

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Immorality Destroys Souls

Introduction

After hearing the word “morals,” a little boy asked his father for the definition. “Well son, pretend that a person comes into the family’s store and accidentally pays too much for an item,” said the father. “If I were ‘moral,’ I would split the extra money with your uncle.” Like the father portrayed above, it seems that many have warped ideas about morals. As in the days of Isaiah, there are multitudes today who “call evil good and good evil” (Isaiah 5:20)

Immorality Denied

The world defies the idea that a divine, universal ethical standard exists. Whether Hollywood or Washington be considered, we are being told more and more that morals are determined by the individual alone. “If it feels right to you, then do it,” they tell us.

Numerous examples demonstrate the absurd and unreasonable extremes to which many such individuals, groups, and governments will go. In South Carolina, for instance, a woman was convicted of child abuse because she used cocaine while pregnant. Yet in Florida, it was ruled that a pregnant woman could not be prosecuted for purposely shooting herself in the stomach. So, who is right? Is it the individual, society, or government that dictates what is moral?

It is God who decides what is right and wrong. Psalm 145:17 declares ***“The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all His works.”*** No wonder Paul wrote, “Yea, let God be true, but every man a liar” (Romans 3:4). All would do well to remember Psalm 18:30: ***“As for God, His way is perfect: the word of the Lord is tried.”***

Immorality Depicted

The Bible pictures immorality as a personal disgrace. Jeremiah 6:15; 8:12; and Zephaniah 3:5 imply that righteous and reasonable people understand that sin, immoral actions and activities, cause shame and embarrassment. Also, immorality is viewed by God as a social downfall. Proverbs 14:34 says that ***“Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people”*** biblical and secular history both show that God’s hand is with those nations who abide by His will, but against those societies which refuse His way.

Along with these depictions, the Word of God reveals immorality to be an eternal disaster: When listing various groups of immoral people, including adulterers, drunkards, and homosexuals, Paul said the souls of such ***“shall not inherit the kingdom of God”*** (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

Immorality Defeated

The solution to the problem of immorality is the Gospel—and it must be declared. Jesus commanded that it be declared (Mark 16:15). The early Christians boldly declared it (Romans 6:13). Likewise, we must faithfully declare it. (2 Timothy 4:2)

The power of the Gospel has been displayed in the lives of many. For example, immorality had been defeated by the Gospel at Corinth. After listing some of those immoral groups who would miss Heaven, Paul said ***“and such were some of you”*** (1 Corinthians 6:11) The Gospel

had changed their lives and their destinies.

The results delivered by the heeded Gospel, therefore, are three—Godly individuals, exalted societies and Heaven—bound souls.

Conclusion

It is true that we live in a world where immorality abides and abounds. It is also true that the consequences of immorality are quite serious and everywhere in evidence. But we are not helpless. God's standard—His Word—gives hope to all who will hear and heed it (Matthew 7:24-27). Will you?

—Preston Silcox

Prayer Requests

Ronny Wood (Shona's husband) had surgery for a ruptured Achilles tendon on Thursday, May 11th in Midland. She requested prayers for him to have a successful surgery and speedy recovery. Please keep Ronny in your prayers as he recuperates.

Amanda Zuniga has requested prayers for a family friend, **Ramiro Rodriquez**, who is battling stage 4 colon cancer. He is in his second round of chemo. Ramiro is 28 years old. Please keep him in your daily prayers.

Concerns Update

Jon Mooney (Caimee's father) had a successful (two stents) heart surgery last Tuesday and was able to go home on Thursday, May 4th. Pray for his complete recovery.

Melida Frazier (Devida's sister) had her first cataract eye surgery last Monday. The surgery went well. Her right eye will be done on Monday, May 22nd.

