

Eisenhower Church of Christ

God is Spirit

When Jehovah reveals something about Himself in His Word, the reader should give the most earnest heed. For example when God told Moses: "I AM THAT I AM" (Ex. 3:14), He revealed a tremendous truth concerning His eternality. When the Holy Spirit inspired John to write, "God is love," He revealed something about His motives in dealing with mankind (I John 4:8). When God told Noah that His spirit shall not always strive with man (Gen. 6:3), He indicated that His patience, while long suffering, is not endless. And when Jesus told the woman at the well that God is spirit, He revealed one of the first, the greatest, the most sublime, and necessary truths in the compass of nature! (Clarke 541). This revelation gives vital insight to the nature of God, and our relationship with Him. Notice only two of many observations we can learn from God telling us He is Spirit.

Without the spirit, a body is dead (Jas. 2:26). On the other hand, however, a spirit without a body is still very much alive. What a great revelation about the God of heaven! Jehovah God is not an inanimate object, like a pagan idol with a mouth that cannot speak, eyes that cannot see, ears that cannot hear and hands that cannot work (Ps. 115:4-7). He is alive!

In an amusing, yet true account, a woman who had deceived people by telling them she could speak to the dead was asked by Saul to contact a departed spirit. Her reaction is very telling: "***And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice...***" (I Samuel 28:12). She cried with a loud voice, because she was actually communicating with the dead! No one was more surprised than she. It would have been equally amusing to see the reaction of those who talked to idols if one of them had actually talked back. Idol worshipers were careful to carve a mouth on their god, but never expected the god to use it.

Unlike false idols, the God of heaven is alive! Although He no longer speaks directly to His people as He did in the days of the Patriarchs and on occasion during the Mosaic Age (Ex. 20:19; Mt. 3:17; 17:5), He still speaks through His living word (Heb. 4:12). Not only does He speak, but He also sees and hears: "***For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil***" (I Pet. 3:12). God hears and answers the prayers of His righteous people (Jas. 5:16). Because God is a living person, we can get to know Him personally and communicate with Him freely.

This attribute of God has been especially disturbing for humanity since the beginning of the world. Even Jacob's beloved wanted to keep the gods of her fathers, so much so that she stole them, placed them with her belongings and sat on them to hide them. (Gen. 31:34). Those who had been led out of Egypt by the mighty hand of God, seeing miracle after miracle, still could not get used to the idea of worshiping a God they could not see. They felt the need to create something they could appreciate with the five physical senses (Ex. 32:1-8). No one has seen the true and living Father God (Jn. 1:18). Rather than being disheartening to God's people, it should be of great comfort and herein lies the point Jesus was trying to make with the woman at the well.

While we use our physical senses in worship to God, i.e. we make a sound with our mouths, eat the Lord's Supper, etc., it is not with our physical senses where the deepest connection is made "God is Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." (Jn. 4:24) It is not a question of locality in worship (Jn. 4:21), nor is it merely intellect and our five senses. To worship, men must get down to the deepest thing in their personality, spirit and truth. Man's spirit must lead him in worship as he approaches Almighty God. Yes, man's worship must be regulated by the truth of God's Word, but if his own spirit is not involved he has not truly worshipped. Just as Jesus did with the woman at the well, the Christian must remove all the masks of his life and get right down to the core and ask the question: Is my spirit prepared to approach God?

Many of the problems people have in the concept of God and worshipping and serving Him, come from a misunderstanding that He is Spirit. How could the Old Testament sacrifices of burning flesh be a sweet smelling savor unto God? He is Spirit. How can God be more pleased in simple acapella singing

over the elaborate bands and choirs? He is Spirit. How can God be pleased by a public prayer led by an uneducated man who butchers the English language? He is Spirit. Much error is practiced today because man tries to approach God using only his physical senses and leaving the spiritual out. However, when Christians allow their own spirits to respond to God's revelation, they can approach the God of Heaven who is Spirit. No greater task can ever be achieved.

—Mark Reynolds

Placed Membership

Oliver Hernandez, who has been attending our services regularly decided to place his membership last Sunday, January 27th and desires to work under the guidance and oversight of our elders. Welcome Oliver. Please get to know him if you have not done so.

