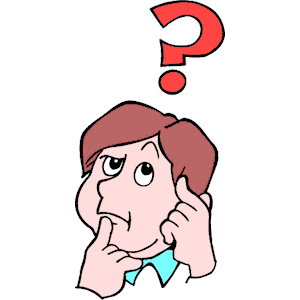
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Think About It!**

**It is twice as hard to crush a half truth**

**as it is to**

**crush a whole lie.**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=iYwOc09CjipHlM&tbnid=-9sqwJMj-Oi70M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://cliparts101.com/free_clipart/39719/Boy_Thinking_1&ei=eJtcUYfuF47M9gT9yYHwDQ&bvm=bv.44697112,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE4nKOH0EcRr7xnlZkS2dU_QIkCgQ&ust=1365109990348033)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts

20:1-38 21:1-16 21:17-36 21:37-22:16 22:17-23:10 23:11-35 24:1-27



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

FACTS ABOUT FAITH HEALING

By Rick Duggin

Members of the Faith Assembly, an Indiana-based religious sect, have lost as many as eighty-eight members to treatable illnesses or injuries because they believe that going to a doctor is wrong. A federal and state study concluded that the morality rate for their newborns is three times higher than the statewide rate, and the rate of maternal deaths is one hundred times higher. A Mr. Freeman who started this sect claimed that he would never die, that he would live till the Second Coming. He was buried in December 1984, and yet the sect continues to exist.

No Bible believer will deny that healing is divine or that we should pray for the sick. The question is: Does God heal miraculously today? A miracle is an act above the laws of nature; something which nature could not do in its ordinary course of operation. Our society has so perverted this word that anything from a narrow escape to a successful telethon is called a miracle.

Even in the first century, the gift of healing was never used merely as an end in itself. In fact, not all the sick were healed (see Philippians 2:25-30; 1 Timothy 5:23; 2 Timothy 4:20).

The ultimate purpose of such gifts was to produce faith. "*And many*

*other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are*

*not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that*

*Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing ye might*

*have life through his name*" (John 20:30,31).

Why do we flatly deny the existence of miraculous gifts today?

(1) Miraculous power was given through Holy Spirit baptism and by

the apostles laying their hands on certain ones (Acts 2:1-4; 8:14-18).

But there is now only one baptism (Ephesians 4:5), which men can

perform (Matthew 28:19). And there are no apostles alive today, thus

no means of receiving spiritual gifts.

(2) Those who claim to have miraculous gifts do not claim all of them.

1 Corinthians 12:1-10 lists nine spiritual gifts. If one gift still exists, all

do. If God's inspired prophets are still on earth, we should be adding

their words to the New Testament. But this is contrary to those

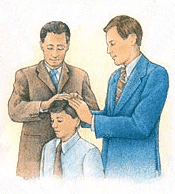
scriptures which affirm that revelation is complete (2 Timothy 3:16,17;

Jude 3). In addition, modern "prophets" contradict the revelation

which God has already given! (Galatians 1:6-9)

>>>

**Volume 5 July 7 2013 #27**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+laying+on+hand&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=Bj7IV5ARaEk3MM&tbnid=EzGRb6JyKoALrM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.primaryclipart.com/search.php?search=laying&ei=R8nRUanGOYjS9QS22YCYAw&bvm=bv.48572450,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNHxiRGiCe0003soC5jOI-q3bBzyTw&ust=1372789443104672)

>>> (3) The purposes of miraculous gifts have been fulfilled. God's messengers once used miracles to prove their message came from Heaven, "*Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds*" (2 Corinthians 12:12). But God's word is now confirmed (Hebrews 2:3,4), and we can know what to believe by reading God's revelation (Ephesians 3:4).

(4) The New Testament itself says that miracles would cease when "*that which is perfect*" would come (1 Corinthians 13:10). We now have God's "*perfect*" revelation (James 1: 25), thus miraculous gifts have ceased. (Note: The effort to make "*that which is perfect*" refer to Christ is not only out of context for 1 Corinthians 13, it is actually contrary to the context. The perfect must be of the same nature as the "*in part*" referred to in verses 9, 10. Paul did not have "Christ" or "His coming" in part. He "*knew*" in part. This knowledge would be made perfect when the revelation of God was made complete.)

(5) The miracles of the New Testament were performed by godly men who never begged for so much as a dime for any miracle. What a contrast to the fake healers of our day. Further, the apostles did not have to debate with anyone over their ability to work miracles, for even their enemies could not deny the facts (Acts 4:16). They were willing to be put to the test. Jesus commended the church at Ephesus for testing those who claimed to be apostles (Revelation 2:2). Is this true today? "*Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain*" (Proverbs 25:14). Don't let boastful deceivers lead you astray.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



"I DON'T SEE ANYTHING WRONG WITH THAT!"

By James Hahn

How many times have we heard this reply when we question some belief or practice which may be without Bible authority? The saddest thing about the statement is that many times it is really true. So many individuals have so little knowledge and understanding of the Bible when they are confronted with some false teaching or practice they really do not have the ability to see anything wrong with the sinful doctrine or practice. We all need our “*senses exercised to discern both good and evil*” (Hebrews 5:14). The only way we can have this ability is to put forth the necessary effort to learn and understand the truth. If we know what is right we will be able to recognize that which is contrary to it as being wrong and sinful.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Have the courage to say no. Have the courage to face the truth. Do the right thing because it is right. These are the magic keys to living your life with integrity.”

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Acts Acts Acts Acts Acts Romans Romans

25:1-27 26:1-32 27:1-20 27:21-44 28:1-31 1:1-17 1:18-32



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Morality, The Government and Christians

By Doy Moyer

Moral statements and positions will, necessarily, impact political issues. This is not because morality is inherently political, but because government has the task of recognizing the difference between good and evil, so moral issues will have to be dealt with \*(Rom 13:3-4)\*. This means that, contrary to what is so often stated and argued, morality will be legislated by government, and it will be legislated from a worldview that either recognizes the significance of God or not. To say that God needs to be kept out of politics, then, is to default to the secularized view of morality; and secularized morality will then be legislated. Why is it that people default to keeping God out of it instead of keeping the secularized views of reality out of it? And why do some Christians seem to be buying into all of this?

We need to see what has happened here. Many have bought into the notions that 1) God and religion must be kept out of politics, and 2) morality is not something that can be legislated. In fact, both are false. God is never out of politics, and we are fooling ourselves if we think so, given that God rules in the kingdoms of men. Every worldview says something about God.

If a worldview says there is no God, then a notion of God is still a part of the position, and actions will be taken that demonstrate that disbelief. Further, every law is a legislation of morality in one form or another; there is no way around it. The question is, will the legislation come from those whose worldview respects God as the foundation or not?

I don’t say all of this in order to argue that Christians need to get more political. I’m arguing that Christians need to say more about God and morality in every area of life. We don’t check our God at the door when we enter a political arena, and we don’t set aside godly morals when we engage the culture. We don’t take a moral view of something based on politics, but surely our political views ought to be based on godly morality. The point then is not that we need more political activists. The point is that we need to be more engaged in the moral discussions of our culture and take a stand for what is right, regardless of political fallout. In other words, it’s not about being political; it’s about standing for what’s right in the middle of a crooked and perverse generation.

Even more, we need to hold up the gospel itself to the world. The answer to our problems is not to vote in or out this or that politician. No government in history has been a bastion of godliness, and I don’t expect that to change. The answer is always where it has been: in Christ. The problems of this world won’t be fixed by human government, but by the gospel. “The kingdoms of earth pass away one by one, but the kingdom of heaven remains.”

So Christians should be concerned with 1) holding out the gospel to a lost world, and 2) standing up for Christ and His morality. It’s not politics.

It’s just what’s right.

**Volume 5 July 14 2013 #28**

The Better Things

I do not ask for easy paths  
Along life's winding roads  
But for the promised grace and strength  
To carry all its loads.  
  
I do not ask for treasures here,  
To hoard, decay, and rust  
But for the better things of life -  
Humility and trust.

I do not ask for many friends,  
But give me, Lord, the few  
Whose loyalty and faithfulness  
Are first of all to you.  
  
I ask not skies forever clear  
With one unbroken calm,  
But in each ill that overtakes  
To know thy healing balm.

I do not ask for honor, fame,  
While life's short race I run  
But for the will to do thy will -  
To hear thy glad "well done."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Can You Answer

Theses Bible

Questions About Animals?

1. On what day was the land animals

created?

2. What animal spoke in the Bible?

3. On what animal did Jesus enter Jerusalem?

4. What animal is used to describe the devil?



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Staying Focused on The Goal

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." (Matt. 6:33)

A man bought a new hunting dog. Eager to see how he would perform, he took him out to track a bear. No sooner had they gotten into the woods than the dog picked up the trail. Suddenly he stopped, sniffed the ground, and headed in a new direction. He had caught the scent of a deer that had crossed the bear's path. A few moments later he halted again, this time smelling a racoon that had crossed the path of the deer. Then a turkey, a rabbit, and so on, until finally the breathless hunter caught up with his dog, only to find him barking triumphantly down the hole of a field mouse.

Often Christians start out with high resolve, putting the kingdom of God first in their lives, but their attention is soon diverted to things of lesser worth. One pursuit leads to another until they've. strayed far from their original purpose. Let us do our best to put first things first.

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+tracking+dog&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=Qic7QH841z_QYM&tbnid=Rv0omWmU1TjTyM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.dreamstime.com/stock-photography-sniffing-dog-image20899722&ei=RdTaUen6AY_K9gTn-YHYDQ&bvm=bv.48705608,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNEthNJTxOwf0lXZ-cl8s2N0PY7SAQ&ust=1373382066485077)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans

2:1-24 2:25-3:8 3:9-31 4:1-12 4:13-5:5 5:6-21 6:1-23



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

"EUNICE'S FAMILY: WHAT CAN BE DONE?"

By Frank Himmel

Marriage is life's most intimate relationship. No one will affect you more than your mate.  "*An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who shames him is as rotteness in his bones:*” (Prov. 12:4),

For many reasons, Christians should marry Christians. Only in that case can you share what is most important in life -- your service to Christ -- with your closest companion.  An unbelieving mate may influence you away from the Lord.  If that does not happen, he or she will hold you back in some way, or at least make things more awkward or difficult.  Two people dedicated to doing God's will have a common basis for solving problems that come to the relationship.  If God blesses the marriage with children, your parental obligation is much easier if both parents are Christians.  And when death ends your marriage, how much better to face the loss of a companion knowing that he or she

died in the Lord.

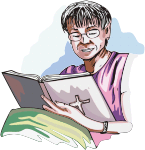
We need to emphasize these practical realities to people contemplating marriage.   Nevertheless, some choose to marry those who are not Christians.  Also, it is not uncommon among those already married for one spouse to become a Christian but the other does not.  Such families should consider Eunice and take heart.  She shows what can be done in that situation.

Acts 16 tells of Paul coming to Lystra on his second preaching trip:  "*And behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek*" (vs. 1).  Timothy's mother was Eunice (2 Tim. 1:5).   His father was evidently not a Christian, and he was sufficiently opposed to Eunice's beliefs that Timothy had not been circumcised (vs. 3).

What did Eunice do? Two things. First, she lived by her convictions, despite her husband. 2 Tim. 1:5 speaks of her sincere faith, which also characterized her mother, Lois.  Second, she taught her son.  Paul reminded Timothy that "*from childhood you have known the sacred writings*" (2 Tim. 3:15).  It was surely more difficult for Eunice to have to do this training without a husband's help, but she did it.  Doubtless Lois also contributed.  If Eunice did it, so can you.  It will require persistent instruction and a consistent example.

Something else about Eunice is noteworthy.  It was at Lystra where Paul was stoned and left for dead on his first preaching trip (Acts 14:19).  Now, this same apostle wanted her young son to go with him to destinations unknown to assist him in preaching.  What would be in store for Timothy?  How would he fare? Surely she had concerns.  But the text reveals no hesitation on her part or his, and this faithful mother's beloved son proved to be a valuable worker in the Lord's cause.  If you will be a Eunice your son my be a Timothy.

**Volume 5 July 21 2013 #29**



**The Homemaker's Prayer:**

Lord, we thank thee for this sink of dirty dishes; we have good food to eat. Thank you for this pile of dirty laundry; we have nice cloths to wear. I would like to thank you for these unmade beds; they were all comfortable last night. My thanks for this bathroom, complete with soggy towels, splattered mirror, and grimy lavatory; its still very convenient. Thank you for this finger smudged refrigerator that needs defrosting so badly. It has served us faithfully for a long time; and inside are cool drinks and enough leftovers for another meal. Thank you for this oven which absolutely must be cleaned; it has baked many good meals over the years. Our whole family is grateful for that tall grass that needs to be mowed; we all enjoy our private yard. Thanks for that slamming screen door; the children are healthy and able to run and play. Lord, the presence of all these chores awaiting me says that you have richly blessed this family. I shall do them all gratefully and cheerfully. Amen. (Author Unknown)

"In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thess. 5:18)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**DID** You Answer

Theses Bible

Questions About Animals?

1. On what day was the land animals

created? **6th day, Genesis 1:24-31**

2. What animal spoke in the Bible? **Donkey, Numbers 22:28**

3. On what animal did Jesus enter Jerusalem?

**Donkey, John 12:14-15**

4. What animal is used to describe the devil?

**Lion, I Peter 5:8**



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



The Good and

Right Way

By John Gibson

“Far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you; but I will teach you the good and the right way”(1 Samuel 12:23). To understand the setting, note that these words were spoken by Samuel at what might be called Saul’s coronation. In 1 Samuel 8 the Israelites had informed Samuel that he was old, his children were unworthy, and they wanted a king like the nations around them. It is obvious Samuel felt a certain hurt by Israel’s rejection of him (though God assured him that it was really His reign they were rejecting—1 Samuel 8:7), yet Samuel refused to become embittered. This noble judge and prophet intended to keep on teaching and praying for the people.

What a lesson for us today when we feel that our friends, family or brethren have in some way wronged us. If we feel mistreated do we get angry, pout, stay home, etc., or do we get on our knees and pray for those who have not shown us the respect we feel we deserve? Do we continue to preach and teach the good and right way, or do we find ourselves quietly hoping something will happen so they will “learn their lesson” and appreciate us the way they should? I know that in my own experiences I have not always been like Samuel, but this is the model we should strive to imitate.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans

7:1-12 7:13-8:8 8:9-25 8:26-39 9:1-24 9:25-10:13 10:14-11:12



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

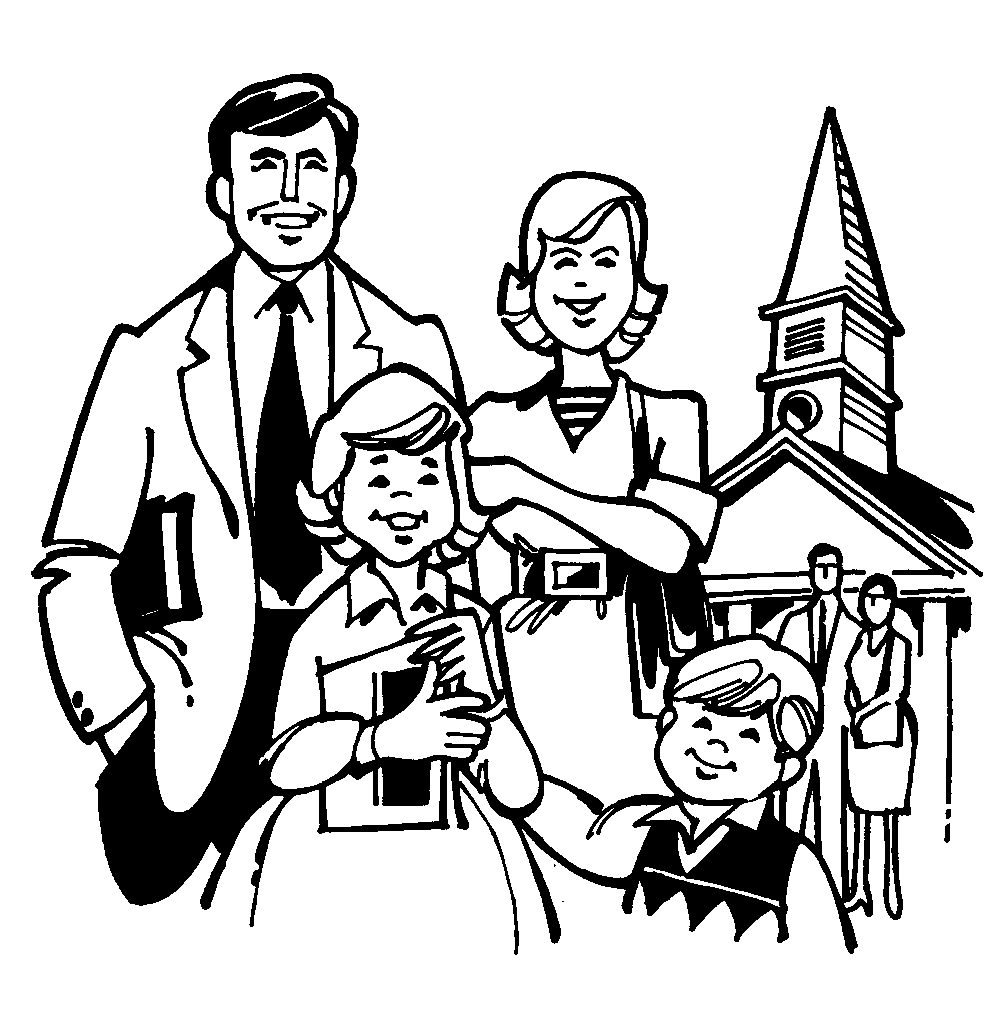
7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=church&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=GkXrCarlzFKW-M&tbnid=CHbJzuKU8gPQLM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.raisingarrows.net/2010/12/it-takes-a-church-to-raise-a-child/&ei=hVXtUdHUO5TH4AOlvoGgBA&bvm=bv.49478099,d.dmg&psig=AFQjCNHkEKPn-Q96IOPCH6nAxzF9mT9Seg&ust=1374594788288345)

"EDIFY ONE ANOTHER"

By David Padfield

At the close of Paul's first epistle to the saints at Thessalonica,

he exhorts them to "*edify one another*" (5:11). The word here

translated "*edify*" is the Greek word oikodomeo. It is found

thirty-nine times in the original text and all but eight times it is

translated as "build" or "built." This is the same word that our

Lord used in Matthew 7:24 when He spoke of the wise man

who "*built his house on the rock*."

