

Eisenhower Church of Christ

What Does The Lord Require?

As Moses prepared Israel to enter the promise land, he wrote a book, called Deuteronomy, in which he reviewed their history up to that time. He also recounted the law that God had delivered to him on Sinai. Amid the details of this law, Moses included a summary statement of what Israel must do to please God. In Deuteronomy 10:12-13 he said, ***“Now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require from you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and love Him and to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and to keep the Lord’s commandments and His statutes which I am commanding you today for your good.”***

As we consider this statement we see that God required four things of His people. First, He required that they fear Him. In this case, fear means to revere and to respect. This is an attitude of submission to higher authority. If Israel feared God, they would subjugate their will to His will. Even the Son of God practiced this kind of submission. In the Garden of Gethsemane Jesus prayed, ***“...yet, not as I will, but as You will”*** (Matthew 26:39). If we fear God today, we will do no less than what the Son of God did in this regard.

Second, God required Israel to walk in all His ways and to love Him. This denotes a way of life that is governed by God’s will. Walking in God’s ways and loving Him is essentially the same thing. In the scriptures to love God means to obey Him. In John 14:15 the Lord said, ***“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”*** Thus, if we love God we will obey Him. We cannot love God and walk our own way.

Third, God required Israel to serve Him with all their heart and soul. This is how God separates true disciples from fake ones. Our Lord made this distinction in many of His confrontations with the scribes and Pharisees. These men were considered the best keepers of the Law of Moses, but the Lord said their hearts were far from God. (Matthew 15:8-9) They were insincere in their worship and often set aside God’s law in favor of their man-made traditions. God requires sincere worship and true disciples will not fail to serve Him with all their heart and soul.

Fourth, God required that Israel keep His commandments and statutes. In a word, this obedience, and it is the foundation of being acceptable to God. In fact, each of the preceding requirements is also based upon obedience. The bottom line is that God requires all who come to Him to obey Him. There is no wiggle room in this requirement. We either obey God or we don’t. It is each person’s choice, of course, but God will not suspend His commandments if we choose to ignore them.

The final element of Moses’ statement is crucial. At the end of Deuteronomy 10:13 Moses said that the things God commanded Israel were for their good. Later in Deuteronomy Moses spoke in detail of all the good things that would come to Israel if they obeyed God’s law. He also warned them of the evil that would befall them if they disobeyed. Knowing that God’s laws were for their good should have motivated them to faithfully keep it. It should also motivate us to keep God’s will today, for Paul said that godliness holds promise for the present life and for the life to come as well (I Timothy 4:8).

What the Lord requires of us is not complicated. It is a simple matter of each of us deciding to put His will first in our lives. If we do so, good things will come to us in life, and at the end of time, we will receive a home in heaven for eternity. With such a reward in view, it just makes sense to do all the Lord requires.

—Fred Dominguez

Prayer Requests

Please keep **Lindsey Wells** in your prayers. She was involved in a bad automobile accident last Monday morning, April 13th. She was taken to the hospital for treatment. Lindsey is really banged up but was well enough to be released to go home. Please pray that she will have a speedy recovery.

Linda Latch (Jeff Wesson's co-worker's wife) recently had surgery for colon cancer. Please keep her in your prayers that everything will be okay and that Linda has a full recovery.

Jed Martin began immune therapy at MD Anderson last week. He is being treated for cancer. Jed needs our prayers.

Also, prayers have been requested for **James Wesson**, Jeff's father. He fell last week and was taken to the hospital, but did not have any broken bones and was able to go home. Keep both James and Janet in your prayers.

Prayer List

Jack Aaron; Brian Basaldua; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Maddie Clay; Lavern Couch; Emma Craig; Kim Drake; Loyce Driver; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Kyle Foshee; Thomas Garcia; Hattie Gilmore; Winford Hambricht; 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

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley

Youth

Bible Quiz Question (Multiple Choice)

Who put Jesus in the tomb?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

Jesus compared Jonah's stay in the great fish to His entombment.

Events

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

Office News

My Dear Church Family, Just a note to say how much I love you all and to send some of my "Blessings" that are shared to me. I am always praying for everyone! I'm still healing! My doctor is pleased. Jackie Rex

Congratulations to Jason and Savannah Moore on the birth of their baby boy, **Jameson Wyatt** who was born on Wednesday, April 8th. He weighed 8 lbs. 13 oz. Mother and baby are doing fine. Melissa Moore is the very proud grandmother.

Every Lord's Day

There is a common practice among some religious people which God deems as unacceptable. It pertains to the frequency in which The Lord's Supper is observed. The sentiment exists among many that it does not matter how often one partakes of the Communion as an act of worship to commemorate the Lord's death. Some suppose that if one partakes once a lifetime this is sufficient. Others surmise one can eat the Lord's Table on a daily basis as an acceptable practice. Both of these extremes have one common characteristic—both ignore what the Bible teaches about how often the Lord's Supper is to be engaged in by worshippers of God. If you, dear reader, are one of those who could care less about what God says in the Bible then what I am about to say is unlikely to persuade you. But if you are one who truly desires to follow the divine pattern of worship, then you will appreciate what the Bible teaches pertaining to this topic. Consider the following.

The practice of the first century church was to assemble every Lord's Day to engage in certain acts of worship to God. One of these avenues of worship was to commemorate the Savior's death by observing the Lord's Supper. When the Master instituted this meal for the church he simply instructed his followers to engage in this spiritual act, without indicating the frequency with which it would be observed (Matthew 26:26-29). It was not until later, once the church had been inaugurated, that we are informed that the early church observed the Lord's Supper weekly (Acts 20:7). The only way in which the early church could have known to engage in the Lord's Supper with weekly frequency is because they were taught to do so by the inspired apostles (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:42).

This is why churches of Christ today observe the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day. We seek to follow the divine pattern set forth on the pages of the Bible. Don't allow yourself to be deceived by those preachers who clamor that the frequency of the Supper makes no difference. Know that there is no biblical authority for those today who observe the Lord's Supper annually, semi-annually, or quarterly. This practice is what the Bible calls "will-worship" (Colossians 2:23) because it is based on the whims of man and not biblical authority.

—Stephen Wiggins

Sunday, April 19th, 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

"Determination to Suffer"
(Mark 15:21-26)

Sunday PM

"Three P's of Satan"
(Luke 8:4-8)

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