

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Zeal according to Knowledge

Many Christians ask why they cannot have the zeal they see in the denominational world, especially since this is the church of the Lord. Paul said something about that type of zeal in Romans 10:1-3, ***“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness and going about to establish righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.”***

This zeal, which the denominational world is caught up in, is based on emotionalism. The question asked most often by these people is, “Do you know Jesus?” They do not ask, “Do you know His teachings?” What they mean is, “Do you have, that right feeling?” or “Do you have that warm saved feeling inside of you?” Paul felt that persecuting the Christians was the will of God. Many men today do not hesitate in telling someone that really does not matter whether you go by the Bible or not because God will judge your heart and not whether it is right or wrong according to His Word. How sad, our Father wasting all that time teaching obedience and then to say He really does not care! Jesus said to the contrary, ***“If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free”*** (John 8:31-32).

It is indeed a serious matter because of the scope of this type of attitude. It is not the attitude of a few, it is the prevailing view. On a recent Sunday morning television broadcast, a panel of five religious men of various faith’s, were answering questions asked by the viewers. The topic of the one church was brought up. The Jewish Rabbi stated that according to the Christian faith, Jesus’ mission was one of love, and thus it would not matter how many churches you have. Three denominational preachers agreed with him on this view.

These men claim to teach the Gospel, but leave out the words that make up the Gospel. Jesus said, ***“He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him; the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day”*** (John 12:48). Jesus is not saying that these are just more words of love for you. These are truths that you will answer for.

This writer is not against zealous people. Paul said to Titus, ***“Looking for that blessed hope and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works”*** (Titus 2:13-14). Our Lord wants zealous people, but He wants them zealous “according to knowledge.” In this day of instant everything, men try to get around the “chore” of reading God’s Word for themselves. They call for the “clergy” to develop quick and short formulas to use in personal work. This is the greatest mistake made by anyone.

The Bible will, when read with a love for the truth, give one a well-grounded zeal that does not fade with the change of the wind. Acts 20:32 states it well, ***“And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.”*** There is no instant way to a steadfast unmovable faith; it must come from a personal study of the Word of God.

There is a formula for reaching a desired level of this zeal. First, Paul said this zeal must be “according to knowledge”. This means studying the Word of God for oneself. Second, one must have a love for the truth to avoid believing lies (2 Thessalonians 2:10-11). Third, Paul said the Jews would not be

saved because they would not submit themselves unto the righteousness of God (Romans 10:3). There must be a submission by all to those commands found in the Scriptures.

The desire to be zealous as a Christian is a good desire. Let everyone everywhere be thankful for those zealous men of the restoration. They were truly zealous men according to knowledge. It would be difficult to think of these men fighting the battles of truth with anything less than the truth. The battle is not over. Take up the sword of truth, love that truth and give your life to defending that truth.

—Author Unknown

Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers, all those who have lost loved ones or who are now sick because of Covid 19. This virus has affected so many lives throughout the world. Let us pray that God will see us through this storm and that He will guide those who are looking for a cure.

Concerns Update

The results from tests done came back that **Maddie Clay** (Devida's great niece) does have MS. She is 16 years old. Please keep Maddie in your prayers.

Prayer List

Jack Aaron; Brian Basaldua; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Lavern Couch; Emma Craig; Kim Drake; Loyce Driver; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Kyle Foshee; Thomas Garcia; Hattie Gilmore; Winford Hambright; Irene Hernandez; Leo Holloway; Letha Hooper; Vertie Howard; Liz Leach; Betty Leeth; Charles Lewis; Jed Martin; Alyssa May; Ora McAfee; Krysta McMullen; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Jr. Munoz; Maxine Newton; Tanya Nichols; Juanita Orosco; Trina Plyler; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Danna Robertson; Janelle Shirley; Susan Simmons; Teresa Simmons; Princess Tadashi; Mark Thompson; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; Jackie Wallace; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Jay Wesson; Tom Wilcox; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Robertta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley

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

Youth

Bible Quiz Question (Multiple Choice)

To what event in His life did Jesus compare Jonah's stay in the great fish? (a) His gestation in Mary's womb (b) the wilderness temptation or (c) His entombment

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

It is true that King Saul gave his daughter Michal to another man while she was still married to David.

Events

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

Office News

NOTE:

We miss being able to fellowship together with our church family. Love ya'll! Praying this will pass soon.
The Carsons

Food for Thought...

He who accepts evil without protesting against it, is really cooperating with it.

“Cart before the Horse”

This old saying, widely used to clarify priority, is probably lost to our younger people. It requires thought if not experience. Horses don't push do they? They pull. Therefore, even if we have all the right components, if they are not put together properly it is of no real value.

In Romans 1:16 we are told that the gospel is God's power unto salvation. In Matthew 28:18-20 we are told to spread it. In the first century, people believed it and did it, at least some did. Today, people believe that do it. At least some do. The wild success of the first century compared to growth that is mediocre at best today, is a curiosity to me.

To unravel this in my mind I first look at differences. With few exceptions, they were poor and had nothing but their lives and their mouth. We on the other hand have money, comfort, mass media, postal service, cell phones, computers, etc. From a logical point of view, the success rate should be higher in our time. But, it isn't.

Churches now have power point. You don't even have to look at the preacher, nor does he have to look at you. The youth have tons of specialty programs meant to hold appeal. However, it seems all they are learning is that churches must have appeal. Where is the knowledge? Well, you can have both you know? Yes, we could, but we don't. No?

Ask some kids that you know some simple Bible questions; assuming that you know the answers yourself. I tell you, believing is under constant threat unless you know why you believe. Teaching becomes non-existent without fervor of commitment. The first century church saved souls because they loved souls. They had nothing but the Word and the belief that it was true. That's all they needed. That's all we need today. Programs and comfort are great, but that's not going to get you through a death or divorce. There must be enough knowledge of the doctrine and nature of God to create a change in your life and therein lies the problem. If the power of God doesn't cause a change, then you don't have it. Stop trying to make the message appeal to people. It does already to those who want hope. Those people died rather than give up that hope and we have trouble getting people to Bible study who will then show up for worship to profess their loyalty.

—Tim Turpin

Sunday, April 12th, 2020

Due to the Coronavirus spread in Odessa and surrounding areas, the Eisenhower Church of Christ elders have made the decision to “Live Stream” all their services on Facebook since we can have no more than 10 people in attendance. Below are our scheduled services:

Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service -- 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Class -- 7:00 p.m.

Sunday AM

“Resurrection and the Life”
(John 11:25-26)

Sunday PM

“The Rule of God”

(Daniel 4:35)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder of the Month:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547 – *Deacon:* Richard Siler 556-2151–
Pulpit: Josh Wells 770-6753–*Table:* Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 – *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990–
Recording Sermons: Tommy Garcia 638-2702– *Collections:* Tommy Garcia 638-2702