The idea that Paul had in mind was that Christians should "build"

one another up in the faith. After defining the word, Thayer adds

an additional comment. He says it is "the act of one who

promotes another’s growth in Christian wisdom, piety, holiness,

happiness."

One of the highest duties that a Christian has is to encourage others. In a world filled with pessimism, violence and despair, the need for encouragement is evident. While at work we become painfully aware of the defeatist attitude that has permeated the society in which we live.

After a week of listening to the gripes and complaints of this sin-sick world, Christians should look forward to an isle of retreat on the Lord's day, A place where the name of God is blessed and not cursed, a place where we can enjoy those "seasons of refreshing" that flow down from the bountiful hand of the Father.

It is truly a shame that Christians do not spend more time in one another's company. The Hebrew writer tells us to "*consider one another so as to stir up love and good works*," after this command he tells us how this is to be done, i.e., "*not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another*" (Heb. 10:24-25).

In Haggai 2:4, God told the people to get back to the work of rebuilding the temple. With this command God gave a word of encouragement, "*For I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts.*" Please pause and consider what it meant for those Jews to whom Haggai spoke, to know that the Lord was with them. Surely they could remember the stories of how Jehovah had been with their fathers as they passed through the Red Sea, how he had led them "by the hand" through all their wanderings in the wilderness, and now how He had released them from Babylonian captivity. Realizing their God was real and powerful, how could they question his guidance now?

As we run our race toward eternal glory, let us all learn the many virtues of encouragement and "*run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith*.”

**Volume 5 July 28 2013 #30**

Irrationality of Atheism, Deism and Relativism

By Bob Myhan

One cannot rationally defend atheism, deism and relativism because those who would defend them have implicitly renounced thepreconditions of intelligibility. The atheist does this by denying the existence of the intelligent Creator. Assuming humans would exist, at all, if they were not created, their thoughts would be nothing more than the results of chemical reactions in the brain.

Without the intelligent, moral Creator that does exist, there could be neither right nor wrong, either morally or intellectually. Therefore, people would not be responsible for their thoughts or their actions. One could not help thinking what he thinks or doing what he does, any more than a dog can help barking or a cat meowing.

The deist renounces the preconditions of intelligibility by denying any supernatural revelation from God to man. Since man is both logical and moral, his Creator is also, of necessity, both logical and moral. But if the Creator never revealed Himself to man and if the Creator never gave man laws of logic and behavior, man would not know how to reason nor how he ought to behave. Thus, the fact that man does reason and that he does hold others accountable for their actions is proof that God is and that He has revealed laws of logic and laws of behavior.

Thus, neither atheists nor deists can consistently defend their respective philosophies. There can be no laws of logic or of human behavior without a lawgiver, who is above man in His thoughts and ways.

"*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways*," says the Lord. "*For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.*” (Isaiah 55:8-9)

As for the relativist—it cannot be absolutely true that nothing is absolutely true.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



True Life

By Bill Hall

The goal of the gospel is to prepare people for heaven. Its emphasis centers upon happiness in a life to come rather than upon this life. "For what profit is it to a man," Jesus once asked, "if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?" The Lord would teach us to look through faith beyond the suffering and heartaches of this life to a life free of suffering and heartaches; to lay up treasures in heaven rather than upon the earth. He wants us in our preaching to proclaim a message of salvation through His blood, to bring to people's consideration those things that are eternal. But when we succeed in leading men and women to surrender their lives in favor of the life to come, we lead them into gaining, not only heaven, but also the peace and contentment that make for real happiness upon this earth. "He who finds his life shall lose it," Jesus said, "and he who loses his life for my sake shall find it."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans Romans

11:13-36 12:1-21 13:1-14 14:1-23 15:1-21 15:22-16:2 16:3-24



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Do the Details Matter?

By Steve Klein

Near the end of his life the apostle Paul wrote, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith" (I Timothy 4:7). Like Paul, each one of us who succeeds at keeping the faith is assured of a "crown of righteousness" when the Lord appears again (2 Timothy 4:8). If we understand this, keeping the faith which was "once for all delivered to the saints" will become the focus of our lives.

But what constitutes "the faith"? What must be "kept" in order to go to heaven? Must we simply believe that Jesus is the Son of God? Do we also have to believe in the three Persons in the Godhead, the death, burial   
and resurrection of Christ, the inspiration of scripture? What about religious practices? Does it matter what one accepts as God's will concerning what to do to be saved or how the church is to be organized? Should we care if one religious group forbids its bishops from marrying while another requires them to be married? Is it possible that we are all keeping the one faith despite our disagreements over these details?

Today we are told with increasing frequency that the details don't matter. As long as believers are agreed on certain basics, what we teach and practice scarcely makes any difference. Of course, even those who say such things are not agreed on what constitutes "the basics." Even if they were, their popular position is contrary to scripture. The scriptures teach that the faith was to be maintained, not just concerning the basics, but also concerning the specifics and the particulars.

In I Timothy 4:1-4, the Spirit foretells that some would "depart from THE FAITH" by "forbidding to marry and commanding to abstain from foods." Does it matter whether or not church leaders are forbidden to marry or church members are allowed to eat meat on Friday? Are these unimportant details? The scriptures teach that those who believe and practice error in these things have not kept the faith; they have departed from it. Inattention to detail can cause one to stray "concerning the faith" (I Tim. 6:21). May it be our aim to keep the   
faith once delivered to the saints.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Steps That Lead to Eternal Salvation  
  
1) **Hear the gospel**, for that is how faith comes (Rom. 10:17; John 20:30,31).  
2) **Believe in the deity of Christ** (John 8:24; John 3:18).  
3) **Repent of sins** (Luke 13:5; Acts 17:30).  
4) **Confess faith in Christ** (Rom. 10:9,10; Acts 8:36-38).  
5) **Be baptized in water for the remission of sins** (Mark 16:16; Acts   
2:38; 22:16; Rom. 6:3,4; Gal. 3:26,27; 1 Pet. 3:21).  
6) **Continue in the faith; for, if not, salvation can be lost** (Heb.   
10:36-39; Rev. 2:10; 2 Pet. 2:20-22).

**Volume 5 August 4 2013 #31**

HOW DO WE ACQUIRE FAITH?

By Mike Johnson

There are many views concerning the means by which people acquire faith. Some people say that the alien sinner is to pray for faith. Others may say that God miraculously strikes a person with faith, and they may cite how they received "theirs" one day in a cornfield. We need to consider what the Bible has to say on this subject realizing that the subjective feelings and speculations of men matter little.

The subject of how to acquire faith is very important because faith is very important. Hebrews 11:6 tells us that without faith it is impossible to please God. Further, John 3:16 says, "*For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*" Thus, since faith is essential, it is important to know how to acquire faith.

The teaching of the Scriptures on this subject is very clear. God's Word, the Bible, is where we acquire our faith. Romans 10:17 says, "*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God*." Furthermore, John 20:31 shows us the effect of the recorded miracles of Christ. It says, "*But these are written that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God*. . . ." In John 17, Jesus prayed for unity among his apostles. He stated, "*Neither pray I for them alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word.*" Thus, according to Jesus, belief would come by the preaching of the Apostles. The conversion cases illustrate this point also. With the Corinthians, for example (Acts 18:8), it was a matter of them hearing, believing, and being baptized. (Note also: Acts 15:7, 11:13-14; Luke 8:12.)

Many do not have faith, or become weak in faith because they have not turned to or have turned away from the source of faith. That source is the Bible; it is the producer of our faith.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



The Bible Proves The Bible

"Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Pet. 1:20-21 NIV)

It is sometimes argued that one cannot use the Bible itself to prove that the Bible is the word of God. They say, "One cannot prove the Bible by the Bible." Their argument makes no sense. If someone claimed that he had found another writing of William Shakespeare, the contents of the document (mannerisms, style of writing, choice of words and phrases, etc.) would be the best proof or disproof of the claim. Men would carefully examine the contents of the writing to determine the authenticity of the alleged author.

Likewise, if one wanted to determine if the Scriptures are the word of God, the Scriptures themselves should be investigated. The evidence in the Bible is overwhelmingly sufficient to convince all fair-minded people that the Bible is indeed the word of God.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- II Timothy 3:16-17

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians 1:1-17 1:18-2:5 2:6-3:4 3:5-23 4:1-21 5:1-13 6:1-20



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

BLESSINGS IN CHRIST

By Lewis Willis

When the apostle Paul wrote his letter to the church at Ephesus, he stated: "*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ*" (Eph. 1:3). Obviously, he refers to the blessing, but he also stresses that the blessings are to be found in Christ, and only in Him.

Perhaps I should begin by defining the process of entry into Christ where the blessings are realized. The New Testament plainly tells how to get into Christ. Note Gal. 3:26,27: "*For ye are all children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*" In another passage, Paul wrote: "*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?*" (Rom. 6:3). The message is too plain to be misunderstood. When the sinner, acting on his faith in Christ, is baptized according to the teaching of the Gospel, that forgiven sinner is said to be "*in Christ*."

If one needs to get into Christ, where all spiritual blessings are, he should let someone know his need. Otherwise, he will not have the great blessings we now are discussing in this study. These are spiritual blessings which will enrich one's life here on earth, and they are necessary if one is to go to Heaven after this life is over.

Forgiveness: -- No one has a need greater than forgiveness of one's sins. We are lost and under condemnation until we receive the forgiveness of our past sins, by the Lord. Significantly, the New Testament addresses this need of man at the very beginning of the preaching of the Gospel. On Pentecost, note what sinners were told to do to have their sins forgiven: "*Then Peter said unto them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*" (Acts 2:38). The remission of sins and the forgiveness of sins are one and the same thing. Also, not that the very action -- baptism -- which puts one into Christ also provides forgiveness of sins.

One must realize what a blessing forgiveness is. God does not owe us forgiveness. We certainly have done nothing to place God in debt to us. Forgiveness is an act of His grace, love, and mercy; essentials for our fallen souls. When sinners realize their sins have been forgiven, they can rest in peace! Their troubled, tormented souls realize a calmness that they could no otherwise have.

Peace: -- How do we measure the blessing of peace? However we try, we cannot find the words to adequately express the value of peace. Consider how the apostle Paul spoke of peace: "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:7). To live life and calmly rest at night realizing that we are at peace with God is something that passes human understanding. Why would God bless us so, especially after we have committed so many sins against Him? Our "hearts and minds" are kept in safety and assurance when we are at peace with God.

I should note, just here, that there is another factor to consider. Another verse says: "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? >>>

**Volume 5 August 11 2013 #32**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+thinking&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=JHzJjt4gQvpwKM&tbnid=ZPnpV8qpcyA1JM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://gradschooljourney.wordpress.com/2011/07/18/taking-the-time-to-reflect/&ei=WudJUfX1AoWa9QSg1YDADA&bvm=bv.44011176,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNE9Flxnn595Qs_DIIv2CP8N-sJpcA&ust=1363883936586516)

>>> Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (Jas. 4:4). We should search our hearts to determine if we are at peace with God,or if we are one of His enemies!

Joy: -- Joy is another of those blessings which we find hard to define and describe. There is no joy if we are in a state of condemnation before God. If we present ourselves to Him still guilty of unforgiven sin, He has told us He will confine us to the punishment of Hell. Again, note Paul's statement respecting this sad fact: "...*In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power*" (2 Thes. 1:8,9). We should act decisively to prevent this fate befalling us. We are delivered from the curse of Hell when we obey the Gospel and are forgiven.

When we know we have done what God has instructed us to do for forgiveness, our hearts rejoice! Paul said: "*Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice*" (Phil. 4:4). Please note that rejoicing is found in the Lord where Eph. 1:3 says we receive spiritual blessings like joy and happiness.

Hope: -- Scores of people die every day with absolutely no hope of going to Heaven! These have lived in rebellion to God, proudly parading their iniquity before God and men. They have not been saved. In fact, most have no interest in salvation at all. These die without hope!

On the other hand, the person in Christ has hope. Paul said to Titus, he was "*In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began*" (Titus 1;2). Paul was well aware of his sins in the past. He was also aware that he had obeyed the Gospel and had been forgiven. He knew he was not going to Hell. He lived "*in hope of eternal life*," of going to Heaven when he died. You and I can share that blessing with Paul, if we are in Christ, and living in His commands. The proper choice is obvious, is it not?

.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Remember History

By Frank Himmel

The little book of Jude is a big reminder. It was written to offset the influence of false teachers whose doctrines made sin okay. Jude reminds us of two things:

1) People have a history of turning away from God.\*

Sodom and Gomorrah did so by indulging in gross immorality. Cain did so by self-centeredness, first in worship, then in human relations. Balaam did so via materialism. Korah openly rebelled against God’s order, seeking a position God had assigned to another. The nation of Israel did so by unbelief - they simply lost confidence that God could or would do what He promised. Even angels have been guilty.

2) God has a history of punishing those who turn away. \*

He sent fire and brimstone on Sodom and Gomorrah “as an example.” Cain was banished to the life of a vagrant. Those who followed Balaam’s counsel were killed in a divine plague. Korah was swallowed up by the earth. The entire adult generation of Israel, except Joshua and Caleb, died in the wilderness. God is keeping the disobedient angels bound under darkness for the judgment.

While people turn from God in different ways, the expression is the same: disobedience. While God has punished in different ways, the effect is the same: decisive, complete cutting off. Jude’s point is this: take sin seriously, and do not be deceived by anyone who says otherwise.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians

7:1-24 7:25-40 8:1-13 9:1-18 9:19-10:13 10:14-11:1 11:2-16



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

A Christian Prays! Do You?

By Robert Turner

A Christian prays--- and prays--- and prays. But many church members scarcely know the meaning of the word once they leave the church building and the stilted "audience conscious" phrases that pass for prayer there. "Pray without ceasing;" (1 Thes.5:17) makes no apparent impression.

It is a tragedy that God is considered so inaccessible. To many He is far away, locked in an inner office; with an alert guard of clergymen, forms and format to protect Him from the "ordinary" caller. The idea is wholly foreign to the truth.

"Enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." (Matt. 6:6) Thus Jesus describes the close intimate relation that exists between the petitioner and his Creator. This does not negate public prayer (the contrast is with hypocritical show-offs); in fact this touches the vitals of all acceptable prayer. When intimate communion with God is missing, public prayer becomes a farce.

Prayer is a Christian's privilege; made real and earnest-- meaningful-- because a Christian (and only a Christian) truly appreciates such characteristics of God as the following.

GOD IS NEAR! He is "not far from every one of us; for in Him we live, and move, and have our being." (Acts 17:27-28) A Christian lives close to God. His Maker is ever-present, all-about ; ready to be contacted upon a moment's notice. This nearness comforts the Christian -- "in the valley of the shadow.. thou art with me."

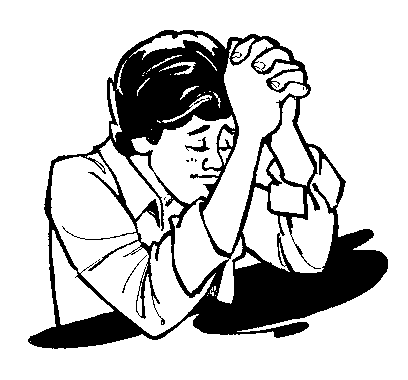
GOD CARES! The Christian casts all his cares upon God, "for He careth for you." (1 Pet. 5:7) Our Father is concerned-- His interest is genuine. He who takes note of the sparrow's fall, watched over all His children.

GOD HEARS! His eyes "are over the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers." (1 Pet. 3:12) "All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."(Heb. 4:13b) And hearing, He understands our frailties-- "the feeling of our infirmities." (Heb. 4:15-16) so we may come boldly to the throne of grace for mercy.

AND GOD GIVES! "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." (Matt. 7:7-f) ASK! SEEK! KNOCK! These are imperatives, in the Greek present tense. They say, "Ask" and keep on asking; "seek" and continue to seek; "knock" again and again. The thought is akin to Matt. 6:33-- "seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

A Christian believes that God is near, that God cares, that God hears, and that God gives. He is conscious of his dependence upon God, and leans upon Him without hesitation. So he prays; when he awakes-- as he goes to work-- when he partakes of God's rich blessings--when he feels the weight of sorrow and cares-- as he lays him down to sleep. A Christian prays; and what about you??

**Volume 5 August 18 2013 #33**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart%20of%20praying&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=Gq2eWdGNUW0FFM&tbnid=Nygi67rVy7xlqM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.gospelguitar.com/clipart/Prayer/pray1.html&ei=sJULUrnWKOKbygGQq4DgCg&bvm=bv.50723672,d.b2I&psig=AFQjCNGMpyVtBM-sxzOWULIkN29xTboiyA&ust=1376577311330917)

Gossip By Clarence Johnson

King Solomon, the sage of Israel, wrote, “A fool's lips enter into contention, and his mouth calls for blows. A fool's mouth is destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul. The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go      down into the inmost body'' (Proverbs 18:6-8). And again, “A perverse man sows strife, and a whisperer separates the best of friends''(Proverbs 16:28).

This truth has been recognized by many before and after Solomon. Friendships and family ties have been sacrificed at the altar of gossip. Even whole nations have been brought low by slander.

