

Eisenhower Church of Christ

“Those Folks Are Different”

There are many members of the church of Christ today who would react negatively to that analysis. They would say, “Oh, we are no different than any of the denominations around us.” To these, it is an embarrassment that they are considered to be different by the denominations. These would want to change the church into just another denomination, to legitimize and acquire instrumental music, to destroy the autonomy of the local congregation, to call the preacher, “pastor,” to get rid of the name “church of Christ,” et cetera, until the church is no longer distinctive from those around us. However, that would not be the way of God or Christ.

We read in the Scriptures that God has always demanded of His people that they be different. In Deuteronomy 14:2, Moses tells the children of Israel that they are different. He says, ***“For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.”*** The word “holy” means to be set apart, different.

God wanted the children of Israel to be a “peculiar people.” The New English Standard Version translates this phrase “treasured possession.” Certainly, something that is a treasured possession is different from everything else one has and is set apart.

In the New Testament as well, Peter quotes from this passage in Deuteronomy and applies it toward “Spiritual Israel” - i.e., Christians. Peter writes, ***“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light”*** (I Peter 2:9). God wants us, as Christians, to be different. Paul writes to Titus these words regarding Jesus— ***“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 2:14). Jesus died so that we could be different. We read in 2 Corinthians 6:17-18, ***“Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”*** In order to be God’s children, the church must be separate, distinct, unique; different.

So, are we different? Yes, we are, and I am glad that we are. Today, we live in a time when denominational churches around us are conforming to the world. We hear of denominations that condone abortion, homosexuality, fornication, adultery and other sinful things. The church of Christ does not condone such activities because God’s Word condemns these things. Instead of conforming to the way that the world would have the church, the church ought to be demanding of individuals that their lives be transformed through repentance and renewal of mind. In Romans 12:2 we read, ***“And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect, will of God.”***

Are we different? Yes, we are. We are different because we have been transformed by Christ to be a people who are holy, the children of God, separate from that which is sinful; different from the way the world would mold religion in its own image today. It is our differences from everyone else that define who we are as Christians. We should never be embarrassed of that!

The world and the denominations may think us “strange” (I Peter 4:4), but desiring to please God, I would not have it any other way. One day, Jesus will return and all will bow and God will be glorified, not because of our similarities with the world, but because of our differences (Matthew 25:34).

—Brock Kendall

Prayer Request

Emma Ochoa will have knee replacement surgery on Monday, July 29th. Her surgery will be done at MCH. Please keep Emma in your prayers that all goes well with the surgery and she has a short recovery period.

Bill Butler was scheduled for a chemo treatment Wednesday, July 17th. Please keep him in your prayers that the treatments will be very effective in fighting his cancer.

Concerns Update

Jackie Rex's eye surgery went very well and she was very pleased with the results. Jackie was able to be at services last Sunday.

Conchida Williams' back surgery was stopped by the anesthesiologist due to the difference between her last two EKG readings. It showed that she had suffered a heart attack at some point in between. Conchida is scheduled to see a Cardiologist August 8th. Her back surgery will be done at a later date.

Prayer List

Crissy Arroyo; Brian Basaldua; Don Blackwell; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Bill Butler; Cindy Campbell; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Linda Collum; Emma Craig; Ronald Dement; Bessie Diaz; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Winford Hambright; Letha Hooper; Debbie Howard; Betty Leeth; Jed Martin; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Juanita Orosco; Caydon Parker; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Paisleigh Grace Shepherd; Janelle Shirley; Charles & Susan Simmons; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; Beth Ann Warren; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Jay Wesson; Conchida Williams; Sondie Williamson; John Wood.

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...

When the Jews in Antioch of Pisidia rejected the gospel that Paul had preached, what did he do? (a) Went back home to Tarsus (b) Let Barnabas try to convince the Jews or (c) Turned to preaching to the Gentiles.

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

True. Jesus sent the 5,000 away and went away to pray while the disciples went ahead in the boat; Jesus came to them later walking on the water.

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 in Odessa September 3rd–5th, 2019. No items are specified at this time. Monetary donations also accepted.

NOTE: The “Sunday Nursery Class” is in need of a third helper. We need one of our ladies to volunteer to fill in for the rest of this quarter, and if necessary we will solicit it for the next quarter. We appreciate your help in filling this need.

JESUS DID NOT QUIT

Jesus did not quit meeting with His disciples because Judas was a thief, nor because Peter was fickle at times. He did not quit preaching and living right because some of His brethren were unforgiving and unkind. He did not quit His post of leadership because He had in His presence the adulterous woman, a gang of Pharisees, or narrow-minded demon-worshippers. Jesus did not quit.

Have you been tempted to quit? Have you quit? What was the reason for it? Any reason you might name, Jesus could have given the same. He had every reason to be discouraged. His own disciples were so slow to learn. His enemies were bent on His destruction. But He did not quit. He said, “*Know ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?*” (Luke 2:49)

And when the end of His earthly life was in sight, Jesus said to His Father, “*I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do*” (Jn. 17:4)

He did not quit. He finished His task. When you come to the end of life, will you be able to say, “I have finished the work God has given me to do”? Or, will you be compelled to say, “I started, but quit?” Will you stand before the judgment bar of God and admit that you were a quitter?

Eternal life is promised to those who endure to the end (Matthew 10:22). There will be no consolation on the judgment day to point back to your baptism, unless you can also point back to a life of faithful endurance.

—Raymond C. Kelcy

July 21st, 2019

A.M.

P.M.

Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Jacob Carson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Trinidad Wood	Doug Guynn
Second Prayer	Josh Wells	Kevin Wilcox
Closing Prayer	Tommy Garcia	Jr. Munoz

Lord's Supper

(Scripture Reading)

West...

Bill Brown

Rudy Ochoa

Jacob Carson

Kevin Wilcox

Cody Wesson

Communion

(In Library)

East

Tom Sorenson

David Ryan

Clint Titlow

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson—556-5547 *Deacon*:: Richard Siler—362-1392 *Pulpit*;; John Wood—413-7444
Table: Cody Wesson 934-4646— *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Sermons*; George Warren 557-2171 *Collections*:
George Warren—557-2171

Sunday AM

“TBA”

Sunday PM

“Following the Lord Fully”

(Numbers 14:24)

Our Records

Bible Class... 71

Morning Worship...110

Evening Worship...76

Wednesday...83

Contribution...\$4,786.85