Prayer List

Wayne Anderson; Maria Baeza; Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Naomi and Adelynn Bustillos; Glenna Callendar; Arthur Campos; Sylvia Campos; LaDonna Chism; Cathy Eastwood; Mark Erwin; Melida Frazier; Becky Gillespie; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Lon & Lana Howard; Shane Lester; Charles Lewis; Jose Managbao; Jon Mooney; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Joe Morrison; Rudy Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Linda Straw; Linda Tate; Jurlean Warren; Terresia Weaver; Carolyn Wilkerson; Ron Williams; John Wood,

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Glenna Callendar; LaVern Couch, James & Joyce Drake; Ronda Lyne; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley & Marilyn Upshaw.

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

Events

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

The "**78th Annual Meeting of the Pecos River Encampment**" June 17-19 Family Camp—No Dorms; June 19-25 Full Camp. Paul Shero is the Speaker. Their flyer is posted on our bulletin board.

Office News

Sunday, May 28th we will have a **“Potluck Luncheon”** after our morning service followed by our P.M. service. Our visitors are welcome to join us.

Our **“2023 Summer Series”** begins June 7th and goes through August 30th. Our first speaker will be Sean Prather from Monahans. We have our invitation flyers on the table in the foyer for you to use to invite your family, friends and neighbors.

Our **“Vacation Bible School”** will be July 24th-26th. The theme is: **“The Flood”**. Bring your children and invite your neighborhood children also.

The items requested for our **“Food Pantry”** this week are: dried pasta and canned meats.

Three Steps to Heaven

Hell was not prepared for us (Matthew 25:4); rather Heaven was (John 14:2-3). Anyone who does the will of the Father can go there (Revelations 22:14). A journey to Heaven really takes only three steps.

As we set our sights on the heavenly city, the first step we must make is the step **“out of self.”** Jesus told His disciples that if they would follow Him, it would require self-denial: **“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.”** (Matthew 16:24). Once a person has taken this step, God will be placed at the top of his or her priority list (Matthew 6:33).

The next step for one to take toward Heaven is the step **“into Christ.”** He is **“the way”** to Heaven (John 14:6), our only access to the Father (Romans 5:2). After the first step, this one is natural, but it is not completed until one has heard the Gospel (Romans 10:17), believed in Jesus (John 8:24), repented of all sin (Luke 13:3-5), confessed Christ’s name (Romans 10:10) and been baptized to have all sin washed away (Acts 22:16). Then, one must remain faithful to God until death (Revelation 2:10) to be ready to take the final step.

The last step on the journey to Heaven is the step **“into glory.”** Paul said that **“flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption”** (1 Corinthians 15:50). In this step, we will be transformed from physical beings into spiritual ones. This will happen either upon our physical death or the return of Christ.

Then there will be a judgment (Hebrews 9:27). What a scene it will be! All nations will be gathered together and then separated. The righteous will be set on the Shepherd’s right hand and the unrighteous on His left hand. For the disobedient, it will be a terrible day. They will be sent away to everlasting punishment. For those who have taken the correct steps, it will be a great day! They shall inherit the kingdom that was prepared for them. (Matthew 25:31-46).

If you want to go to Heaven, then remember the three steps that will get you there.

—Darrell Powell

| May 14, 2023 | A.M. | P.M. |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Announcements | Allen Weakland | Allen Weakland |
| Song Leader | Steve Easlon | Craig Wesson |
| Sermon | Allen Weakland | Allen Weakland |
| Opening Prayer | Allen Weakland | Allen Weakland |
| Scripture | Craig Wesson | David Ryan |
| Second Prayer | Jr. Munoz | Larry May |
| Closing Prayer | Jon Roemisch | Don Easlon |

Lords Supper

Oliver Hernandez

Jeff Wesson

Caleb York

Trini Wood

Bill Ryan

Communion

(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Allen Weakland 254-8209 *Deacon:* Craig Wesson 934-4633 —
Pulpit: John Wood 413-7444 — *Table:* Bill Ryan 352-4871 — *Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson
934-4646 — *Recording Sermons:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 — *Collections:* Bill Ryan

Sunday AM

“Mother’s Day” (Ephesians 6:1-3)

Sunday PM

“Most Important Day” (Psalm 1:2)

Our Records

Bible Class... 66

Morning Worship...132

Evening Worship ... 69

Wednesday...69

Contribution...\$6,491.82