Each of us, at one time or another, has been the object of another's gossip. We know all too well the power of the tongue to hurt and destroy.  Perhaps the gossiper needs to be reminded that “whatever a man sows, that he will also reap''(Gal. 6:7). Perhaps that is why the wise man said, “whoever speaks slander is a fool'' (Prov. 10:18). Jesus Himself admonished, “Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them....'' (Matthew 7:12).

A good rule to follow when tempted to repeat a juicy morsel of gossip might be to ask one's self a few pertinent questions: (1) do I know this to be a fact, (2) would I be willing to put it in writing and sign my name to it, and (3) will those to whom I tell it be made better by this knowledge? If we cannot answer these questions in the affirmative, let us refrain from the temptation to ”tell all.'' If someone approaches you with a bit of slander, ask him to submit to this same three question test. If he “flunks out'' consider the source of that which you have heard, and pour cold water on the fire of contention.

“Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; and where there is no talebearer, strife ceases. As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife. The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go down into the inmost body'' (Proverbs 26:20-22).



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...'" (Gen. 1:6)

A few years ago, Rabbi Jacob Karmenetzky made a trip to Israel accompanied by his teenage grandson. Ironically, these two deeply religious people were seated in the airplane next to a prominent Israeli socialist leader and outspoken atheist. On the flight, the cynical atheist traveler couldn't help noticing the way the teenage boy attended to the needs of his aged, bearded grandfather. He got up to get the old man a glass of water, helped him remove his shoes and put on some slippers, and otherwise demonstrated that the rabbi's comfort represented his primary concern.

At one point, as the boy got up for yet another errand on behalf of the old man, the atheist could contain himself no longer. "Tell me something," he asked the rabbi. "Why does your grandson treat you like some kind of a king? I have a grandson, too, but he wouldn't give me the time of day." "It's very simple," the old man replied. "My grandson and I both believe in a God who rules the universe and created all things, including the first man. That means that, in the boy's eyes, I'm two generations closer to the hand of God, Himself. But in the eyes of your grandson, you're just two generations closer to a monkey." (From columnist Michael Medved)

What one believes about the origin of man makes all the difference in the world.

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart%20of%20a%20monkey%20scratching%20head&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=5sXw4btwEyu_fM&tbnid=QnC_33BzFJGYTM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.cartooncliparts.com/picture/cartoon-gorilla-scratching-his-head-cute-pixmac-clipart-87469570/000087469570&ei=upQLUunqHurQyAH-iYCQDA&bvm=bv.50723672,d.b2I&psig=AFQjCNGSLq_nk3N54ZLbZ0mjBnzMtfyoUQ&ust=1376577076298018)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians I Corinthians

11:17-34 12:1-26 12:27-13:13 14:1-19 14:20-40 15:1-28 15:29-58



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=VhGdTJEE90KsGM&tbnid=74XaUSSEZY113M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://flickrhivemind.net/Tags/scottmaxwell/Interesting&ei=P1kSUs2LJ7is4AOZ94H4Cw&bvm=bv.50768961,d.b2I&psig=AFQjCNHB_ONaRDD1IaiXKCDs82o2Dg4qow&ust=1377020542717663)

Criticism

By Dee Bowman

What is criticism anyhow?  The dictionary will give some meaning akin to this: to make judgments as to the merits or faults of a thing, or maybe to find fault.  Certainly we understand a critic to be one who is qualified to make such judgments or point out such faults.

Sometimes the word "critic" is used pejoratively to describe a continual fault-finder, one who judges severely or harshly.

Criticism is part of life.  It's everywhere, both in its formal and pejorative senses.  Teachers, qualified educators, criticize the work of their students.  Parents, by right of who they are, criticize their children, hopefully for their good.

Supervisors criticize their subordinates in the interest of more or better production.  In the arts, media, and almost every other area of life, those qualified to do so criticize: music, movies, paintings, literary works, and a host of other kinds of artistic performances.

One of the purposes of the Bible is to criticize.  It criticizes man's thoughts (Matt. 15:9; Col. 3:1-2).  It criticizes his actions (Ezk. 18:20), and brings him under the condemnation of his own transgressions (Isa. 59:1-2). Positively (‘scuse the word, please), it serves to identify pure religion (Jas. 1:27) and, in doing so, is critical of the institutional or poorly motivated variety. Preaching has as one of its purposes to criticize (2 Tim. 4:1-2). The Bible points out man's weaknesses, identifies the pitfalls of life, continually calls him to greater service and spiritual maturity.  Criticism is a vital part of that.

But not all criticism is approved, either by God or man.  It does not stand alone– even by definition, certainly not by connotation.  It must be properly administered.  First, it must be administered by one who is qualified. Criticism of anything by a novice, or one only vaguely familiar with what he is criticizing, is not just out of order, it is ludicrous. Such criticism is easily identifiable and makes the "critic" look foolish indeed.  Criticism that is poorly motivated and has slanderous or malevolent overtones often ends up destroying him who did it; and it certainly works no good for the once who is its object.  Criticism has to be legitimate or it ends up not being criticism at all.  It becomes loud, vitriolic complaining, little else.  And criticism just for the sake of doing it is the plaything of a fool.

What is Bible criticism?  Well, first of all, all biblically approved criticism is constructive or it is not biblical.  Even when it is disciplinary it is intended for the good of the recipient, not just to vent displeasure or display disgust (I Cor. 5:4).  That implies proper motivation.  Criticism intended to inflict damage for damage's sake is not only ineffective, it is sinful.  God hates those who "sow discord among the brethren" (Prov.6:19).  You had best not criticize another until you have first determined that you love him whom you criticize and that what you are doing is for his betterment.  "Ye which are spiritual, restore such a one, in the spirit of meekness" (Gal. 6:1); that is, with moderation.  Even when you have made certain of a high motive for the rebuke, it is yet necessary that each consider "thyself, lest thou also be tempted."

Criticism is not a knee-jerk reaction, either.  It is done only after careful thought and considerable prayer.  "Ye that are spiritual, restore such a one" (Gal. 6:1) means that you are one who is spiritually >>>

**Volume 5 August 25 2013 #34**

>>> inclined, one looking to "bear...one another's burdens." You have to load yourself up with his burden before you decide to slay him for his fault.  Matthew 18 sets forth a process (a series of actions) before a person is delivered up to Satan. Even Jesus' rebukes of the Pharisees and their hypocrisy was reserved until He had tried most everything else to cause them to see the errors they fomented.

Certainly, we must be ready to answer those who question our hope.  But even that issues out of a sanctified heart and must be done "with meekness and fear" (I Pet. 3:15-18).  A quick answer very often represents an effort to "get even," and, in many cases, that is precisely what happens: you get right down in the mud where your opponent is.

Here are four suggestions about offering criticisms: 1.  Examine your motive for the criticism.    
"Why am I doing this?"  Is a good question to ask yourself.  If there is any doubt, wait.  (See I Jn. 4:19-21) 2.  Make sure you have all the facts.  Not what someone said someone said, but what he said.  And that no matter how much confidence you may have in the one telling it.  He may be wrong.  In this age of communication there is little reason not to get the facts, and most likely the facts can come only from him who said it.  (See Prov. 18:21) 3.  Be careful how you say it.  I have a little card on my desk.  I wrote it several years ago.  It has served me well.  It says, "God, help me not to say more than need be said, and help me to say it softly." A seasoned tongue can accomplish great good with criticism; one not seasoned can produce great evil.  (See Col. 4:6) 4.  Pray diligently (out loud) for the one you are criticizing. It is just reasonable that you will be more gentle, less caustic and abrasive, after you have prayed for the one you plan to criticism against. (See Jas. 5:16)

Criticism is serious business.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



**WHAT IS WRONG?** - Something is bad wrong when we cannot have all of the members of the church, and their children, in attendance for Bible study. If you are a habitual absentee, consider that your eternal welfare depends upon your finding and correcting what is wrong. A few possibilities are listed:

1. If a person is too sick to go, something is wrong with his health. He should consult a doctor.

2. If he thinks he does not need the help that comes from Bible study, something is wrong with his education. He does not know enough to know what he needs most.

3. If he sleeps too late, he is too lazy. He needs to study Proverbs 6:6-11.

4. If he does not have the interest to go, something is terribly wrong with his attitude. Indifference causes people to be lost.

5. If he is too busy to go, something is wrong with his schedule. The person who is "too busy" to serve the Lord is "too busy" to go to heaven.

6. If he lets company keep him away, then something is wrong with his courage. He should have the grit to serve the Lord even if the company is missed or offended.

7. If he thinks his clothes are not good enough, something is wrong with his pride. This excuse is over exalted, for the persons who use it can usually go anywhere else in the same town.

And when any of the above, excepting the first, are the reasons one will not regularly worship and study, something is wrong with the heart. Do not deceive yourself by thinking that everything will "work out alright” if everything is not all right with your heart - check yours.

.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians

16:1-24 1:1-11 1:12-2:4 2:5-17 3:1-18 4:1-15 4:16-5:10



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

"When I am Weak, then I am Strong" (II Corinthians 12:10)

By Gilbert Alexander

This statement is something called a paradox. That is, it appears to be a contradiction in itself, yet it is true. Think of your own situation as you read.

When Paul was in prison in Philippi with Silas, he had no means of escape or comfort by his own power. Yet he and Silas prayed and sang hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. They were   
weak, yet their faith was strong, and the Lord delivered them. This was being "strong in the Lord and in the glory of His might." When Paul was at sea, tossed about in a terrible storm for two weeks, he was powerless on his own against the forces of nature. But he trusted in God and was made strong, helping his fellow travelers to reach shore safely by the grace of God. As he struggled with his "thorn in the flesh" and besought the Lord three times to be freed from it, the Lord's response was, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Paul could face infirmities, reproaches, needs, persecutions,   
and distresses with good courage, for the strength of Christ was most evident in these times of personal weakness. It was in this context that he said, "For when I am weak, then I am strong."

We are supported as Christians by the same Lord, who is our strength as well. When we are beset by needs of a physical nature, faith can give us strength to endure as we remember His words, "I will in no wise leave thee nor forsake thee." When our health fails, and the world seems to crumble around us, we are weak indeed, but the assurance of the Lord can lift us up and make us strong even as we face death itself. "I will raise him up in the last day," the Lord has promised. We are "more than conquerors" through Him. When sorrows assail us and we feel despair, we have no strength to deliver ourselves, but His Word provides comfort and strength through faith. "Wherefore, comfort one another with these words." When we, in our humility, realize how little we know and how weak our wisdom and understanding is, then the wisdom and knowledge of God can be our strength as we follow Him.

As we look at the sad plight of the world around us, and as we consider the woes that beset the church today, we may have an overwhelming sense of helplessness, and wonder what we can do. Then we can be strong through faith. We can remember Elijah and his limited vision, and know that the Lord sees the true picture, and that things may not be as dark as we suppose. We can heed His instruction to be faithful and diligent in service and know that God gives the increase. By earnestness in prayer and diligence in labor, with the armor of God to sustain us, we can be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might.

Therefore, let us not faint, but let us rouse ourselves from our slumber, and work while it is day. Let us nourish ourselves with the good Word of God and go forward in renewed strength and determination.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Remember! Living the Christian life is living your life as a Christian!

**Volume 5 September 1 2013 #35**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=WBfDgXQSgspsTM&tbnid=PLBTdJBECsr0SM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.illustrationsof.com/1046504-royalty-free-thinking-clipart-illustration&ei=LzoeUq-DFYnI9QSFuYGQDA&bvm=bv.51156542,d.cWc&psig=AFQjCNGt2nd0DWRhCCYER0NZTn7V91kzZg&ust=1377798911124087)

Them Squalin’ Kids

By Robert Hines

Now and then a baby will cry out during worship and break our concentratlon . . . but instead of being upset, it ought to be bringing us a smile as it reminds us of somethlng . . . and I don't mean "Thank you Lord that all mine are grown up"!

It ought to make us thank the Lord for the children. When properly trained and taught they will one day take their part in the work and worship of the church. We think sadly of congregations where most everyone is olde . . . in just a few years the congregation could be gone.

It ought to remind us to be thankful for families who come to worship together. In an age where families break up and marriage is considered old-fashioned we may smile at the thought of a mother who endures the difficulties of half heard sermons and fidgeting armfuls of babies because to her the worship is that important.

It ought to make us think about good young couples wanting to raise their children up in the nurture of the Lord. At a very young age children are being taught that worship of the Lord is part of life, \*their\* life. While the children of this world are only going to be getting older the children who worship are going to truly be growing up because of help and leading from their parents.

So, moms and dads, the next time that little gal or guy throws a toy four rows up, or a coin for the plate down the isle, or starts singing "Jesus Loves Me" loud and clear while everyone else is finishing "Bless Be The Tie That Binds", just remember: we love you, we thank the Lord for you, and we're on your side. You are doing one of the most important works that the Lord has for you to do. And He blesses you for It. We pray you will keep right on keeping on!



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



**Back to School** - With the recent start of a new school term, we are back in the business of teaching our children the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic. There are spelling words to learn, math problems to do, poster board projects to finish ... and lunches to pack. As parents, we are concerned that our kids get a good education. We want them to be prepared for the future. We check to make sure that they have the necessary supplies, that homework assignments have been completed, and that tests have been studied for. We want them to do well, and we put forth a real effort to insure their educational progress. This is as it should be.

There's another kind of learning that is far more important than the "book learnin'" received at school. It is the knowledge of God and His revealed will. Yet, we're concerned that many parents do not emphasize this as much as school work. This lack of emphasis is seen when:

- Students come to Bible class unprepared. Their assignments are not completed, and they have no idea about the subject matter to be discussed.

- Certain kids are frequently absent from the class. Students who miss as many as half of the class sessions are never going to gain much from these studies.

- Some students are not physically ready for class. They are present, but they've been allowed to stay up late Saturday night and can hardly keep their eyes open.

As parents, we would not tolerate these things when it comes to our children's secular education. Why should we allow it in their study of God's word?

- By Greg Gwin

**[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=fo-pmI56BvtelM&tbnid=-V-ZB5jVkYxoAM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://vector.me/browse/103982/baby_boy_crawling_clip_art&ei=OTkeUr6aIoi49QTau4CYCw&bvm=bv.51156542,d.cWc&psig=AFQjCNFntWE9OxQ7DZHGcg-wKky0VnZ-MQ&ust=1377798743742114)**

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians

5:11-21 6:1-13 6:14-7:1 7:2-16 8:1-15 8:16-24 9:1-15



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

JUST HOW MUCH TIME IS LEFT?

A man's house was burning. At the first sign of smoke he had rushed out to buy a fire extinguisher. Before he returned, the roof and walls had collapsed, destroying all his furnishings.

A man's doctor warned him of a bad heart condition. From the doctor's office he went immediately to the insurance sales-man, but he was refused in his attempts to provide financial protection for his wife and children.

A man was endowed by God with a strong, healthy and viable body. Because his appetite was stronger than his moral convictions, he squandered his powers until dissipation brought him to weakness. Then disease struck and without a normal reserve of strength, the surgeon could not cure what ordinarily would have been a minor ailment.

A man had a Bible, knew the church was interested in him and had friends who regularly encouraged him to live more with God. With consistency he made reasons not to. His conscience grew fainter, and the black wrong and white right faded into medium gray. When the critical temptation came he was only faintly aware of it, and certainly he had no moral reserve to resist it.

David said it this way: "For this let every one that is godly pray unto Thee in a time when Thou mayest be found; surely when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach unto HIm" (Psa. 32:6). Jesus said the same thing in describing the wise and foolish builders (Matt. 7:24-27).

When the operation begins it's too late to take vitamin pills. When the battle begins it's too late to train the troops. When the flood waters rise it's too late to find a rock foundation. When Satan attacks they only can resist who have put on the whole armor of God.

Memorize that verse now; when you need it, you won't have time. Worship God this Sunday; when you need that strength, you won't have time to develop it. Repent of that sin now; when Christ comes, you won't have time. Review your broken connection with God and His church now; at your funeral, you won't have time. Because of the fatality in becoming a Christian too late, obey God now when it's not too late. Become a Christian now -- in the judgment day you won't have time.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
**Gospel Meeting**

**Rick Duggin**

**October 6-11**

**Our gospel meeting is quickly approaching. Make your plans!**

**Volume 5 September 8 2013 #36**

ANTS

Far be it from a Texan to admit defeat, but there's no point in denying the obvious: Texans have lost the war with fire ants. It's over. Sure, I'll still spread enough toxic chemicals to chase them away for a season. But they'll just infest my neighbor's yard instead. And next season, they'll be back in mine.

And there's bad news for our friends in Oklahoma: Apparently the ants have learned to swim.

Sometimes I wonder how a species with a brain the size of a pinpoint could defeat one that split the atom and went to the moon. And then I remember Prov. 30:25 "The ants are not a   
strong people, but they prepare their food in the summer." In short, they are workers. They work when food is abundant. They work when   
food is scarce. They always find something to do in the service of their queen and their colony.

And strength is a relative thing. An ant can lift twenty times his body weight. Granted, that's not much. But proportionately it's a considerably better effort than I can make. For me, that would be like lifting...well, never mind. A lot, anyway.

Solomon urges the sluggard to learn from the ant, he says: "observe her ways and be wise" (Prov. 6:6). Instead of finding excuses to rest, we need to find excuses to work for our King and His body. (Col. 1:24). It may feel like we're carrying twenty  
people on our backs when we "bear one another's burdens" (Gal. 6:1). But if ants can do it, we can. And if we set a good example for our brethren, we may find more help than we expected



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



What Determines Right?

By Bill Crews

NOT REASON: “For seeing that in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom knew not God, it was God’s good pleasure through the foolishness of preaching (message preached) to save them that believe.” (1 Cor. 1:21).

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isa. 55:9).

