

Eisenhower Church of Christ

False Religion Deceives

The words “religion” and “Christianity” are not synonyms; they do not have the same meaning. It is true that Christianity is a religion, but all that is said and done in the name of religion is not Christianity. In fact, many religions are altogether contrary to the Christian religion. It is also observed that many of the rituals, practices, and teachings which are done in the name of Christ are not Christianity.

Religion That Is Wrong

Paul admitted that his former religion as a Jew was a false religion. That religion, he honestly claimed, was “our religion,” a religion that the Jews had developed to suit their own inclinations. It was a religion of sectarian ambitions (Acts 26:5). Paul spoke of his religion as “the Jews’ religion” and a religion he zealously followed (Galatians 1:13-14). In his becoming a Christian he renounced the false religion of the Pharisees.

The Athenians were very religious and endeavored to honor all gods. Lest they should slight any they raised an image “to the unknown God.” Paul, now a Christian, refutes their vain though zealous religion and sets before them the true God and Savior. Some few of the Athenians then turned from the false religion to the true (Acts 17:16-34).

The Hebrew people were zealous of their religion. However, Paul rebuked them, not for their much zeal, nor for the fact that they were religious—but because their religion was not according to knowledge of the truth. Their religion was according to their own established laws of righteousness (Romans 10:1-3).

Some Deceived By False Religion

James speaks of a man who was religious but deceived in his religion. “If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his own tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man’s religion is vain” (James 1:26). Although he was religious, his religion did not count with God; “this man’s religion is vain.”

A religion based on the doctrines and commandments of men is also an empty religion that is unprofitable before God. It was true that the false religion was one which drew near to Christ in word, giving lip service to Him, but it was heartless religion based on the teachings of men and not of God (Matthew 15:8-9).

The Sadducees were religious but deceived in their religion. Jesus rebuked them by saying, “Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God” (Matthew 22:29)

Getting Religion

True religion is something we do; not something that mysteriously happens to us. James speaks of “Pure religion and undefiled before God” as a religion of doing (James 1:27). God approves the religion of one who “worketh righteousness” (Acts 10:34-35). His commandments are righteous (Psalm 119:172). The religion that is God approved is the religion that does whatever God commands or instructs one to do. The doers of the word...the doer of the work” is the one that is blessed of God (James 1:21-25).

Religion of Conscience

Some depend on their conscience in religion. If conscience approves they are satisfied with their religion. If the conscience approves they are satisfied with their religion. If the conscience is a safe guide in religion, much time and sacrifice has been wasted by God in giving His will to man, and by man in his attempts to know and do the will of God. If conscience is a safe and true guide in religion why is one of the Catholic Religion, another one a Universalist, another one a Sabbatarian, and another something else? Paul condemned partisan at Corinth (I Corinthians 1:12-13). Jesus prayed that those who believed in Him would be one in that faith (John 17:21).

If conscience is a safe guide in religion, then why was it wrong for Paul to persecute (even unto death) the followers of Christ? Paul said, “I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many

things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 26:9). He had at another time stated, “I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day” (Acts 23:1). He spoke of the times he persecuted Christians, even giving his voice unto their death.

One True Religion

There is the straight and narrow road that leads to life (Mt. 7:13-14). Jesus said “I am the way, the truth and the life” (John 14:6). The way of truth, and truth alone, leads to life in Christ. One should examine their religion in the light of truth. One should realize that one possibly could be religiously wrong, deceived by false religions. True religion is the believing and obeying the commands of God as revealed in the Holy Scripture. Conscience and feelings are not indications of acceptance with God.

God has given us the truth for our salvation. Let us seek it and obey it.

—Southside’s Salute

Concerns Update

Glenna McCarty is in a lot of pain. Her left knee is worse than the right. Glenna was expected to be released from Madison to go home.

Bill Bayless was taken to Madison Health Resort for rehab. He is not doing well at this time and is still in some pain. Bill is in Room #202.

Wilene Wright has been able to attend church services several times. Her last tests were okay, however, Wilene does have some hearing loss in both ears.

Jean Hambright is doing well. She is sitting up and in good spirits. Jean is also at Madison Health Resort.

