

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Fables

A fable is a fictitious story, which seems an accurate assessment in Paul's encouragement to Timothy (I Timothy 1:4). He tells this young Christian to seek and listen to the truth rather than the fictitious stories being circulated by the religious men of that day. Should we not also heed his advice and seek and listen to the truth rather than non-truth? This redundant line of thought does not deserve commentary, for each of us realizes that we are all commanded to seek the truth, for the truth shall make us free (John 8:32).

Paul also addressed the subject of fables in 2 Timothy 4:1-3. There he says that some will not only "not seek" truth but will, in fact, turn from it. Truth be known, many of that day did turn from truth and turned their attention to fables in its place. They preferred fictitious stories over Christ's story of salvation. Such is also the case today. Many preachers, elders and teachers, who in times past demanded of themselves the use of God's truth, yet in their latter days embrace and accept a fable or two. How sad to see a lifetime of good work tarnished by fable-seeking in late life. They preached the Word, they were instant in season and out of season, but the time came that they would not endure sound doctrine and sought for themselves their own teachers who would scratch their itching ears (2 Timothy 4).

These fictitious fables are also called by our Lord as "man's commandments" or human teaching. Paul told another young Christian in Titus 1:14, "***Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.***" Peter also mentioned the possibility of following "***cunningly devised fables***" (2 Peter 1:16) but he adds that Christians will not follow these.

What are some of these fictitious fables being batted back and forth in the religious community which some of our brethren are embracing and accepting? One is the blatant disregard for the command of God in Romans 16:17. Plainly and simply Paul writes, "***Mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.***" This is a command not an opinion! He states, and allows no room for opinion, "Mark them." (Them) referring to those who cause division of the Lord's body. Certainly this is never a pleasant thing to do, but dividing the body of Christ does not bring pleasantness either. It is only because of generation after generation of apathy among the Lord's people that denominations have been allowed to begin and survive. Had we "marked" and "avoided" as commanded we would probably not be facing such an onslaught of liberal ideas and practices.

Who would promote such fable-attraction? The advocates of denominationalism and those who desire unity with such would. Men within and without the brotherhood who promote everything from passive conduct to actually allowing denominational men into our pulpits are eager to follow fables, cunningly devised or blatantly false. And, what are some of these sugarcoated fables which we are being encouraged to swallow? Here are a few. Some are saying that Romans 14 allows the individual to decide for himself what is acceptable and not acceptable in worship. They feel that if they are comfortable with observance of the Lord's Supper on a day other than Sunday that it is no one's business but theirs. Furthermore, they feel that if they are marked and avoided for it that they are the ones offended, rather than Christ. Others feel that the instrument used in worship can, and should, be incorporated into worship because, they claim, it is not a viable issue anyway. And on and on we could go.

One who sets himself up as God's authority is asking to be destroyed by the destroyer of fables. The followers of such may think that they are seeking Christ's salvation but His salvation is reserved for the true followers of God and His divine truth. Whatever we do, whatever we teach,

whatever we promote must be under God's authoritative pattern and for the glory of Christ and His church. Paul said,

“Whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him”. (Colossians 3:17)

—Shan Jackson

Prayer Request

Prayers were requested for **Sara Velasquez** who was taken to the ER last Wednesday evening. Sara is dealing with some health issues. The doctors are trying to find a way to help her. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Russ Montgomery was admitted into Adena Hospital in Waverly, OH Monday, March 7th, with pneumonia. Devida and her family is requesting prayers for him.

Concerns Update

Craig Wesson's knee surgery on March 3rd in Dallas went well. He is home recuperating.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Betty Branson; Bobbie Braun; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Todd Drake; John Ford; Bill Gibbons; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Linda Horton; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Helen Jones; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Anna McGlothlin; Elder McCarty; Jack McCarty; Anna McGlothlin; Patty Montgomery; Caimee Mooney; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Laura Olivas; Connie Phelps; Earlene Poses; Elvia Ruckman; Montrella Ruffner; Andrew Schwarz; Christa Bella Sellers; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Lisa Wells; Craig Wesson; Ann Wilson; Toya Zambelli

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Anna Groves; Roberta Hamil; Winford Hambright; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant.

Events

The “STF” group #2 will meet in the annex today for a luncheon. Our visitors are invited.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Which two disciples were the first to hear that Jesus had risen from the dead?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

A Roman Centurion commanded one hundred men.

FYI

Watch “*In Search of the Lord's Way*” every Sunday morning at 6:30 am on KOSA, channel 7. **Please note the time change.**

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.

Thank You

Dear Eisenhower Church of Christ Family,

Thank you for providing Christmas presents for 25 of our children here at New Mexico Christian Children's Home! What a blessing! You are helping us give the message to the kids that God loves them. We really appreciate your investment into their lives and well-being. We put the extra items you sent into our grocery/clothing room so they are available when needed.

With gratitude,
Diane Cox
NMCCH

Graduation Showers...

A graduation party/shower is planned for **Ethan Christian** on Sunday, April 17th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Annex (Middle Room). Ethan will be graduating from Odessa High School. He is the son of Gloria Craig and grandson of Virgie Bartee. Everyone is invited.

Natalynn Wood will be graduating from Permian High School this year. A graduation party/shower is planned for her on Sunday, May 15th 2:00-4:00 p.m. Everyone is invited.

Office News

The "New Mexico Children's Home" will be back in Odessa Tuesday, May 31st, 2016 for a food pick up. They are requesting **Real Mayonnaise**. If you can help out with this request it is greatly appreciated. Monetary donations also accepted.

A-W-O-L

You know the meaning of A-W-O-L, especially if you served in the military. To be AWOL receives the harshest of penalties from superiors who know how to dish out punitive measures. The nation's security depends on men and women who answer the call to duty even when it is inconvenient, or when the serviceman/woman is tired, or even on a holiday.

Far too many Christians are also AWOL. They are away from their duties and from the worship of their Lord "without leave" "without permission." Does God deserve less commitment to duty than does our military? Is the President of the United States worthy of more service than the Commander-in-Chief of the Universe? Is the nation's security of greater value than your soul's eternal security? Think on this!
Bulletin Digest

March 13, 2016

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer
Lord's Supper
West...

A.M.

Jeff Wesson
John Carroll
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
Scot Straw
Bill Butler
Bill Tolbert

Craig Wesson
Bill Ryan
Josh Weakland

P.M.

Jeff Wesson
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
Isaiah Armendarez
Don Easlon
Jr. Munoz

Josh Wells
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Cody Wesson
Jacob Carson
Isaiah Armendarez

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 556-5547; *Deacon*: Richard Siler 362-1392; *Pulpit*: John Wood 405-7444;
Table: Josh Wells 770-6753; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Chris Butler 362-7486;
Collections: Tony Marrs 553-7349

Sunday AM

"Words of a King"
(Ecclesiastes 8:1-4)

Sunday PM

"Wisdom"
(James 3:13-18)

Our Records

Bible Class... 75
*Morning Worship...*116
*Evening Worship...*58
*Wednesday...*73
Contribution...\$4,280.00