NOT CONSCIENCE: “Brethren, I have lived before God in all good conscience until this day.” (Acts 23:1). (This said by Paul, even though he had persecuted Christians).

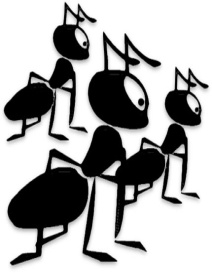
NOT CUSTOM or TRADITION: “Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?” (Matt. 15:3). “Take heed lest there shall be any one that maketh spoil of you through his philosophy and vain deceit, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.” (Col. 2:8).

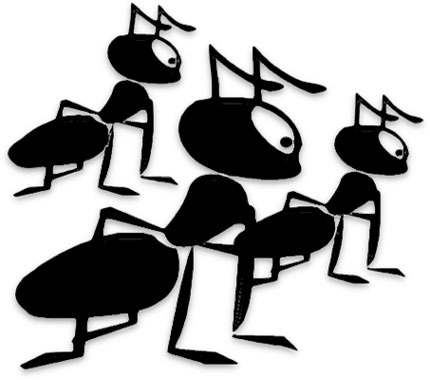
NOT “AUTHORITIES”: “And now, brethren, I know that in ignorance ye did it, as did also your RULERS”. (Acts 3:17).

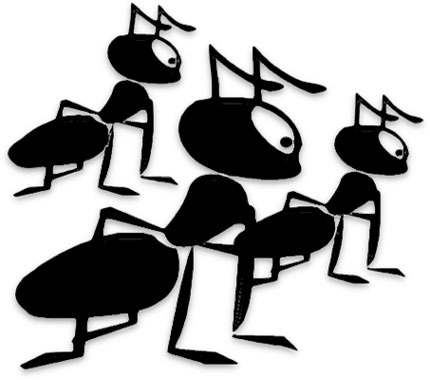
NOT THE MAJORITY OR THE MASSES: “Enter ye in by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many are they that enter in thereby.” (Matt. 7:13).

BUT RATHER THE WORD OF GOD: It is reasonable, will make the conscience good, is God’s “tradition”, authoritative and intended for all.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+ants&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=c8YFFfmcPamz5M&tbnid=XIFzU6B2qnsk3M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.fg-a.com/antclipart-3.html&ei=8sgoUsLqHO614AOznoAY&bvm=bv.51773540,d.dmg&psig=AFQjCNEl2RWPgszyQPRmRx_x_7ANJ6zW8w&ust=1378490989128397)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+ants&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=c8YFFfmcPamz5M&tbnid=XIFzU6B2qnsk3M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.fg-a.com/antclipart-3.html&ei=8sgoUsLqHO614AOznoAY&bvm=bv.51773540,d.dmg&psig=AFQjCNEl2RWPgszyQPRmRx_x_7ANJ6zW8w&ust=1378490989128397)

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=clipart+of+ants&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=c8YFFfmcPamz5M&tbnid=XIFzU6B2qnsk3M:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.fg-a.com/antclipart-3.html&ei=8sgoUsLqHO614AOznoAY&bvm=bv.51773540,d.dmg&psig=AFQjCNEl2RWPgszyQPRmRx_x_7ANJ6zW8w&ust=1378490989128397)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians II Corinthians Galatians

10:1-18 11:1-15 11:16-33 12:1-10 12:11-21 13:1-13 1:1-24



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Moving the Boundaries

By Andy Diestelkamp

This past fall a friendly controversy began as a result of our efforts to improve the driveway by the church building. Our neighbors to the north got the impression that our gravel driveway had shifted over the years and was actually overlapping onto their property. Their curiosity got the best of them, and I found them digging into the gravel in our driveway one morning.

"What are you looking for?" I politely asked. They explained that they had done some measuring and were guessing that there was a metal landmark placed in the ground there. They had dug down a few inches through the gravel and had found nothing. Later in the day I found them with a rented metal detector and a deeper hole in our driveway. Sure enough, there it was, a metal landmark. The controversy was over, the end of all dispute. Our driveway had widened by about two feet over the years. What was amazing to me was that a rusty piece of metal had two parties staring at it in total agreement as to what it meant.

The following day was a work day at the building and the easiest solution to the problem was to dig that landmark up and move it two feet to the north. Problem fixed! But that's not what we did because that would have been unethical, illegal and just plain wrong. If we had moved that marker and been caught by the authorities we would have been written up in the local newspaper, prosecuted and fined. It is wrong to move a landmark! Isn't it amazing to think about how unanimous the decision against us would have been.

The Law of Moses was not just the spiritual law of Israel, but it was also their civil law. God legislated against the moving of landmarks and equated it with stealing (Deut. 19:14; 27:17; Job 4:2; Prov. 22:28; 23:10).

God's word is authoritative. When mere men begin tampering with His landmarks we are treading on holy ground.

What a story it would have been for the newspaper if I had moved that landmark! The outcry, the condemnation, the charge of hypocrisy that would have been heard if I had moved that landmark. My defense for such action? It's just an old rusty piece of metal. It was put there a long time ago. Times have changed! Who's to say that it is the standard? Anybody could have put that there.

No court and no community would accept such a lame defense. Guilty! Yet, if men or churches want to move \*God's \*landmarks there is little objection. What kind of defense do we hear? It's just an old ancient myth. It was written a long time ago. Times change! Who's to say that its the standard? Anybody could have written that!

Which landmark is more sacred, more holy: the city's or God's? We answer that by the reaction we have to their movement.

Moral relativism is like our drifting driveway. Ignore, misplace, forget or remove God's landmarks and suddenly we can't draw any lines. Proof of this is seen in the issues being debated today. Is sucking the brains out of a nearly delivered baby a protected right? Should there be homosexual marriage? >>>

**Volume 5 September 15 2013 #37**

>>> Is "consensual" pedophilia ok?

The problem is that the standard is disregarded and covered by hardened hearts that are ever-widening in their toleration. Even when some dig to find the standard and show it to the world it is ignored as obsolete, unreliable, and some just boldly move the standards.

Shall I charge our neighbors with hate because they pointed out the landmark in our driveway? That is exactly what some do when we point to scripture to show what it says about homosexuality, fornication, divorce, remarriage, etc. (Matt. 19:9; Rom. 1 :24- 32; I Cor. 6:9,10). People read that and just pull up the landmark and move it two feet north. No problem.

From moral issues to the plain teaching of Christ and' His apostles on salvation, some are left scratching their heads and wondering just where that landmark is, while most just don't bother to dig, trusting that a loving God would not mind us widening the driveway.

How indignant we can become when anyone tampers with landmarks set by men. How apathetic we are when God's landmarks are ignored. Give honor where honor is due. Honor God's landmarks.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Why Some Are Not Asked

By R.L. Whiteside

Happy is the person whose conduct does not raise a question in the minds of others as to where he stands. Some people never have to answer the question, “Will you have a drink with me?” There is a reason. Some young people are never subjected to certain temptations to which others are frequently subjected, and there is a reason.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Are You A Tree or A Post?

By Leslie Diestelkamp

A tree and a post stood side-by-side. At first the tree was small and slender and could have been broken very easily. The post at that time was large and solid and strong. It supported a fence.

Then the forces of nature began their work. The post rotted and in time fell down, causing the fence to be spoiled. At the same time the tree grew, little by little, until it was large, sturdy and very strong.

What was the difference between the post and the tree? Well, one was dead and the other was alive! Being dead, the post grew weaker. Being alive, the tree grew stronger.

Now what about those of us who claim to be Christians? Are we like the post or the tree? If our religious qualities are dead, then we are surely growing weaker each year. If we are truly alive in Christ, then each year will find us stronger than ever before.

As Christians we have been made alive by the regenerating power of the blood of Christ Afterward, real spiritual life in us is maintained by fellowship with God, with Christ and with the Holy Spirit (see 1 John 1.1-7).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

When your conduct raises a question as to where you stand or as to what you might do, the devil will make you answer that question. Every person who raises a question mark in the mind of people has to defend himself or surrender.

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Galatians Galatians Galatians Galatians Galatians Galatians Galatians

2:1-21 3:1-20 3:21-4:7 4:8-5:1 5:2-12 5:13-26 6:1-18



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

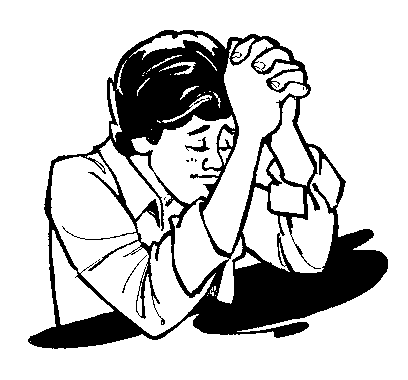
7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=Gq2eWdGNUW0FFM&tbnid=Nygi67rVy7xlqM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.gospelguitar.com/clipart/Prayer/pray1.html&ei=bXc4UpfdIoaE9QSj74DoAw&bvm=bv.52164340,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNFT-D1r0ggHG353C0OFRi7wN-oGUA&ust=1379518693080384)

Prayerful Living

By Gary Henry

"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are

above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.  Set your

mind on things above, not on things on the earth"

(Colossians 3:1-2).    
  
DO WE HAVE DIFFICULTY KEEPING OUR MINDS PEACEFULLY FOCUSED ON GOD WHILE WE ARE PRAYING?  If so, a part of the reason may be that we have not cultivated the habit of thinking about God throughout the day.  Minds that do not normally think of God at other times will find it hard to stay focused on Him during occasional periods of prayer.  Thus it will help us, when we are praying, to be people who are accustomed to "living prayerfully."

There is such a thing as a prayerful state of mind even when we're not actually praying. We can think about God as we fulfill the routine of our daily activities.  We can be mindful of Him in a general sort of way. Historically, those who have tried to take the spiritual life seriously have always reported that they found it beneficial to live consciously in the "presence" of God, being aware of His reality at each moment.  Doing this is hard at first, simply because our minds are undisciplined.  They are used to wandering wherever they wish: here, there, and everywhere.  But with serious intent and with the discipline that is acquired in living the spiritual life, we can learn to live in a constant state of mindfulness about God.  He can become our preoccupation.    
  
When we're not specifically thinking about God, we can at least be thinking about the higher and better things in the world that He has made.  Paul wrote, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy; meditate on these things" (Philippians 4:8).  To think on these things is to bring ourselves closer to God and to make our minds more inclined to the act of prayer.

God is pleased with those who seek Him diligently.  And seeking Him surely means that, amid the welter of our worldly concerns, our minds will always be seeking Him out.

"Another way to stay with prayer is to keep your mind from wandering too far at other times of the day.  Keep it strictly in the Presence of God.  If you think of him a lot, you will find it easy to keep your mind calm in the time of prayer" (Brother Lawrence).

**Volume 5 September 22 2013 #38**

Conservative or Liberal?

Conservative: Moderate, cautious, disposed to maintaining existing views, conditions, or institutions.

Liberal: Not strict in the observance of established forms or ways. (Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary)

By the above, we can see by even secular definitions, there is a great difference in "conservative" and "liberal" and the difference is in whether or not one observes and maintains an established practice. In the political world there are conservatives and liberals; so, too, in the religious world.

If the difference is whether or not one adheres to a norm or standard, can one know for sure what that standard is? Jesus gives the answer in John 12:48 when He says, "*He who rejects Me and does not receive My sayings has one who judges him, the word I spoke is what will judge him on the last day.*"

He says we must be conservative in maintaining the standard He set forth for His followers: "*If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of mine..*." (John 8:31). One reason for this is so that the world will have a set and established benchmark by which people can "*test yourselves to see if you are in the faith*." (2 Cor 13:5) In that faith are boundaries and limitations that one must observe if he is to truly be a disciple of Jesus.

In 2 John :9 the inspired apostle writes, "If anyone goes too far and does not abide (continue) in the teaching of Christ, he does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, he has both the Father and the Son." Clearly we can see the danger of overstepping the boundaries set by Jesus either by Himself directly or through the apostles He inspired.

There is nothing shameful about being conservative, rather it is something to which everyone must strive for if we are to be faithful followers of Christ and someday reap the ultimate benefit. At the close of this life, let us say with the apostle Paul, "*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith.*.." (2 Tim 4:8).



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Everybody

Somebody

Nobody

"...Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works." (Titus 2:14) "...That you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work..." (Col. 1:10)

Once upon a time there were four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody . There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. But Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry because Everybody was asked to do it instead of Somebody. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, and Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody, and Nobody did the job that Anybody could have done in the first place. Thus, who got the job done? That's right, Nobody!

Let us be zealous and fruitful in every good work, and not depend on others to do our work for us.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, "I have no pleasure in them"

- Ecclesiastes 12:1.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Ephesians Ephesians Ephesians Ephesians Ephesians Ephesians Ephesians

1:1-23 2:1-22 3:1-21  4:1-16 4:17-5:2 5:3-33  6:1-24



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

DO ODD THINGS TO GET EVEN

By Steve Klein

Have you heard of someone cutting off their nose to spite their face? In an effort to get back at others, or teach somebody a lesson, people often wind up inflicting a lot of pain on themselves. Suicide bombers are a case in point. The bitterness and hatred that could lead a person to blow himself up just to harm those that (he thinks) have harmed him, reveals human vengeance for what it is: self-centeredness gone stupid.

In Genesis 34, there is the record of Shechem, a prince of the Hivite people, violating Dinah the daughter of Jacob. To avenge their sister, Dinah's brothers Simeon and Levi devised an evil plan against Shechem and his people. They told Shechem that he could marry their sister if he and his men were circumcised. Shechem agreed. Genesis 34:25 states, "*Now it came to pass on the third day, when they were in pain, that two of the sons of Jacob, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, each took his sword and came boldly upon the city and killed all the males*." While this vengeful atrocity appears at first to have evened the score, it did not. By their vigilante justice, Simeon and Levi made many enemies for their family from among the people of the land -- they had cut off their own nose, in a manner of speaking. "*Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, 'You have troubled me by making me obnoxious among the inhabitants of the land, among the Canaanites and the Perizzites; and since I am few in number, they will gather themselves together against me and kill me. I shall be destroyed, my household and I.*" (Genesis 34:30). Chapter thirty-five of Genesis goes on to tell how that it was only by God's protection that Jacob's family was able to safely flee to Bethel.Vengeance does not belong to men; it belongs to God. "*Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay, says the Lord*.” (Romans 12:19).

There appear to be any number of reasons that God has not given individuals the right to avenge themselves. For one, we aren't wise enough to determine who deserves to be punished. Nor are we very good at deciding the appropriate degree of punishment to be inflicted. This is especially true when we are personally involved in a situation. Our judgment is imperfect at best, and often clouded by self-serving prejudice. But another reason we haven't been given the right to take vengeance for ourselves, and the main point of this article, is that our efforts to even a score are often so badly botched that they wind up hurting us more than anyone. Truly, "*Whoever digs a pit will fall into it, and he who rolls a stone will have it roll back on him*" (Proverbs 26:27). Let us give place to the wrath of God. "*He will repay my enemies for their evil*" (Psalm 54:5).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

GOSPEL MEETING

OCTOBER 6-11

7:30 PM

**Volume 5 September 29 2013 #39**

WHAT IS WRONG?

Something is bad wrong when we cannot have all of the members of the church, and their children, in attendance for Bible study. If you are a habitual absentee, consider that your eternal welfare depends upon your finding and correcting what is wrong. A few possibilities are listed:

1. If a person is too sick to go, something is wrong with his health. He should consult a doctor.

2. If he thinks he does not need the help that comes from Bible study, something is wrong with his education. He does not know enough to know what he needs most.

3. If he sleeps too late, he is too

lazy. He needs to study Proverbs

6:6-11.

4. If he does not have the interest

to go, something is terribly wrong

with his attitude. Indifference

causes people to be lost.

5. If he is too busy to go, some-

thing is wrong with his schedule.

The person who is "too busy" to

serve the Lord is "too busy" to

go to heaven.

6. If he lets company keep him away, then something is wrong with his courage. He should have the grit to serve the Lord even if the company is missed or offended.

7. If he thinks his clothes are not good enough, something is wrong with his pride. This excuse is over exalted, for the persons who use it can usually go anywhere else in the same town.

And when any of the above, excepting the first, are the reasons one will not regularly worship and study, something is wrong with the heart. Do not deceive yourself by thinking that everything will1 "work out alright” if everything is not all right with your heart - check yours.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



STUDY GOD'S WORD

"Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:13-14)

A young man who wanted to become a lawyer wrote to Abraham Lincoln, asking where and with whom he should read books. Mr. Lincoln replied: "My dearest Sir: I have just reached home and found your letter. If you are resolutely determined to make a lawyer of yourself, the thing is more than half done already. It is but a small matter whether you read with anybody or not. I did not read with anyone. Get the books and read and study them till you understand them in their principal features, and that is the main thing. It is of no consequence to be in a large town while you are reading. I read at New Salem, which never had three hundred people living in it. The books, and your capacity for understanding them, are just the same in all places. Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other one thing." (From Abraham Lincoln)

Let us individually read and study the word of God so that we can understand it in its principal features, and let us resolutely determine to obtain the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=EDW4G26hLqvpJM&tbnid=MPJz2mt7neW0tM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://365lettersblog.blogspot.com/2012/03/letter-writing-topics.html&ei=s5hBUpKBDYy49gSnoYCoDw&bvm=bv.52434380,d.eWU&psig=AFQjCNHxplDXdJNlJ4kFEMvZh_3vamxEcw&ust=1380117023177427)

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Philippians Philippians Philippians Philippians Philippians Colossians Colossians

1:1-26 1:27-2:18  2:19-3:1 3:2-4:1 4:2-23 1:1-23 1:24-2:5



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Constructive Criticism

By Joe Fitch

"Constructive criticism" is a term often heard. It usually pops up while evaluating some negative statement. The critic claims his criticism is "constructive;" the recipient strongly denies it.

