

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## If God Says It's Wrong (Part 2)

That which God calls wrong does not become right just because I used to do it. Those who obey the Gospel have repented; they have changed their minds about sin and thus changed their lives (Acts 3:19; 2 Cor. 7:9-10; Romans 12:2). It can be difficult to oppose the very activities that we once openly espoused, but that is exactly what Christians must do. The world may cry "Hypocrisy!" over the former liar who opposes dishonesty or the former bartender who opposes recreational drinking, but while a particular sin may have been a defining characteristic of my past, the child of God is a new creature with a new life (2 Cor. 5:17; Romans 6:4). Christians do not continue to commit or condone sins of their pasts; instead, they put those sins exactly where they belong; in the past (I Cor. 6:9-11; Romans 6:1-2).

That which God calls wrong does not become right just because I get paid to do it. Practically everyone would agree that since fornication is a sin (I Corinthians 6:18), it follows that prostitution is a sin. Since theft is a sin, then a Christian cannot be a career criminal (Eph. 4:28). What about lying? Jesus condemned dishonesty in the same breath as His condemnation of fornication and theft (Matthews 19:18-19). Some argue that a lie at work is acceptable if it helps to put food on the table. However, if my job requires me to be dishonest then I am doing the devil's work, not God's (John 8:44).

That which God calls wrong does not become right just because my family does it. "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:37). If I do not love Jesus the most then I do not love Jesus enough. I demonstrate a lack of love for Jesus if I allow the false religion of my parents to stand between me and the pure, undefiled and uncorrupted Gospel of Jesus Christ (Galatians 1:6-9). I also demonstrate a lack of love for Jesus if I choose to allow or turn a blind eye toward my children when they are "sowing their wild oats" rather than demonstrate a love for both God and them by doing everything possible to instruct them in the ways of righteousness. God loves my family even more than I do; He gave His Son to die for them (John 3:16). Yet God will not compromise truth and neither can we. Are we really showing the proper love for our families if we never do anything to lead them to Christ?

That which God calls wrong does not become right just because the preacher or the elders do it. Those who occupy roles of leadership in the Lord's church are still human and they can make mistakes (I Corinthians 9:27; I Timothy 5:19-20). Follow the good example that others set but only inasmuch as that example follows Christ (I Corinthians 11:1). If I allow myself to be misled or deceived, then I have failed to hold to God's Word (I Thessalonians 5:21; 2 Thessalonians 2:11-13).

God speaks to us through His Word. If God's Word says something is right, then it is right. If God's Word says it is wrong, then it is wrong. We cannot change the Lord (Hebrews 13:8). We cannot change His Word (Revelation 22:18-19). Let us be willing to change ourselves, to let God's Word change us and to approach life in the manner prescribed by the Giver of Life.

—Scott Cain

### ***Prayer Request***

Hannah Weakland has requested prayers for the Bauer family here in Odessa. Hannah's good friend's father, **Tom Bauer**, is under Hospice Care and her mother broke a toe. This family is in need of prayers at this time.

**Mary Brown** has not been feeling well. Please keep her in your prayers that she will get to feeling well again soon.

**Eisenhower Members** who are in need of daily prayers: Winford Hambricht, Bill Butler, Glenna McCarty, James and Joyce Drake, Jackie Rex, & James Weaver.

### ***Prayer List***

Tom Bauer; Gayle Bitner; Elsie Bradford; Wayne Bradford; Brad Bundick; Bill Butler; David Castor; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; James V. Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambricht; Shirley Harvey; Letha Hooper; Chris & Shirley Landers; Juan & Estella Morolez; Maxine Newton; Caydon Parker; Jackie Rex; Ida Rodriguez; Elvia Ruckman; Janelle Shirley; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; James Stephens; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Chuck Weaver; Jimmy Weaver; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Wanda Wheeler; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; John Wood; Jack Wright.

### ***Eisenhower's Shut-ins***

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley; and Lester Whisenant.

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...**

In what city was Paul when he met some people who said, "We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost"? When Paul explained the way more perfectly they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

#### **Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...**

God, seeing the wickedness of man said, "My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh; yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years." This quote was taken from the story of man before the flood. (Genesis 6)

### ***Events***

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

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.

## Office News

The “New Mexico Children’s Home” will be here Tuesday, September 4th—Need “**Instant Oatmeal**”. Monetary donations accepted.

### What Ever Happened to Hell?

If one listened only to the preaching and teaching that is done today, would you know that hell exists and is everlasting torment? I remember, not long ago, someone referring to “hell-fire and brimstone” preaching in a context that illustrated such preaching was a thing of the past. If that is true, we are not preaching today the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27).

Does hell exist? If one can believe in the concept of eternal paradise, then he should be able to believe in the concept of eternal punishment. All around us we see the dual nature of our existence. We see light contrasted with darkness (Genesis 1:4), good with evil (Matthew 5:45, just and unjust (Acts 24:15), flesh and spirit (Galatians 5:16, faith and sin (Romans 14:23. Given this dual nature, why would eternity not also have a dual nature?

Unfortunately, there are some well-known men in the church who now deny the existence of eternal punishment in favor of a kind of “soul annihilation”. The scriptures, however, could not be plainer. In Revelation 20:10 we read of the nature of hell. It tells us that the devil and his minions will be cast into the lake of fire and will be *“tormented day and night forever and ever.”* The meaning is plain, but, some will say, this refers to the devil, the beast and the false prophet, how does this pertain to us today? (Matthew 25:41) *“Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, depart from me, ye cursed into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.”* This place which was prepared for the devil and his angels, the place of “everlasting fire” is the same place unrepentant sinners will go and similarly, will be “tormented day and night forever and ever.”

How can we make this final conclusion? The passage in Matthew does not end at verse 41. Verse 46 is even more specific: *“And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.”* Punishment just like paradise; is eternal. We need to believe and to teach this. Someone once said to me, “What I don’t know about can’t hurt me.” Not knowing about hell can indeed hurt us! There is punishment for the wicked and such punishment that cannot be imagined! LET’S NOT GO THERE!

—Bulletin Digest

#### July 8, 2018

Announcements  
Song Leader  
Sermon  
Opening Prayer  
Scripture  
Second Prayer  
Closing Prayer

#### A.M.

Jeff Wesson  
Jaxon Straw  
Allen Weakland  
Jeff Wesson  
Dex Dennard  
Jacob Carson  
Tom Sorenson

#### P.M.

Jeff Wesson  
John Wood  
Allen Weakland  
Jeff Wesson  
Tom Sorenson  
Trinidad Wood  
Richard Siler

Lord's Supper

West...

Bill Tolbert  
Bill Ryan  
Craig Wesson

Cody Wesson  
Communion  
(In Library)

East...

Josh Wells  
Trinidad Wood  
Scot Straw

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder :* Jeff Wesson 561-5302 *Deacon:* Josh Wells 770-6753 *Pulpit:* Larry May 638-3990 *Table:* Cody Wesson 561-5302 *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties:* Chris Butler 362-7486  
*Collections:* Chris Butler 362-7486

**Sunday AM**

*“Heart of God”*  
*(2 Samuel 7:21)*

**Sunday PM**

*“Ask for the Old Paths”*  
*(Jeremiah 6:16)*

**Our Records**

*Bible Class... 67*  
*Morning Worship...113*  
*Evening Worship...62*  
*Wednesday...75*  
*Contribution...\$5,008.40*