Prayer List

Jerry Anderson; Elaine Armentrout; Cody & Kala Ausbrook; Bill Bayless; Velma Betts; Susan Bosse; Elsie Bradford; Beth Carrell; Neva Carrigan; Don & Hazel Cavanaugh; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; Jewell Bettes-Dennard; Doug Dowell; James Drake; Jake & Summer Finley; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Burt & Anna Groves; Winford & Jean Hambright; Linda Horton; Lon Howard; Susan Lee; Kathy Marshall; Shannon McAfee; Elder & Glenna McCarty; Caleista Millican; Loy Mitchell; Juan & Estella Morolez; Allison & Nathan Moyers; Judy Phillips; Evan Rector; Elvia Ruckman; Carmen Settle; Charles Simmons; Nancy Slife; Marilyn Upshaw; Bré elle Watts; Lisa Wells; Wilene Wright

Shut-Ins

Mildred Bell; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Lester Whisenant.

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

Events

Branyon May will present a “Documentary Report” on **Noah’s Ark** Saturday March 21st. Since this will be an (all day) session, we will have a potluck luncheon around noon. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors.

The **New Mexico Children’s Home** will be here Tuesday, March 3rd for a food drive. They are requesting Nestle’s Quik and Kool Aid.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Holy Spirit....What Book and Chapter?

Last Week’s Bible Quiz answer...

The land that Genesis was referring to when it said, “The gold of that land is good; there is bedellium and the onyx stone” was Havilah.

FYI

Denny Wilson is hosting a weekly radio program called “**Take Aim**” at 6:30 each Tuesday night. Tune your radio program to the gospelradionetwork.org. Feel free to please pick up a business card on the youth table in the foyer.

Watch “*In Search of the Lord’s Way*” every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

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.

Upcoming Wednesday Night

Devotional Speakers

March 4th—Dex Dennard
March 11th—Allen Weakland
March 18th—Trinidad Wood
March 25th—Larry May

Song Leaders

Clint Titlow
Dex Dennard
John Wood
Denny Wilson

Thank You

Devida & the Eisenhower Church of Christ,

Your prayers have gotten me a good report from the doctors. I did my 6 weeks tests to see if any glands have swollen. So far they haven’t. I don’t have to take chemo and I feel fine. They want to do a biopsy on my thyroid gland to check it out. Please keep me in your prayers; it has helped me get through these tests. I like your flyer that you send out.

Love you & God Bless
Patsy Montgomery

Dear Brothers and Sisters at Eisenhower,

My most hardy & cordially thanks to you for all the prayers on my behalf while I was in the hospital. Love to all Christians at Eisenhower.

Yours in Christ, Marilyn Upshaw

Office News

Odessa Christian School’s “**Eighteenth West Texas Christian Track Meet**” is right around the corner, April 18th, at Ratliffe Stadium. They are taking requests for ad space at this time for the program. The deadline for sponsorship and ad sales is March 3rd.

Remember to “**Save the Date**” May 16th, 2015. This is the day that Craig Wesson and Kallie Culp will be united in Holy Matrimony. An invitation will follow.

“**Strengthening the Family**” Group #1 will meet in the Annex for a potluck luncheon following this morning’s service. All the visitors are invited to join them.

Food for thought...

Give to a pig when it grunts and a child when it cries and you will have a good pig and a bad child.

Bear in mind that children of all ages have one thing in common. They close their ears to advice and open their eyes to example.

March 1, 2015

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Charles Wood
Denny Wilson
Allen Weakland
Charles Wood
Bill Brown
Jr. Munoz
Cody Wesson

P.M.

Charles Wood
Jacob Carson
Allen Weakland
Charles Wood
Tony Marrs
Bill Butler
Clint Titlow

Lord's Supper

West...

Jeff Wesson

Ed Fisher

Josh Wells

Communion

Dylan Straw

(In Library)

East...

Craig Wesson

Dex Dennard

Isaiah Armendarez

Our Records

Bible Class...65

Morning Worship...110

Evening Worship...64

Wednesday...92

Contribution...\$4,655.00