"Criticism," with or without "constructive" as a modifier, does not occur in the Bible. Yet the idea may be in "rebuke" which occurs several times in both Old and New Testament. Consider also "correction;" then add "chasten." All contain an idea of criticism. Thus, though the phrase "constructive criticism" does not appear in the Bible, it is surely a Bible concept.

"Constructive criticism" seems to focus on the critic. To be a "constructive" critic is a great gift -much as Barnabas excelled in exhorting. Such a critic offers something that is helpful -the content of his criticism makes it constructive. He also keeps his attitude right -- aiming at helping, not hurting. He acts from love for the one he criticizes. On a practical note - and difficult - he must be perceived as helping. Such qualifiers are not easy and thus, it is uncommon to find truly "constructive" critics. There are far more plainly mean and malicious critics -who seem to enjoying picking at people. "Constructive criticism" is often missing because critics fail the integrity test. Can you pass the constructive critic test?

Criticism also is often not constructive because of the disposition of those criticized. Many people accept no criticism regardless of its quality - regardless who gives it - regardless of the spirit in which it is offered - regardless how badly it is needed. They simply reject criticism across the board - period! We cannot afford such an attitude. Undeniably, criticism is hard to receive - always. No one enjoys the criticism, but accepting fair criticism marks mature and spiritual people. Many Bible passages about correction, rebuke, and chastening (that is criticism) focus on problems at the receiving end - receiving correction. "Am I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth" (Gal.4:16). "Yes!" is too often the resounding answer - no matter how, who, or why.

A good hearer profits from most all criticism - not just the "constructive." Oh, some

criticism may be entirely baseless - useless - without merit - even untrue. Mostly it

is not the case even with mean critics. A malicious enemy prefers to find and

parade your real fault rather than invent one. A criticism clearly may aim to harm -

come from an obviously malicious enemy - delivered in a loud voice -accompanied

by a smirk. It may drip meanness. BUT that mean critic may tell you an unnoticed truth about yourself or your conduct - truth you need to know - truth your friends are too nice to mention. Your enemy will find no compunction about telling you your breath stinks!  An honest and humble hearer makes most any and all criticisms "constructive." He uses criticism to grow - no matter why it is given nor who gave it. Admittedly, this is really tough!

Can you do that? Can you accept and use criticism for your own good regardless how or why it is expressed? Of course, you can! - but will you? It is much easier to reject criticism saying "that's not constructive criticism" - to get angry - to reply sharply - to find even worse flaws in the critic. Yet just remember: the right way is seldom ever the easy way.

**Volume 5 October 6 2013 #40**

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=O8EOmBC_VVJxtM&tbnid=rQDZ6f3y5wZvHM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://www.mediabistro.com/fishbowldc/tag/betsy-rothstein&ei=m3BMUoTbNoje8wSN6YCwDg&bvm=bv.53537100,bs.1,d.cGE&psig=AFQjCNEjNPh9fTNfaCnYj13-JvJiSV-XEg&ust=1380827465187947)

MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH

By Bill Crews

We've all heard the statement, "It's a matter of life and death.” It expresses a sense of urgency, and it's designed to get attention and solicit immediate response. It may be used in a phone call to the police, the paramedics, or the firemen, or in hospital situations. It's physical life and physical death we're talking about, and when it's a life or death situation involving us or our loved ones, we think anyone would agree that it is an urgent matter indeed.

But for some strange reason, when it becomes a matter of spiritual life or spiritual death, when it involves the salvation of a soul or the eternal destiny of a soul, our own, that of a loved one, that of a friend or neighbor or fellow worker, the urgency is gone, and the matter can wait. With all too many this is not a priority that should receive immediate attention, and it is put off until it is too late - forever! How do we really feel about the life or death, about the eternal destiny of a soul - yours or someone else's? I really believe that if I were lost and knew it, I could not rest, could not sleep, could not have any peace, until I took care of that matter once and for all. What about you?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



‘If I Had a Hammer’

By Steve Kline

Renowned psychologist Abraham Maslow has said that, ``When the only tool you own is a hammer, every problem begins to resemble a nail.'' It seems to me that some Christians only have a hammer, so all they do is hammer. Others only have a saw, so all they do is cut. Some only have a sander, so all they do is smooth things over. We as Christians have a tendency to deal with others and their problems in the way that is most comfortable for us, rather than in a way that is most beneficial for them.

We would be much better workmen and more helpful in building God's house if we would all learn to use a variety of tools (cf. 1 Corinthians 3:10). Every person with a spiritual problem is not to be handled in exactly the same way. Sensitivity and discernment are required to know which tool is appropriate. We are to ``warn the unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with

[](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=BVvltNk-CE8wnM&tbnid=Yjc1xQauYVoxBM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://i-speak-female.com/&ei=029MUqiWNYve8ASp9YD4Dg&bvm=bv.53537100,bs.1,d.cGE&psig=AFQjCNEjNPh9fTNfaCnYj13-JvJiSV-XEg&ust=1380827465187947)

all'' (1 Thessalonians 5:14). Yes, the unruly need warning, but the weak need something different; they need support! The fainthearted need comfort. Using the hammer of warning on the weak and fainthearted is not just poor carpentry, it's destructive! More than one weak, fainthearted Christian has been destroyed by the too stern rebuke of a well-meaning brother or sister who only knew how to use one tool. On the other hand, many an unruly Christian has found unneeded support from an overly-sympathetic brother or sister who only knew how to use a floor jack.

We must learn to make distinctions. Everyone is not the same. On some we must ``have compassion, making a distinction.'' But others we must ``save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh'' (Jude 22-23).

The words of an old folk song go something like this: ``If I had a hammer, I'd hammer in the morning, I'd hammer in the evening, all over this land....'' As Christians our song should be, ``If all I had was a hammer, I'd go and buy a sander.''

.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Colossians Colossians Colossians I Thessalonians I Thessalonians I Thessalonians I Thessalonians

2:6-23 3:1-17 3:18-4:18 1:1-2:12 2:13-3:13 4:1-18 5:1-28



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

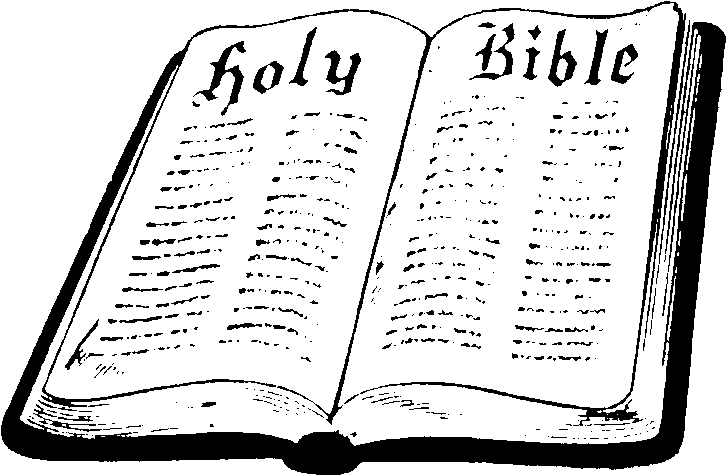
7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com



Truth the Touchstone

By Gary Henry

There is an anecdote about a smug tourist who stepped out onto the sidewalk after going through one of Europe's greatest art galleries. Loudly he boasted to the doorman, "Well, *I* don't see what's so great about all those pictures." The doorman answered politely but pointedly, "But sir, don't you wish you *could* see what's great about them?" Sometimes the offhanded comments we make say more about *us* than they do about the things we pass judgment upon. Standing in the presence of greatness, we often lack the experience and discernment to appreciate what’s before us, and when we give out ill-considered evaluations, we frequently find *ourselves* to have been weighed in the balance and found wanting. We thought we were *doing* the judging, only to find out we have *been* judged.

In the past, the quality of gold or silver samples was determined by the use of a "touchstone," a hard, black stone such as jasper or basalt. The sample was rubbed against this touchstone and the resultant streak was compared to that made by a standard alloy. The sample's "encounter" with the touchstone said nothing about the touchstone -- its qualities were well known -- but it said a great deal about the sample. So it is with some of the most significant things in life: they assay us by our reaction to them. What we truly are is made clear by our contact with these things.

Truth is such a touchstone. You can tell a lot about a person by the way he reacts when confronted with reality. What a person does when he stands face to face with truth says volumes about his character and the kind of human being he has chosen to be. If we will not accept truth and adapt ourselves to it, we not only demonstrate our character to be inferior; we doom ourselves to the suffering that inevitably comes from living on the basis of illusion and error. A life built on unreality is not the "good life," however good it may seem outwardly. Truth is what it is, with or without a right response to it on our part. But our reaction makes all the difference for *us.*

The most telling events in life occur when we are faced with facts that are unpleasant. How do we respond to truths that have hard consequences? Do we accept them and determine to do what is right? Or do we rationalize, shift the blame, and dodge the issue? Each of these confrontations with truth tests us and shows what we are made of. And if we mean what we say when we claim to "love the truth," we will *welcome* these tests, knowing that the final reward of truth is far greater than the short term ease that comes from denial and defensiveness.

The ultimate truth, of course, is the truth about Jesus Christ. When we choose how to deal with *that* truth, we are choosing our eternal destiny, simply because that choice is proof of our character at its deepest level. Jesus Himself said, "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him -- the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (Jn. 12:48). It would be extremely foolish for anyone to brag; "Well *I* don't see what’s so impressive about the teachings of Jesus Christ." At this point in history, the real question is not about Jesus. That He was God in the flesh was established once and for all by the resurrection. No, the only question is what kind of people *we* are. The truth about Jesus is the most marvelous of touchstones because it gives us the opportunity to deal with the most important of facts. Our integrity, or the lack of it, is manifested by our reaction to the Son of God.

.

**Volume 5 October 13 2013 #41**

Use NIV with Caution

By Greg Gwin

It has been observed that Christians in increasing numbers are using the New International Version of the Bible as their primary translation. While the NIV provides a very 'readable' copy of the Scriptures, users should be informed about several significant difficulties.

Most notably, the NIV promotes the false doctrines of Calvinism by inaccurately translating several key verses. For instance, Psalms 51: 5 in the NIV reads, "Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me". Obviously, this teaches the Calvinistic notion of inherited sin which is plainly denied in many other Bible texts. The KJV and ASV read, "in sin did my mother conceive me". There is quite a difference in being conceived in sin (describing the spiritual condition of the world into which the author was born) and in being personally sinful from the point of conception.

Additionally, the NIV frequently refers to man's "sinful nature" (see Rom. 8:3ff, Eph. 2:3, Col. 2:11, & many other passages). This

teaches another tenet of Calvinism,

namely total  depravity - the idea

that man must sin – it is in his very

nature to do so.  Again, this is

denied elsewhere in the Scriptures.

Other versions simply refer to the

"flesh" in these important verses.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Considering these and other

objections to the NIV, we suggest that Christians should exercise great caution-in using this translation as their principle study Bible. Other versions are much more reliable, and several are equal to the NIV in 'readability'. Choose the NKJV or the NASV if you want a trustworthy translation without the old English of the KJV. It would be best to reserve the NIV as a study aid in providing comparative readings.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



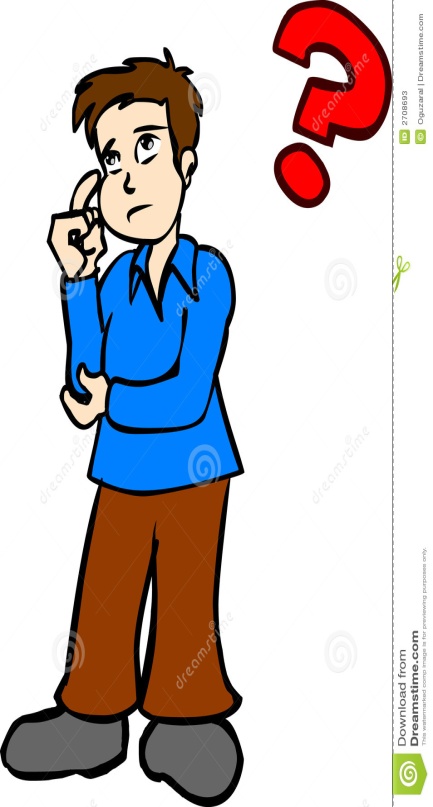
Do You Know Everything?

By James Hahn

This  is  a question  I am  often  asked  when I raise  questions concerning some  doctrine  or  practice.  The  implication  of  this question  is  that one must  know  everything to  be  certain  about anything.

Each time I hear this view expressed I think of the story of the blind man healed by Jesus.  The story is recorded in the ninth chapter of the book of John. The Jews were intent upon condemning Jesus and did all they could to discredit the miracle performed by Jesus.  Seeing the blind man now able to see they first questioned as to whether he was the same man.  After his parents confirmed his identity and the fact that he was born blind they again question the man and tried to pressure him by saying, “Give God the praise: we know  that  this  man  is  a sinner” (John  9:24).  The man replied “Whether he be a sinner or no, I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see” (John 9:25).

This man recognized that even though he may not know everything this did not keep him from knowing and being certain about some things.  No, I do not know everything but I can say with the apostle Paul, “I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day” (2Timothy 1:12).



[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I Thessalonains I Thessalonians I Thessalonians I Timothy I Timothy I Timothy I Timothy  
1:1-12 2:1-17 3:1-18 1:1-20 2:1-15 3:1-16 4:1-16



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Breaking of Bread

By Johnie Edwards

Recently we had a discussion with some Jehovah's Witnesses. The discussion centered around the Lord's Supper. The Jehovah's Witnesses teach:

(1) The Lord's Supper should be eaten only once a year. The Witnesses draw this false conclusion from the fact that the Passover was eaten once a year. They argue that Jesus was eating the Passover when he instituted the Lord's Supper, therefore it should only be partaken of once a year.

Answer: It needs to be understood that the Lord's Supper is not the Passover of the Old Testament. Just because a thing was done once a year under the Law of Moses, we are not to conclude that it is to be done that way in the New Testament. The Jews went once a year to Jerusalem to keep the day of Pentecost (Deut 16:16). Must we do that every year now?

(2) That Acts 20:7 was just a common meal. The Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society in their New World Translation renders Acts 20:7, "On the first day of the week, when we were gathered to have a meal."

Answer: This rendering of Acts 20:7 is not a translation but rather an interpretation. The Greek does not say "meal." It says to "break bread" and I do not intend to let the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society interpret the truth for me. Do you? The context of Acts 20:7 shows it was not just a common meal.

(A) If it was just a common meal why did Paul remain in Troas for seven days? "And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days" (Acts 20:6).

(B) If those in Acts 20:7 were just eating a common meal why is it specified that they ate it on the first day of the week? Did they eat common meals on other days of the week? "And upon the first day of the week . . ." (Acts 20:7).It is not a common meal but rather is an apostolic example of when the church ate the Lord's Supper.

(C) If Acts 20:7 is a common meal why did they ‘gather together' for it? ". . . when we were gathered together to break bread" (Acts 20:7). Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34.The church at Corinth was told not to come together in the assembly to eat common meals. "What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? . . . ." (1 Cor. 11:22) "And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation . . ." (1 Cor. 11:34). Also the phrase "were gathered" (Acts 20:7) implies that someone with authority had ordered them to meet together.

(D) If Acts 20:7 is a common meal why is it separate from Paul's eating or breaking bread in Acts 20:11 ? "When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed" (Acts 20:11). The passages in Acts 20:7, 11 are parallel to those in Acts 2:42, 46. Breaking of bread in Acts 2:42 refers to the Lord's Supper while verse 46 refers to a common meal. The context shows this to be so.

(E) Jehovah's Witnesses say that Acts 2:42 refers to the "taking of meals." If this is so, why is it mentioned as part of and along with acts of worship?

Perhaps one reason Jehovah's Witnesses want to get the Lord's Supper out of the Bible is because the Lord said the Lord's Supper would be in the kingdom (Matt. 26:29; Lk. 22:29-30). Those in Corinth were communing with Christ (1 Cor. 10:16), then they had to be in the Kingdom. But Jehovah's Witnesses tell us that the Kingdom was not in existence then? One false doctrine leads to another. - Truth Magazine - July 19, 1979

**Volume 5 October 20 2013 #42**

God’s Ark By Frank Himmel.

History’s most famous boat is always referred

to as “Noah’s ark.” After all, Noah built it. But

the truth of the matter is, it was not his; it was

God’s ark. God commissioned it. “By faith

Noah, being warned by God about things not

yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the

salvation of his household . . .” (Hebrews 11:7).

And God designed it. He told Noah, “This is how you shall make it . . .” (Genesis 6:15), followed by a list of specifics.

Human wisdom might have called for some changes to God’s plan. “Cover it inside and out with pitch” surely did not produce a very aesthetic vessel. One door would never meet modern fire codes. And how could one window provide sufficient ventilation for a zoo full of animals? Perhaps it was a really lonnnnnng window!

If any of these alterations occurred to Noah, he did not act on them. To the contrary, the Bible says, “Thus Noah did; according to all that God had commanded him, so he did.” In fact, for emphasis, it says that twice (Genesis 6:22; 7:5).

Had Noah changed any of God’s specifications, then it truly would have been “Noah’s ark.” He might have still called it “God’s ark,” but it would no longer be God’s. And it would have floated about as well as a bottomless bucket!

Noah had too much integrity to tinker with God’s will. He built by faith, which comes from hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). And he built in reverence, a respect for God that knows His way is always best, regardless of whether we see why. Noah simply obeyed.

Modern man needs to learn the lesson of God’s ark.  When we change God’s blueprint, the result is our product, not His.

People have taken God’s plan for the church and altered it in every way imaginable: its purpose, its work, its organization, its worship, its entrance requirements, etc. They still call it the Lord’s church, but it isn’t even a distant cousin to the church you read about in God’s word. The same thing is true of marriage, baptism, and a number of other divine provisions.