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Shelly Perkins (Jackie & Wanda Perkins' daughter-in-law) in the loss of her mother, **Marilyn Henderson**. Marilyn lost her battle with cancer on Friday, January 25th at her home. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Nina Wright (Loyce Driver's niece) was taken off the ventilator Thursday, January 24th. She passed away at 4:10 p.m. on Saturday, January 26th. Please keep Nina's family in your prayers.

Prayer Request

Atasi Bhavsar has requested prayers for her father, **Harshad Bhavsar**. He has been diagnosed with cancer. Her dad lives in the Austin area. Please keep him in your prayers that he will get the needed treatment to help cure his cancer.

LaDonna Chism has requested prayers for the following people.... **Robert Vargas** (uncle of a friend) who had a stroke and is dealing with other serious health issues; **José Padilla** (son of a co-worker) who had to be air-lifted to Lubbock due to accidentally being seriously burned at work; and **Laisha Ramirez** (a 5th Grade Student) who had a brain tumor removed on January 25th at the Cook's Children's Home.

Paisleigh Grace Shepard, the three month old baby girl of Tara Shepard (Haley Erwin's best friend) was just diagnosed with a 5 cm growth on her liver and has to undergo chemo-therapy to reduce it. Paisleigh is at Cook's Children's Hospital. Prayers are needed.

Concerns Update

Sharion Price (Jack Wright's sister) is mending well and wanted to express how appreciative she is for all the prayers and cards.

Prayer List

Hank & Francis Averette; Brian Basaldua; Dennis Betts; Bill Brown; Brad Bundick; Bill Butler; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Wayne Gunn; Winford Hambright; Roberta Hamil; Letha Hooper; Jennifer Jones; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Sharion Price; Hector Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Janelle Shirley; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; James & Janet Wesson; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley; Marilyn Upshaw and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Why was Daniel put into the lions' den?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

It was Mary Magdalene who ran to Peter and John after finding the tomb empty, crying, "They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulcher and we know not where they have laid him."

Events

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the "Speaking the Truth in Love" program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Singing Seminar

Myron Bruce will be here to conduct a "Singing Seminar" on April 6th and 7th. Please plan to attend and learn more about how we can improve our singing in our worship unto the Lord.

Office News

The "New Mexico Children's Home" will be here Tuesday, March 5th for a food pick up. They are requesting **Aluminum Foil**. Monetary donations are also accepted.

STF Group #1 will have their luncheon this morning in the Annex. All visitors are welcome.

Hold Fast

Hold fast to the gospel of Christ (I Cor. 15:1-2). This means that we will obey and live the gospel.

Hold fast to what is good (I Thess. 5:21). This means that we are keeping evil out of our lives and clinging to the virtuous things.

Hold fast to heavenly hope, confidence and rejoicing (Heb. 3:6). This means that we will always be optimistic and expressing our joy in the Lord.

Hold fast to the confession in Jesus as the Christ (Heb. 4:14). This means that we will be telling others about Him and how He saves.

—Selected

February 3rd, 2019	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Craig Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	Dex Dennard	Richard Siler
Second Prayer	Jacob Carson	Gary Loving
Closing Prayer	Charles Wood	Cody Wesson
Lord's Supper (Scripture Reading)	<u>Bill Brown</u>	
West...	Don Easlon	Richard Siler
	Doug Guynn	Communion
	Cody Wesson	(In Library)
East...	Dex Dennard	
	Dan Igo	
	Jr. Munoz	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Larry May - 638-3990 *Deacon*; Josh Wells 770-6753 *Pulpit*; Scot Straw 288-4533 *Table*; Richard Siler 556-22151— *Song Leaders*; Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Sermons*; Tommy Garcia 638-2702 *Collections*; Tommy Garcia

Sunday AM

"David's Charge to Solomon"
(I Chron. 28:1:10)

Sunday PM

"How to Overcome the World"
(John 16:33)

Our Records

Bible Class... 79
Morning Worship...125
Evening Worship...66
Wednesday...64
Contribution...\$4,828.50