In the days of the flood, disobedience characterized the lost, not the saved. That hasn’t changed.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



The Highest Possible Mortality Rate

By J. Princeton Simons.

Our safety-conscious society is dying. Despite planning, precautions, gadgetry, medicines, nutrition, and safety seminars, our environment remains a dangerous place. In fact, the mortality rate today is as high as it has ever been:

THE CURRENT MORTALITY RATE IS 100%

Whatever you eat, however you drive, whatever safety devices you use, you are ultimately leaving this life to face your Maker in judgment. In judgment, you are safe only if you have been saved from your sin. No man-made safety devices can help.  There is, after all, no such thing as “safe sin.” Jesus came to provide the way of salvation from sin. In light of the current mortality rate, we need Him today as much as ever.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Psalm 1:1-3 - Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;

2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night.

3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall notwither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I Timothy I Timothy II Timothy II Timothy II Timothy II Timothy Titus

5:1-25 6:1-21 1:1-18 2:1-19 2:20-3:17 4:1-22  1:1-16



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

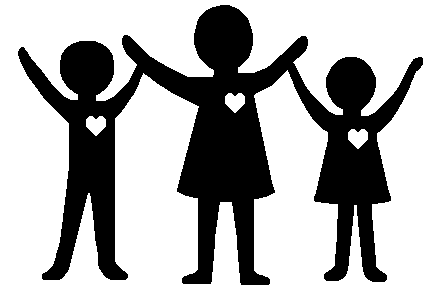
7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com



Love For All the Saints

By Bryan Gibson

Philemon wasn’t partial—he loved all the saints(Philemon 1:5). And

he didn’t just feel it; he demonstrated it—“for we have great joy and

consolation in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been

refreshed by you, brother” (Philemon 1:7).

Other Christians in the New Testament were commended for the same thing: “…after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you…” (Ephesians 1:15-16). “We give thanks…since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all the saints” (Colossians 1:3-4). “…for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are in all Macedonia…” (1 Thessalonians 4:9-10).

Clearly, then, this is a point of emphasis in the New Testament. Do good to all the saints (Galatians 6:9-10) —not just family members, not just friends, and not just those you perceive to be the strongest.

Here, then, are some ways you can show love to all the saints in your local congregation.

Nothing wrong with sitting in the same pew or chair at every worship service, but don’t talk to the same people every time. Before and after worship services, move around and talk to different people. Get to know everyone. They need you, and you need them (Romans 1:12).

Don’t think, though, that this can all be accomplished at the place you meet for worship. After all, you are there primarily to worship God. Invite people into your home; in fact, make it your aim to have everyone in the congregation at some time or another. You’ll get to know them a whole lot better in your home than you will at services. It’s awful hard to “warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak” (1 Thessalonians 5:14) when you don’t even know who they are. Hospitality is a wonderful way to fill the needs of your brethren (and them fill yours), not to mention that it’s a command (1 Peter 4:9).

Visit those saints who don’t have as much contact with their brethren—the sick, the shut-ins, the elderly, etc. (Matthew 25:31-46; James 1:27). That’s not the preacher’s job or the elders’ job; it’s yours. These folks have special needs, and unless you have a real good excuse, it’s your responsibility to fill them.

“Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep” (Romans 12:15). Don’t be envious when good things happen to your brethren; instead, let them know just how happy you are for them. And in bad times, sympathize with them. Let them know you’re there for them, that you’ll do anything in your power to help them.

Use all the means you have at your fingertips to encourage all the saints—get well cards, phone, email, Facebook, etc. Just don’t convince yourself that this is the best way, because in most cases, nothing beats the opportunity to “speak face to face” (3 John 14).

>>>

**Volume 5 October 27 2013 #43**

>>> Commend your brethren on a job well done. Such commendations are found throughout the New Testament, so don’t ever question their effectiveness. Again, don’t be partial; include men, women, and children in these commendations. Folks who excel spiritually need to be commended so that they “do not grow weary while doing good” **(Galatians 6:9).**

*“And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we do to you”****(1 Thessalonians 3:12).***

*“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another”****(John 13:35).***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

Smoking in the U.S. is highly correlated with religious activity, with those who never attend church almost three times as likely to smoke as those who attend weekly. The answer to the question "Do you smoke?" increases in a linear fashion as church attendance decreases, ranging from a low of 12% among those who report attending church at least once a week, to 30% among those who never attend church.

- via Gallup.com, 8/5/13

Please don't smoke,

Please don't smoke, Give your tobacco to a Billy goat!



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



It Is Written Again

By Clarence R. Johnson

Jesus in Matt. 4:7 applies a most neglected principle of Bible study, "It is written again…" Seldom if ever is all the truth on any one subject found in one verse or passage. Failure to understand this principle leads some to conclude that salvation is by faith alone. They read a verse that mentions the necessity of faith as if nothing else were written on the subject of salvation. While it is true that "without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6), it is equally true that repentance is essential to salvation, Luke 13:3-5; 2 Peter 3:9. Additional passages tell us that baptism is also a condition of salvation, remission, or cleansing of sins, Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16.

So we see that justification or salvation does not come by faith only. In fact, there is only one passage of Scripture that mentions the doctrine of salvation by "faith only," - James 2:24-26. "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only. Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

Regarding baptism, some read a passage such as 1 Peter 3:21, "…Even baptism doth also now save us…" and wrongly conclude that someone too young to understand the gospel or repent of sins can somehow be "saved" by baptism alone. This extreme is just as erroneous as the "faith only" error. Both extremes could be avoided by applying the principle of Matt. 4:7, "It is written again…"

We are not saved by faith without works, nor by works without faith. We are saved by "faith which works through love" (Gal. 5:6).

.



[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Titus Titus Philemon Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews

2:1-15 3:1-15 1:1-25 1:1-14 2:1-18  3:1-19 4:1-16



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Heaven-Bound

By Troy Nicholson

“An overwhelming majority of Americans continue to believe there is life after death and that heaven and hell exist, according to a new study. What's more, most think they are heaven-bound.” So begins a recent article in the Nashville Tennessean.

What is heaven? Where is it that so many people believe they are bound? “46% described it as a ‘state of eternal existence in God's presence,’ and... 30% said heaven is ‘an actual place of rest and reward where souls go after death.’” The understanding that most people have of heaven seems to be fairly much in line with what the Bible tells us is true. What a great place it will be!

How do we get there? What must we do to be heaven-bound? The poll says that “born-again Christians... believe entry into heaven is solely based on confession of sins and faith in Jesus Christ.” While the Bible speaks of being born again (John 3:3-7; 1 Peter 1:23), it also speaks of more that must be done than confession and faith. For us to “walk in newness of life” (undergo a new birth), we must also be “buried with Him through baptism” (Romans 6:4); and Scripture makes it clear that baptism is immersion in water (Acts 8:36-39). But this does not mean that our ticket has been punched and is irrevocable. We also must “be faithful until death” to receive “the crown of life” (Revelation 2:10).

Are you heaven-bound? Are you on the path that leads to eternal rest with God? Many who think they are heaven- bound are in for a rude awakening. Many who confess the Lord's name will be told to depart from Him because they have not done the Father's will (Matthew 7:21-23). But those who are faithful will hear the Lord say, “Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you” (Matt. 25:34). That's what I want to hear!

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you weak and lukewarm?

"And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ." (Col. 3:23-24)

When a slow-moving clerk in a small store was not around one morning, a customer asked the owner's young son, "Where's Eddie? Is he sick?" "Nope, he ain't workin' here no more," was the reply. "Do you have anyone in mind for the vacancy?" inquired the customer. "Nope! Eddie didn't leave no vacancy!"

We smile, but the statement which characterized Eddie, equally applies to many members of the church today. In serving the Lord, they are so weak and lukewarm that if they moved to another State their absence would scarcely be noticed. 1 Cor. 15:58 says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

**Volume 5 November 3 2013 #44**

GOD-CENTERED HOMES

By W. Frank Walton

"*Better is a little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and turmoil with it*" (Prov. 15:16).

President Dwight Eisenhower said, "The problems of the nation are the problems of the home a million-fold." With trouble in society and panic in the financial markets, how do our children and grandchildren see us coping with the challenges of a fallen world? They should see a God-centered home as our refuge of strength amid the chances and changes of life. "*The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous runs into it and is safe*" (Prov. 18:20).

Our faith in the Lord gives us the strength to go on and not give up. "*For a righteous man falls seven times, and rises again, but the wicked stumble in time of calamity*" (Prov. 24:16). Loving interaction is the rule of conduct in godly homes. "*Better is a dish of vegetables where love is than a fattened ox served with hatred*" (Prov. 15:17). Such selfless, sacrificial and strong love is only learned from our loving and gracious God (Deut. 6:4-9, Song of Sol. 8:6-7, 1 Jn. 4:7-8).

I recently jotted down these quotes from a recent sermon on "Commitment to the Home" by Tim Stevens:

˙ "No success in the workplace can compensate for a failure in the home place."

˙ "If a child is allowed to be in control in the home, then the home is out of control."

˙ "If we don't teach our children the right way, someone will teach them the wrong way."

Does God live in our daily home life? Do our children see us making decisions based on Christ-centered values? Let us remember as Christians: "Christ is the head of this home, the unseen guest at every meal, the silent listener to every conversation."

Our spiritual commitment to a God-glorifying home life will honor God, attract outsiders to Him, strengthen our children, and bless us in our fond memories of home.



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



The Bible proves the Bible?

"Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (2 Pet. 1:20-21 NIV)

It is sometimes argued that one cannot use the Bible itself to prove that the Bible is the word of God. They say, "One cannot prove the Bible by the Bible." Their argument makes no sense. If someone claimed that he had found another writing of William Shakespeare, the contents of the document (mannerisms, style of writing, choice of words and phrases, etc.) would be the best proof or disproof of the claim. Men would carefully examine the contents of the writing to determine the authenticity of the alleged author.

Likewise, if one wanted to determine if the Scriptures are the word of God, the Scriptures themselves should be investigated. The evidence in the Bible is overwhelmingly sufficient to convince all fair-minded people that the Bible is indeed the word of God.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else.”

- Benjamin Franklin

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews

5:1-14 6:1-20 7:1-14 7:15-28 8:1-13 9:1-10 9:11-28



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

The Curse Of Religious Division

By E.R. Hall, Jr.

In 1 Corinthians 1:10-13 the apostle Paul, by inspiration, wrote, “*Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgement. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith , I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?*”

In Ephesians 1:22,23, God points out the church is the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:4 says there is “ONE*body*”. Yet in the U.S. there are over 1200 recognized religious organizations. Either God is a liar (a conclusion I cannot accept) or He is mistaken (I cannot accept that either) or man is in rebellion against God (This one I can accept).

In Matthew 15:13 Jesus said, “*...Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up*.” In the context of this verse, Jesus is condemning religious systems based on doctrines and commandments of men and is thus condemning the same thing Paul was in 1 Corinthians 1:10-13.

When did God change His mind, in that He no longer condemns religious division? Could it be that God HASN’T changed His mind at all? Let us not be a part of this division which God does not approve of.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

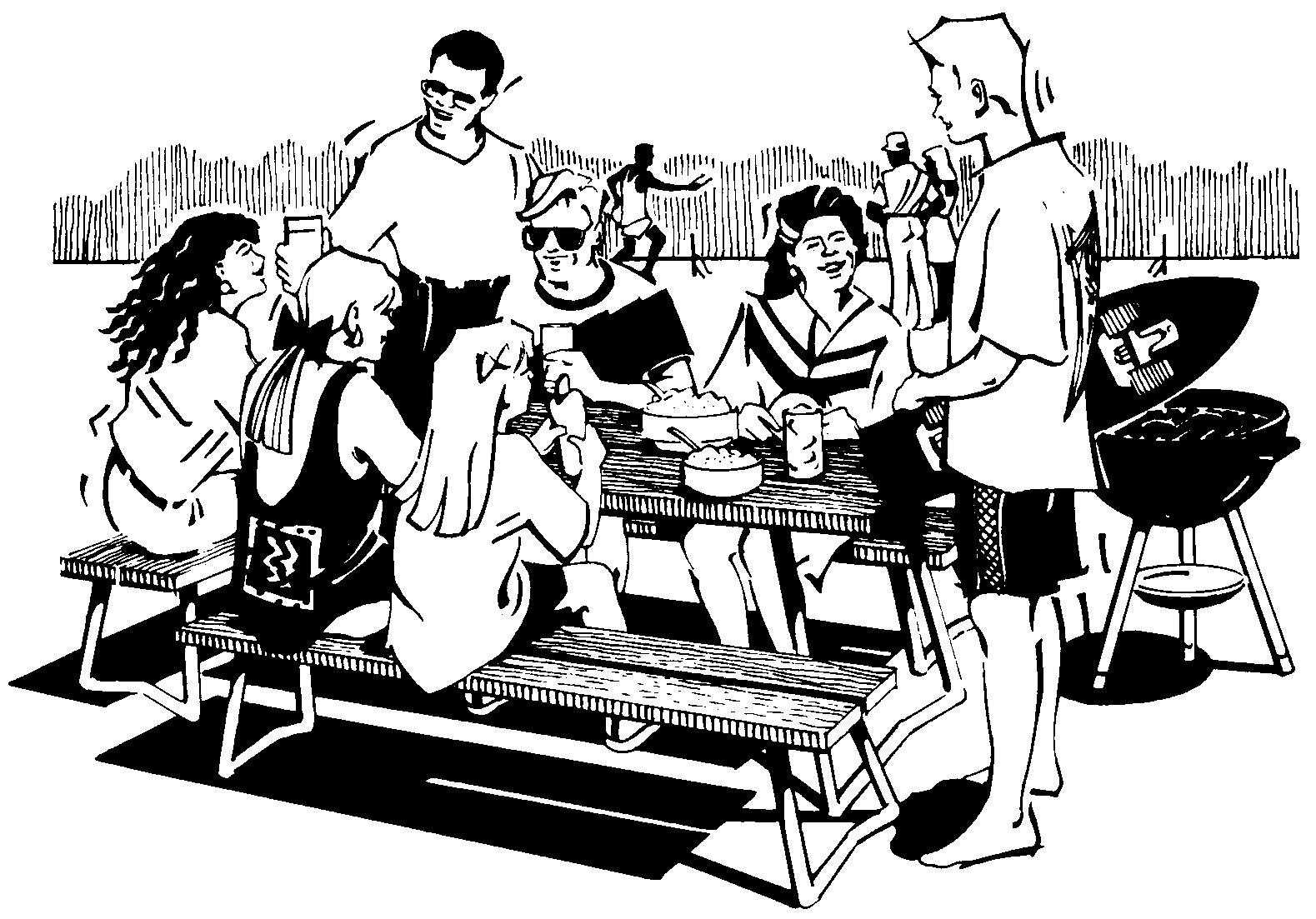
Food, Gimmicks and Recreation

By Jeff May

How ashamed we ought to be if we think people are drawn to Christ with food, recreation and entertainment. There’s enough power in the tree of Calvary. Jesus Himself said, “And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to Myself" (John 12:32). The man who sees his problem will come to Calvary’s tree for his remedy. He needs nothing else. He desires only “Jesus Christ and Him crucified” (1 Corinthians 2:1-5).

The use of such gimmicks is a direct reflection of lack of faith and trust in the word of God (Romans 1:16). What is the difference in this and in using creeds, robes, incense, instrumental music and other such gimmicks to make the worship “entertaining”? Are we at worship to please ourselves or God?

**Volume 5 November 10 2013 #45**



It’s in the Valleys We Grow  
  
Sometimes life seems hard to bear,  
Full of sorrow, trouble and woe.  
It’s then we have to remember,  
That it’s in the valleys we grow.

If we always stayed on the mountain top,  
And never experienced pain,  
We would never appreciate God’s love  
And would be living in vain.

We have so much to learn,  
And our growth is very slow;  
Sometimes we need the mountain tops,  
But it’s in the valleys we grow.

We do not always understand  
Why things happen as they do,  
But I am very sure of one thing —  
My Lord will see me through.

The little valleys are nothing  
When we picture Christ on the cross;  
He went through the valley of death;  
His victory was Satan’s loss.

Forgive me, Lord for complaining  
When I’m feeling so very low.  
Just give me a gentle reminder  
That it’s in the valleys I grow.

Continue to strengthen me, Lord  
And use my life each day,  
To share your love with others  
And help them find their way.

Thank you for the valleys, Lord,  
For this one thing I know,  
The mountain tops are glorious,  
But it’s in the valleys I grow.

—Author Unknown



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Love Your Neighbor!

"Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: I am the LORD." ([Lev. 19:18](http://oakridgechurch.com/passage.asp?v=Lev.%2019:18)).

It was on the front pages of newspapers in 1880's, when the Hatfield clan of Virginia feuded with the McCoy clan from across the border in Kentucky. Historians disagree on the cause of the feud which captured the imagination of the nation during a 10-year run. Some say the feud originated from the Civil War tensions: the McCoys sympathized with the Union, the Hatfields with the Confederacy. Others say it began when the McCoys blamed the Hatfields for stealing hogs. As many as 100

men, women and children died. In

May 1976, Jim McCoy and Willis

Hatfield, the last two survivors of

the original families, shook hands

at a public ceremony dedicating

a monument to six of the victims.

Jim McCoy died Feb. 11, 1984,

at age 99. He bore no grudges,

and had his burial handled by the

Hatfield Funeral Home in Toler, KY.

[James 5:9](http://oakridgechurch.com/passage.asp?v=James%205:9) says, "Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Can you finish this verse?

Read your Bible pray every day, pray every day, pray every day, read your Bible pray every day and you will \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_!



[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews Hebrews

10:1-18 10:19-39 11:1-16 11:17-31 11:32-12:13 12:14-29 13:1-25



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com



When a Young Person Grows Old

By Mark K. White

Unless thwarted by the Lord's return, or an "untimely" death, all young people

will eventually grow old. Regardless of how many creams and rinses are used,

the aging process takes its toll on most members of the human family. Aging is

an irreversible part of life, for if you live at all, you get older. The curse of our

generation is an inordinate preoccupation with youth. No one wants to be old.

At least, no one wants to look old. People do not mind feeling old as much as

they detest looking old. But while the human family may take such a grim view of aging, the Bible does not so regard the aged. In fact, a special and significant honor is bestowed on the "*hoary head*"(Leviticus 19:32; Proverbs 16:31). God enjoins us to "*rise before the gray headed and honor the presence of an old man.*" And "*a silver-haired head is a crown of glory, if it is found in the way of righteousness.*"

When a young man grows old, there are some definite changes which take place. Solomon gives a detailed description of the aging process in Ecclesiastes 12:1-7. Old age is called the "difficult days" in verse one. These days of difficulty are brought through hampering physical maladies which make it hard to really enjoy living. When our hands are racked with arthritis; the legs cease to carry our weight; our teeth are few and brittle; and our eyes grow dim, it is a "difficult" day indeed (verse 3). Even worse, the slightest of noises awakens us and robs our tired bodies of needed rest. Our ability to make melody with a clear, strong voice is gone (verse 4). And we are now frightened easily by heights and are more prone to worry about the dangers in our path. Sexually, we are either powerless or completely devoid of desire. Our physical strength wanes, and even the weight of a "*grasshopper*" is a burden too heavy (verse 5). In the difficult days of old age, the "*silver cord*" (nerves / spinal cord) is loosened and the "*golden bowl*" (brain) is broken, and senility takes hold. The heart and circulatory system is "*shattered*" and "*broken*" and death is not far behind (verses 6 and 7). A more complete and graphic description of what happens when a young man grows old has never been penned! But Solomon was not writing to an old man about something he was already experiencing in his aging body. There would be little value in telling an old man that his dusty frame was returning to the earth. He would know this without being told, being in the midst of the process himself. Solomon addresses the young who are not yet to this point of life. He said to the young, "*Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come, and the years draw near when you say, 'I have no pleasure in them'.*"

Solomon addresses the young man before he wastes the precious time of his youth on frivolity. He is hoping that the young man will listen to wisdom and do something constructive with his days of brightness and strength. Solomon urges that the young "remember" the Creator, but this involves more than a mere mental recall of God. Consider what God did when He remembered Hannah (1 Samuel 1:19). God did something for her. He gave her a son. Likewise, the young are to remember God by serving Him with the strength and vitality of their youth. This will also keep the young man from looking back on his youth with regret, as he remembers how he forgot God and wasted his time with vanities.         >>>

**Volume 5 November 17 2013 #46**

>>> To be sure, it does not miraculously become easier to serve God as we get older. In fact, there is no time in life when worldly things automatically lose their appeal. Solomon advises that we get ourselves on target early in life. He labors to get us to see that it is ridiculous to put off commitment to God until later in life. While we may think the young deserve a chance to have their fling with life and settle down to spiritual things later, Solomon teaches just the opposite. In fact, age may work against us in our struggle to shun the world and obey God. And when we look back on a youth misspent — what a sad, empty, haunting gaze it will be.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

"Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, 'See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?' Then Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' And he answered and said, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.' So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him." ([Acts 8:36-38](http://oakridgechurch.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%208:36-38))

A man who was mute had attended services for a long time. After one of the sermons, as the invitation was being sung, he came forward and set on the front pew with an open Bible in his hand. The preacher, knowing that the man was unable to state his desire, was very perplexed as to what to do. After the song was finished, the dumb man approached the preacher and pointed to the verse which says, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" The preacher simply pointed to the next verse, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." The man quickly pointed to the next verse, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." The preacher then repeated the things in the verses to the congregation, and they took the man and baptized him into Christ. Have you been baptized into Christ as was the Ethiopian eunuch, and the man who was mute?



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**





Earthquakes

By Greg Gwin

We frequently hear predictions of an impending major earthquake along the New Madrid Fault not far from here.  These predictions generally produce great concern from Memphis to St. Louis. While experts have generally refuted the possibility of accurately predicting such things, the public, nonetheless, remains quite concerned.

Religious prognosticators seem to delight in warning us that the recent upsurge of seismic activity is a forerunner of the return of Christ, as indicated in Matthew 24:7,8. Are their conclusions accurate?

Interestingly, scientific data concerning earthquake activity indicates that, contrary to popular opinion, there has been a recent decline in the number and magnitude of earthquakes1.  The illusion of greater frequency and intensity has been produced by better detection (more seismographs with greater sensitivity) and increased news coverage.

Does earthquake activity provide a means to predict the imminent return of Christ? NO!  In Matthew 24, Jesus had prophesied about the destruction of Jerusalem (vs. 1,2). The disciples asked, "When shall these things be?"(vs. 3). Jesus proceeded to mention certain "signs" that would signal the event, including earthquakes (vs. 7,8). Concerning these signs, he said: "This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled" (vs. 34).

Therefore, even if there would be an uptick in earthquake activity, it would have nothing to do with the Lord’s return or final judgment.  The timing of those events cannot be predicted. 1Historical Seismograms and Earthquakes of the World, New York, Academic Press, 1988, pp. 16-33.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

James James James James James I Peter I Peter

1:1-18 1:19-2:17 2:18-3:18 4:1-17 5:1-20 1:1-12 1:13-2:10



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com



Are We Secularizing Our Children?

By Sewell Hall

Several years ago, a Christian who was the president of a large state university stated his belief that students do not lose their faith because of evolution in the science department or humanism in the philosophy, psychology, or sociology departments. Rather, he felt that they become so absorbed with secular studies and secular activities that they do not take time for spiritual things. They neglect attendance at services, neglect Bible study and make their friends among worldly people. They die spiritually, not from poison but from spiritual malnutrition.  Today, this is happening to children long before they get to college.  And some of the finest, best intentioned and most sacrificial and loving parents are contributing to it.

Please pardon a personal reference. My parents were very concerned about keeping control of their children. My father complained 50 years ago that the schools were trying to take over the rearing of children and he was determined not to let that happen to his family. Anything the school planned that conflicted with church activities was considered an encroachment by the school. We did not participate in organized sports, either in school or in summer programs. We did not play in the band or join the scouts. As a rule, when school was out we came home.

You may think my parents extreme. Perhaps they were. But one thing was certain: We had time for whatever Christians were doing anywhere in the areas where we lived. We not only attended every regular service and every service of gospel meetings in our home congregation, but we attended most services of any meeting anywhere in driving distance even when meetings lasted the greater part of two weeks. Preachers who came preaching in the area learned to expect the Hall family near the front of the building night after night. I never remember going out of town for a ball game, but I remember many trips out of town to gospel meetings and lectureships. Those gospel preachers became our heroes and the members of those congregations became the friends whose respect and confidence we most desired.

This is not to say that all parents should adopt the policies of my parents. I did not adhere to all of them in raising my children. But surely some limits need to be imposed on the run-away secularism now so common.  Children are the busiest people in town. Schools have lengthened the school day and long bus rides often require children to leave home very early in the morning and return late in the afternoon. Then they have homework to get. Much extra time in school is spent in humanistic activities. Children are constantly exposed to vulgarity and profanity not only from fellow-students, but even from teachers.  They desperately need counteracting spiritual influences.

Many conscientious parents, however, want still more secular opportunities for their children than the standard curriculum provides. They encourage participation in extra-curricular sports organized by the school and in others that are privately organized, occupying afternoons and Saturdays and even portions of Sundays as well as the summer months. Students not inclined to sports are encouraged to join the band with long hours of after-school practice, summer band camps, compulsory Friday night football in the fall and concerts in the spring. In addition, there are often private music lessons. Scouts also provide     >>>

**Volume 5 November 24 2013 #47**

>>> wholesome experiences, and parents want their children to be involved. In fact, they feel that their children are deprived if they miss any of these opportunities, and so to provide them parents pack their own schedules full, taxiing the children here and there and sacrificially spending their energy and money.

What is wrong with these things? Generally nothing.  The problem is that they are dominating children's lives. No wonder it has become impossible to plan a gospel meeting at a time when it does not conflict with some kind of secular activity! No wonder it is exceptional when students attend every night of such a meeting! No wonder very few parents and even fewer young people are to be seen at special services beyond their own congregation!

A negative attitude seems to be developing toward anything the church plans beyond the usual Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday night assemblies or toward any extension of evening activities beyond one hour. The church is considered insensitive when anything is planned that encroaches on children's busy secular activities.

When do we expect our children to change from this heavily weighted emphasis on this world to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness?'' If they become accustomed to a secular schedule in elementary school, high school will only increase the pressure. College allows still less time for the Lord unless there is a purposeful determination to keep the lid on secular demands. If such priorities have not been learned under the guidance of parents, it is unlikely they will be developed when students are on their own in college. By the time those school years of immersion in secularism are over, there is usually very little spiritual life left in them.

And it all begins when they are young!



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



How Much Do We Care?

"If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,' but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit?" (James 2:15-16)

A young boy, on an errand for his mother, had just bought a dozen eggs. Walking out of the store, he tripped and dropped the sack. All the eggs broke, and the sidewalk was a mess. The boy tried not to cry. A few people gathered to see if he was OK and to tell him how sorry they were. In the midst of the words of pity, one man handed the boy a quarter. Then he turned to the group and said, "I care 25 cents worth. How much do the rest of you care?" (From **Vital Sermons Of The Day**, by Stanley C. Brown, Leadership, Vol. 5, No. 1)

John said, "My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth." (1 John 3:18)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

John 13:34-35 - "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

35 "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I Peter I Peter I Peter II Peter II Peter II Peter I John

2:11-3:7 3:8-4:6 4:7-5:14  1:1-21  2:1-22 3:1-18 1:1-10



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com



Competence

By Gary Henry

“The end of education is to see men made whole, both in competence

and in conscience” (John S. Dickey). *To be competent is to be qualified*

*to do a job - able to complete the task skillfully.*The competent are those

who can be trusted to carry out a responsibility in an adept manner.uld

go without saying (but these days we often forget) that competence must

always be governed by conscience. Not everything that can be done

should be done, and the fact that we have the ability to do something is

often dangerous if we don’t have the moral judgment to evaluate what

we’re doing. John S. Dickey, who said that the goal of education is to see

us “made whole, both in competence and in conscience,” also said that

“to create the power of competence without creating a corresponding direction to guide the use of that power is bad education.” So *know-how*without *know-why*is only half an education. Allan Bloom, who has written trenchantly on these matters, observed that fathers and mothers “have lost the idea that the highest aspiration they might have for their children is for them to be wise — specialized competence and success are all that they can imagine.”

What we should aim for are the twin towers of *character*(who we are in our principles) and *competence*(what we can do in our practice). When these two are combined, we have the makings of a real person. It’s the blending of these that should be our goal.

But if competence without conscience is dangerous, conscience without competence is not much good either. Being honorable people and having good intentions will not suffice. We’ll have to gain some actual skills if we want to make a worthy contribution to the world. And when we learn how to do some things that the world needs to have done, we give a great gift to all the people who care about us.

In this life, we need the humility to recognize our limitations. But we also need the courage to pursue competence in the work that’s within our reach. Rather than settle for mediocrity, or spin our wheels in frivolous pastimes, we’d do better to invest in the mastery of some solid skills. Expertise is a gift that keeps giving for a very long time.

“Superfluity comes sooner by white hairs, but competency lives longer” (William Shakespeare).

provide

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If You Are Visiting We Are Glad You Are Here!

Please Come Study With Us Again

**Volume 5 December 1 2013 #48**

"I'm At Peace with My God"

By Greg Gwin

It is not uncommon -- while trying to rebuke or admonish someone concerning their spiritual condition -- to have them reply with this statement:  "I'm at peace with my God."  Just recently we got this reply from a fella who left the Lord's church and joined a denomination.  Not long ago a Christian, after admitting his homosexual lifestyle, used the same defense.  Apparently these folks think that this feeling of "peace" is the absolute standard by which their conduct should be judged.  They could not be more wrong!

In ancient Judah, the prophet Jeremiah bemoaned the unfaithfulness of God's people.  One of the great problems was that they were oblivious to their lost condition.  This was largely due to the fact that "from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely. They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace." (Jer. 6:13,14)  Do you see it?  They believed they were at peace with God.  Their religious leaders even told them that there was peace with God.  But in reality, there was no peace.

People today, like those in Jeremiah's day, are deceived into thinking that they are at peace with God even as they continue in their rebellion against Him.  False teachers contribute to the problem with "good words and fair speeches that deceive the hearts of the simple." (Rom. 16:18)

The only true basis for peace with God is in humble obedience to His will.  The apostle Paul urged: "Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you."  (Philippians 4:9)  Faith and obedience produce true peace.  Anything other than that is simply the deception of subjective feelings.  Think!



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



The Social Gospel Back Fire!

A new study might reveal why a majority of teens abandon their faith upon high school graduation. Pollster George Barna documented that 61% of today's 20-somethings who had been ‘churched’ at one point during their teen years are now spiritually disengaged. They do not attend church, read their Bible, or pray . . . According to a new national survey sponsored by the National Center for Family-Integrated Churches, the youth group itself is the problem. 55% of American Christians are concerned about modern youth ministry because it's too shallow, too entertainment-focused, resulting in an inability to train mature believers . . . 36% of today's believers are convinced that youth groups themselves are not even Biblical. - via Mission Network News, 11/6/13

Ecclesiastes 12:1  “Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;”

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: - I Peter 2:2

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

I John I John I John I John I John II John III John

2:1-17 2:18-3:6 3:7-24 4:1-21 5:1-21 1:1-13 1:1-15



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

***What Is Better?***

By Warren E. Berkley

Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit. Be not quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the heart of fools. Say not, “Why were the former days better than these?” for it is not from wisdom that you ask this.

*(Ecclesiastes 7:8-10 ESV)*

Navigating life under the sun requires mature attention to values. Reality is, some courses of action are better than others. Some attitudes lead us in better directions; some emotions are better than others for us and for those with us.

“Better is the end of a thing than its beginning, and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.” Solomon is teaching us patience. His approach is, to get us to think about how the end of a thing is better than the beginning. He wants us to remember that. At the beginning of some crisis, trial or time of adversity, there is a tendency to be absorbed in those first moments of shock and to be overwhelmed and impatient. Solomon points us to the end, the conclusion. It will be over! Going into surgery, focus on the anticipated end and good outcome. Entering into a meeting with people where tension and conflicts is expected, think of the desired outcome of peace or resolution. Finding yourself at the beginning of a powerful temptation, put your eye on the victory of resisting and being refreshed by your courage. Don’t let that common desire for immediate gratification foster hopeless impatience. Wait for the satisfaction of the end of a thing, for “the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.”

“Do not be quick in your spirit to become angry, for anger lodges in the bosom of fools.” Once again, it is that quick impulse and desire for immediate gratification that gets us into trouble. In a world where we can almost have anything instantly, we can’t be warned enough about impatience and anger. We have been cultivated to expect everything to happen almost instantly. And that cultural expectation can lead to rather immature frustration.  Learning to calm down and wait is better. Patience and self-control contributes to good health, good relationships with people – and most of all, this state of heart and life is pleasing to God. Beware of anger that lodges or finds a home within you. Evict bitterness.

“Say not, ‘Why were the former days better than these?’ For it is not from wisdom that you ask this.” Solomon is not teaching against a knowledge of history, nostalgia, or speaking of the past. He is addressing the spirit of attitude that complains – claiming that if we could go back to a former time, everything would be better. First, such talk is futile since it longs for the impossible. We cannot go back. It’s not 1950 anymore! But further, think with care – was everything smooth, pain-free and easy back in the “good ole’ days?” Could it be, we remember some of the good times but repress the bad? Better to face the reality of the present, gather up your courage and experience and apply your best wisdom to today.  And please consider, in 25 years, these will be the good ole’ days. Focus on what is better now!

**Volume 5 December 8 2013 #49**

You Can Go To Heaven

By Mark White

If the overwhelming desire of your life is not going to Heaven when you die and leave this world, you are living without the grandest hope you can have. Jesus ascended back into Heaven in order to make all things ready for us (Jn. 14:1-6). He is the true and living way, and no one in our generation can come to God except through Christ. If Heaven was an impossible destiny, Jesus would have told us. But we know where Jesus is, and how to get there from here.

Any Christian who doubts whether he can go to Heaven or not has not yet learned what it means to live by faith  (2 Cor. 5:7). If a Christian wonders about his eternal destiny it is due to either a lack of faith in God's promise of eternal life, or to sin in the Christian's life, of which he is unwilling to repent. There can be no other explanation.

Of course, there is no room for arrogant confidence, either. We have to learn that going to Heaven is a provision of God's mercy and grace. We could not "earn our way" there. It takes our submissive, obedient faith coupled with the benevolence of a loving Father in Heaven and the sacrificial death of our elder brother to accomplish it. Not one of us has "braggin' rights." Remember, it was our fault that Jesus became the sacrifice in the first place.

Since we can go to Heaven, we ought to do more planning for it (Col. 3:1-2). If our hearts are there - truly there - I think we would talk about Heaven more. Our conversations with other fellow pilgrims would focus more on our common journey to the celestial city. We would not be so enamored with earth-life, because we would be "homesick" for Heaven.

Abraham felt the pangs of such longings for home, because he was a man of faith (Heb. 11:8-10). Oh that we could have the faith of Abraham!

"On Jordan's stormy banks I stand, And cast a wishful eye. To Canaan's fair and happy land, where my possessions lie. I am bound for the promised land; I am bound for the promised land; O who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land."



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



” “We Love You. . .”

By Greg Gwin

... that's what parents have always told their children, but sometimes the kids have trouble understanding it. After all, they don’t always get everything that they want. And, they frequently get punished when they do something wrong. Parents are quick to explain that love is responsible for the way things are - "We're doing this because we love you" – but that doesn’t make it any easier to understand.

The reason children have trouble understanding a parent’s love is because they are immature. Typically, when they become mature adults, with children of their own, they understand it perfectly. In fact, they often act in exactly the same ways that their parents did.  They even tell their kids, "I'm doing this because I love you." Some day the kids will understand this – and the cycle continues.

There are some folks in the church who always insist that everything be kept pleasant and positive. They do not like it when false doctrine is exposed, and they can not stand for false teachers to be named. If a situation becomes so serious as to require that a congregation publicly discipline an unruly member, they are appalled. Their complaint is that we "don't have enough love". But we argue that such actions are actually a sign of our love.

The reason these folks don't understand this level of love is because they are spiritually immature. Like children, their view is limited to the present moment rather than the long term.

Hopefully, we all will become mature enough to recognize that true love for one another will cause us to "reprove, rebuke, and exhort" as needed (2 Tim. 4:2). Love is like that sometimes.

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Jude Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation

1:1-25 1:1-20 2:1-17 2:18-3:6 3:7-22 4:1-11 5:1-14



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com



Closet Convictions

By Dan Shipley

John 12:42-43 says: “Nevertheless even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue; for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.” From its beginning, the cause of Christ has suffered because of disciples with closet convictions; the kind of men who know and believe the truth but will not stand up for it. Consider, for example, these influential rulers of our text. Potentially, their worth to the cause of their un-confessed Christ was immeasurable; effectively, however, they contributed absolutely nothing. Worse, their influence remained where they did, as must always be the case. What a testimonial to the tremendous swaying power of cowardice and pride! It keeps them among those whom they oppose and puts them in opposition to their own faith and convictions. “But after all”, they may have reasoned, “we do have our standing in the community to think about.” And, besides, how could we ever explain to our friends of the synagogue circle about what we really believe? Why, what would they think?” So goes people-pleasing religion.

And so stay the people-pleasers in religion --- in their “synagogues”” of compromise and out of God’s kingdom. But most of them do not see their “going along” as being all that serious, let alone as jeopardizing salvation. For example, it is not unusual to meet denominationalists who freely admit certain unscriptural practices espoused by their church, but will not speak out against them. They know and believe certain Bible truths, but will not practice them, for fear....? Now, what is the essential difference between these and the elders of our text? Is it less honorable to deny Christ than His word? The false idea that men can honor Christ while ignoring, perverting and desecrating His doctrine is of the devil! “He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him-- the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day” (John 12:48). Man’s part in gaining a right standing with God lies in his knowing, believing, and obeying of gospel truth (John 6:45; 8:32; Mark 16:16; Romans 6:17; James 1:21-22). Every right relationship with God is a truth determined relationship! All that God requires of man and all that man can ever do to please and glorify God is made known in His word (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 John 9). He who shuns it, compromises it, or adds to it reflects on the God who gave it (1 Thessalonians 4:13), whether Jew, denominationalist or Christian.

In recent years, many members of the church of Christ have “awakened” to find themselves in “synagogues”” of liberalism. They share the dilemma of the rulers to some extend. “Shall we speak out and risk being put out --- or shall we go along to get along?” May God help them to see the seriousness and importance of standing up for the Lord by standing for His truth. To continue “going along” is to continue violating conscience and fellowshipping error. Friend, your influence is where you are. Demonstrate your allegiance to Christ and His truth while you can!

**Volume 5 December 15 2013 #50**

**Abraham Lincoln: Often a Failure**

Too often, it seems to me, people lose their courage in facing life because of past failures or fear that they may fail in the future. One good way to cure such fears is to remember the story of a man who actually built a life of accomplishments out of defeats.

The following litany of failures, followed by victories that punctuated his life throughout 30 years, is a living and eloquent example of successful use of defeat in achieving victory. Abraham Lincoln's record is as follows:

¨ Lost job, 1832  
¨ Defeated for legislature, 1832  
¨ Failed in business, 1833  
¨ Elected to legislature, 1834  
¨ Sweetheart (Ann Rutledge) died, 1835  
¨ Had nervous breakdown, 1836  
¨ Defeated for Speaker, 1838  
¨ Defeated for nomination for Congress, 1843  
¨ Elected to Congress, 1846  
¨ Lost renomination, 1848  
¨ Rejected for Land Officer, 1849  
¨ Defeated for Senate, 1854  
¨ Defeated for nomination Vice-President, 1856  
¨ Again defeated for Senate, 1858  
¨ Elected President, 1860

Lincoln's deep conviction that God had given him a commission to fulfill accounted in no small way for his deep humility and ability to push on in the face of difficulties and failures that would have discouraged most people. His abiding faith was well summed up in this comment, which he made after becoming President: "God selects His own instruments, and sometimes they are queer ones; for instance, He chose me to steer the ship through a great crisis."

Yes, you too, in God's providence, can be an instrument in bringing His love, truth, and peace to a world in urgent need of it. And with Abraham Lincoln, you can learn to say: "With God's help I shall not fail."



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



God Based Life!

"...In whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him." (Eph. 3:12)

A man paid a visit to his local psychologist. When the doctor asked him what had prompted his visit, the man said, "I'm suffering from an inferiority complex." In the ensuing weeks, the psychologist put his new patient through an intensive battery of tests. Next came the long wait while the test results were tabulated and evaluated. Finally, the doctor called the man and asked him to return to the clinic. "I have some interesting news for you," the doctor began. "What's that?" Asked the man. "It's no complex," the psychologist replied, "You are inferior."

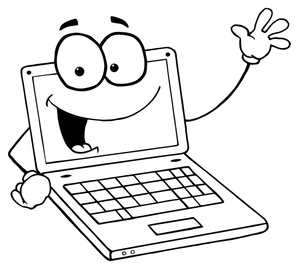
Only a life based on following God will provide a lasting, real sense of self-worth. The Scriptures will give us a true picture of who we are, who we ought to be, and with God's help, who we can become.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Visit our Website:

www.chapmanhwychurchofchrist.com

****

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation

6:1-17 7:1-17 8:1-13 9:1-21 10:1-11 11:1-19 12:1-18



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

**Divorce ... For Any Reason?**

By Jason Longstreth

**"Some Pharisees came to Jesus testing and asking, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any reason at all?'" (Matthew 19:3)**

I'm sure we have all read this question before. This verse (and the verses surrounding it) has been the center of many religious debates over the years. And what Jesus taught in this passage is just as applicable today as it was in the first century. The subject of marriage, divorce and re-marriage has been a hot topic for many years. I am amazed how many people do not seem to know anything about what the Lord taught concerning this subject. But I am even more astonished at those who should know it, but do not follow His commandments.

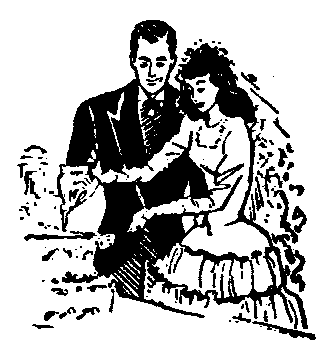
This is puzzling to me because, when it comes to Jesus' teaching on marriage, the basics are really quite simple. Consider Jesus' response to the earlier question. "And he answered and said, 'Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, "For this reason man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh"? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.'" **(Matthew 19:4-6)**

Now, as I said before, this is very easy to understand. In fact, I believe anyone (and everyone) can understand it! Jesus was simply teaching that a man and a woman should not get divorced. Period. And I want you to notice that this is where He placed the emphasis - don't get divorced. However, this is not where we often place the emphasis. Instead, we focus on the exception to the rule - we focus on Jesus' answer to the next question, "When can we get divorced?" We get into all the nit-picky little legalistic answers in an effort to defend our own actions. Let me ask you, is this what we should do? I don't think so. But we do.

Too often, I hear Christians focusing on divorce when they should be focusing on what Jesus said about marriage. It's true, Jesus did give one exception to the rule (when adultery has taken place), but shouldn't we place our focus on the rule instead of the exception? God hates divorce. **(Malachi 2:16)** This has never changed. And although God may ALLOW divorce (in one case), that does not mean He WANTS it. Jesus said that what God intended "from the beginning" was for a man and a woman to be joined together for life. This is what we should all be striving to accomplish.

>>>

**Volume 5 December 22 2013 #51**



>>> But I hear Christians say that it is okay to get divorced "as long as I don't remarry". They say, "I'll get divorced and just remain single." Is this what Jesus taught? Not at all! Although a person who has been divorced may need to remain single if they want to be right with God, this is not meant to be an 'acceptable alternative' to remaining married. If so, this would have been the answer to exactly what the Pharisees asked when they said, "Is it lawful to get divorced for any reason?" Jesus would have said, "Sure, as long as you don't remarry." But He didn't. His answer was "No." Remember **Matthew 5:32**, "But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for the reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery." Notice what Jesus said in the first part of this verse. "Everyone who divorces and his wife...makes her commit adultery." In this case, the man commits a sin even though he did not remarry. The sin was in the divorce.

Now, you do not need to remind me of the exception. I know it is there. But, do you see where Jesus placed His emphasis? He did not come to teach us when we could divorce. He did not come to teach us an exception. Instead, he taught his followers to remain married. And if we would spend half as much time trying to save our marriages as some people spend trying to find a reason for a divorce, we would all have much stronger marriages. Let's focus on what the Lord focused on. For it was that way "from the beginning."

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." Hebrews 3:15



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**



Religion: The New ‘Dirty Word’

By Greg Gwin

A bumper sticker recently viewed said: "I'm not religious, I just love the Lord".  What in the world does that mean!?!

This strange expression probably is a reaction against the hypocritical conduct of lots of so-called Christians and many of their pretentious leaders. You don't have to be terribly perceptive to realize that there are a lot of folks out there in the religious world who "say and do not" (Matthew 23:3). These are the sort who received Jesus' strongest condemnations. He called them " hypocrites" , "blind guides", and "whited sepulchres which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones" (Matthew 23:15,16,27).

But shall we delegate the word "religious" to the realm of ‘dirty words’ simply because there are those who act this way?  Absolutely not!  James 1:27 speaks of "pure religion and undefiled before God". The verse goes on to describe this type religion: "to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world".

Now, think about the bumper sticker again - "I'm not religious, I just love the Lord". Taken literally, this means that the car owner which displays this logo does not "visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction", and does not "keep himself unspotted from the world". Gets a little crazy doesn't it? The dictionary says that to be religious is to be "pious, devout, godly", and thus it is impossible to truly "love the Lord" without being "religious"!  Think!

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation Revelation

13:1-18 14:1-20 15:1-8   16:1-21 17:1-18 18:1-24 19:1-21



**Regular scheduled services:**

Sunday:

10:00 AM

11:00 AM

6:00 PM

Wednesday:

7:30 PM

**Everyone Welcome To Attend.**

**Chapman Highway church of Christ**

7604 Chapman Hwy.

Knoxville, TN. 37920

865-573-6638

Visit our website:

www.chapmanhwy churchofchrist.com

Amen!

By Paul Earnhart

Whatever happened to the “Amen Corner?” I can remember when the worship assembly of Christians never failed to ring with a hearty chorus of “amens” at the conclusion of a prayer; and the preaching, too, was often punctuated with the same bass-voiced confirmation. The brethren seemed in this way to join closely together in the prayers and the preaching. Was this just a passing fad better left behind in a more sophisticated age? Or does it have some foundation in biblical examples?

Perhaps brethren in years gone by did not always use the word accurately, yet I am confident that they had a far greater understanding of the word than we do. To many Christians today it has become merely a sort of verbal buzzer to signal the end of a public prayer. How unfortunate!

The word Amen does not come to us from our own language. It was carried as a Hebrew word into the Greek New Testament and from thence into our English versions. It comes from a Hebrew word which means “to prop” or “to be firm.” From this root idea it came to be used in the sense of “true, faithful, or certain.” Isaiah speaks of the “God of truth” or literally “the God of the Amen” (Isaiah 65:16). Jesus, in Revelation, speaks of Himself as “the Amen, the faithful and true witness” (Revelation 3:14).

At the beginning of an affirmation, “Amen” gives force to the truth of the statement, as when Jesus says, “Verily, verily” or “Amen, amen, I say unto you. . .” (John 3:3). At the end of a statement it gives confirmation, meaning, “It shall be so” or “let it be so” as in the writing of Paul when he says, “Now unto our God and Father be the glory for ever and ever, Amen.”

The children of Israel were commanded by Moses to say “Amen” when the curses of God upon the disobedient were repeated by the Levites in the land of Canaan (Deuteronomy 27:15ff). They all said “Amen” and “praised the Lord” when David charged them in a psalm to give thanks to the Lord (I Chronicles 16:36). They all said “Amen” when Nehemiah charged them to put a stop to usury and called on them to promise accordingly (Nehemiah 5: 13). They all said “Amen, amen” when Ezra, upon opening the book of the law of God to read to them, blessed the Lord, the great God (Nehemiah 8:16). In so doing, the people of God joined themselves to His oaths and covenants though they were actually only spoken by one or a few. And one man’s thanksgiving and praise to God became that of the whole people. They committed themselves to what was spoken in their presence.

The New Testament reflects the same practice by Christians. Speaking of one praying in a strange tongue, the apostle Paul asks, “How shall he that filleth the place of the unlearned say the Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he knoweth not what thou sayest?” (1 Corinthians 14:16). From Paul’s statement it is evident that in this way the early Christians actively participated in the public prayers. Having paid careful attention to the words of the brother praying, they made his prayer their own by saying “Amen — let it be so.” They were not casual onlookers at a public performance. They were actively involved and committed. They had to understand the prayer so they could with confidence honestly say “Amen.”

>>>

**Volume 5 December 28 2013 #52**

>>> What a contrast is the response given to a public prayer among many Christians today. The brother leading the prayer is left to see to his own affairs. If he doesn’t “Amen” his own petitions, his supplication to the Lord will be greeted by stony silence or at best a few feeble “Amens” whispered apologetically. Does this reflect the New Testament pattern? I know that just mouthing the word, “Amen,” will not summarily make us the kind of worshipper we ought to be, but the thoughtful consideration of this practice of the early Christians might just help to change our spectator spirit.

Are the prayers that are voiced by selected brethren in our assemblies our prayers, too? Do we join in them? Are we involved? Then “let the redeemed of the Lord say so” (Psalm 107:2).

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

HOW DID IT GO?

**Read the New Testament**

**in one year!**



**KIDS**

**COLUMN**

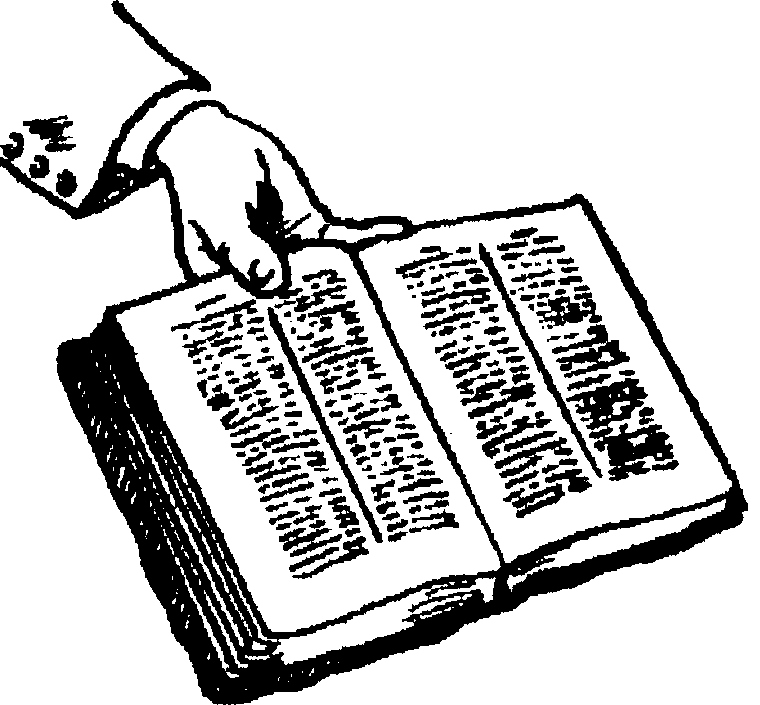


Do All Roads Lead To God?

Then His disciples came and said to Him, 'Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?' But He answered and said, 'Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch.'" (Matt. 15:12-13)

I'm always taken aback by anyone who thinks all roads lead to God, that all religions are equally valid. Nobody believes that about anything else. I wonder why anybody believes that about religion. Last summer, I had to have a root canal. It wasn't as bad as I had been told, but there are more fun ways to spend a summer morning. If my endodontist had said, "You know, Mr. Elzinga, it really doesn't matter how I do a root canal. Eventually, all roads lead to that problem tooth. I can go directly to the tooth, or I can go in through your ear, or I can go in through your nostril, or I can drill into your neck and work my way back up to that gum," at that point, I would look for a new oral surgeon! (From Kenneth G. Elzinga)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_



[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

For the last year the Chapman Highway church of Christ has provided a schedule to help you read the New Testament in one year. Each month a schedule calendar was updated on our website at **www.chapmanhwychurchofchrist.com** to help structure our reading.

We encouraged you to gather the family for just a few minutes each day and enjoy reading God's word together, we appealed to you that **YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU DID! Now, at the close of our effort we would ask, ARE YOU? ARE YOU GLAD YOU DID?**

**Our final Bible reading for this effort is as follows:**

**Bible reading schedule for this week!**

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

[](http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/images/fruit%20vegies/red-apple-orchard.jpeg&imgrefurl=http://www.picturegrill.com/pages/vegetable-art.html&h=224&w=211&sz=19&hl=en&start=2&tbnid=ejX5E3cxZHGTZM:&tbnh=108&tbnw=102&prev=/images?q=red+Apple&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=X)

Revelation Revelation Revelation

20:1-15 21:1-27 22:1-21