

Eisenhower Church of Christ

A Stampede Away from Responsibility

We are living in a time of unprecedented moral, social, and political crisis. Every day the television news comes up with a report that is more-gloomy than the day before. Many people, rather than putting on “the whole armor of God,” are stampeding away from responsibility.

Many want “privilege without responsibility, the crown without the cross, the sweet without the bitter, delights without the duties.” People want the benefits of the church without doing the work and paying the bills.

The Bible teaches us to take a stand. **“How long halt ye between two opinions?”** Elijah cried to those in Carmel (I Kings 18:21). But they answered him not a word. Jesus Christ said, **“He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad”** (Matthew 12:30).

Young people are being misrepresented by mass media. Self-appointed leaders of the young speak when they are given no right except through the blatancy of their speech and the incoherence of their remedies. Militants do make the headlines. They dominate television. They paralyze schools. They terrorize teachers. They force police to use force to make them martyrs. They do not speak for the vast majority of youth, but most people do not know what to do. There is one thing which must not be done, and that is turn over leadership to those who do not have the ability, nor the stability, nor the courage to maintain a course which leads to freedom and peace.

Failure to Teach

There is a stampede away from responsibility in training up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The Bible teaches that the older shall govern the young. It is the older women who are to teach the younger women. The older men are to teach the younger men. This does not mean that the old cannot learn anything from the young. The enthusiasm and the vigor of youth are ever to be prized and are to be glorified. Paul could say to Timothy, **“Let no man despise thy youth”** (I Timothy 4:12). The responsibility however of making decisions goes to those who have had the experience and the ability to see things in their proper perspective. The Bible teaches that parents are responsible to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:1-4). Too many times we are turning over the education of our children to those who do not have the moral or intellectual capacity to educate themselves.

Cheap Christianity

In keeping with the times, we have a cheap Christianity. Doctrine and duty are watered down and success and happiness are played up. Christianity is not a happiness cult. It is not a success cult. The truth is; it is the means by which God makes saints out of sinners. It is never easy, but fraught with problems. We are not on a glorified picnic. A great many people do not want much religion, just enough Bible reading and just enough service to get by.

It is always sad when the good news is changed to merely good advice. True Christianity is upsetting because it is demanding. Paul writes, **“...that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils”** (I Timothy 4:1).

Right and Wrong

We are experiencing a stampede away from responsibility when it comes to standing for moral principles of right and wrong. Many things are relative, but some things are eternal and do not change. Paul says, **“It is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man’s judgment; yea, I judge not mine own self”** (I Corinthians 4:3). Paul cannot look to what people say— or what people do— as the standard. He cannot even look to himself. The standard for truth is God’s Word. We must be guided not by what is popular or what is seemingly polite or what is political but we must be guided by what God says in the Word.

There is a possibility of mistaking noise for reason, movement for progress. We must always be concerned about submitting ourselves to the whole council of God and preaching the whole council of

God that people might understand the beauty and the meaning of New Testament Christianity.

We cannot get away from God or our responsibility for doing His will. The moral consequences of evil have not changed. A refusal to recognize this does not make them disappear. It is still our duty to fight the good fight of faith and to lay hold on the sternal. ***“Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them. For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light; for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteous and truth proving what is acceptable unto the Lord”*** (Ephesians 5:6-10).

—Carroll Ellis

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Terry Shipman (former member) and his family in the loss of his father, **James Ogle Shipman**. James passed away at the age of 83 years old on July 14th in Odessa. His visitation was held at Hubbard-Kelly Monday, July 16th 6:30-8:30 pm. Graveside services were held in Clyde, TX, Tuesday 17th. Please keep Terry and his family in your prayers.

Also, **Betty Berryhill Searsy** (a former member) passed from this life on Thursday, July 12th in Lubbock, TX. Betty's funeral services were held at 9:00 a.m. July 17th in Lubbock, but laid to rest at Sunset Memorial Gardens, in Odessa at 2:00 pm. that day. Our condolences go out to this family in their loss.

Prayer List

Tom Bauer; 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 Hambright; 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.

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...

The fruit of what tree provided oil for the lamp in the Temple?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

Saul spared King Agag of Amalek which was a direct disobedience to what God asked him to do.

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.

The Crane church of Christ has a Gospel Meeting scheduled for July 30th thru August 4th with a couple of speakers, Josh Powlas from New Mexico and Wyatt Jenkins-Baker of Canyon Lake, TX. Please check out their flyer on the bulletin board for more details.

Crib Shower

We are hosting a ***“Crib Shower”*** for Jacey & Dex Dennard who is expecting their baby girl, Jaye Catherine, in August. They are requesting diapers (all sizes) and wipes.

“Honey, We’re Killing the Kids”

I suppose the television show that recently aired entitled as above, was meant to get attention. It got mine. A family of four has two young boys that are very unhealthy due to obesity and asthma, and the mother and father were being scrutinized by a health professional. The children were fed and allowed to eat too much of the wrong kinds of foods, were allowed to play video games all day rather than exercise and play outside and were smoked around in spite of asthma. It was predicted that unless changes were made, at best, their sons would not live to see sixty when the average life span of a man is 75; not to mention their poor health while they lived. Mom and Dad were given three instructions: (1) Take out the junk (2) Turn the electronics off (3) Stop smoking, at least around the children.

Jesus said, *“And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell”* (Matthew 10:28). Point being, spiritual death is far worse than physical death. And while we as parents want our children to live happy and healthy lives, spiritual victory is far greater than any victory physically, financially ... *“For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?”* (Matthew 16:26)

There is a sense in which many are killing their children spiritually. Fathers and mothers are responsible for the development of their children’s physical habits and to see that they are sheltered, clothed and protected. However, that pales in comparison to the responsibility that we have to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). Let us be reminded that as mothers and fathers, we are responsible for their attitudes; (good or bad) speech; (smart mouth or respectful) actions; (mean or kind, modest or shameful). It is up to me as a parent to instill in my children a love of His Word and a sense of loyalty and appreciation for Christ’s church. We weren’t given an owner’s manual when our little ones came into the world. So much of what we do as parents is trial and error. Our task is not easy, but it is a blessing. We do not want to send our children to an early grave. More importantly, when they do go to the grave, there can be hope because of the way we trained them up.

–Brent Smith

Trenton church of Christ, Trenton, TN

July 22, 2018

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Jeff Wesson
Rudy Ochoa
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
Josh Weakland
Josh Wells
Scot Straw

P.M.

Jeff Wesson
Craig Wesson
Allen Weakland
Jeff Wesson
Bill Brown
Richard Siler
Cody Wesson

Lord's Supper

West...

Doug Guynn
Cody Wesson
Josh Weakland

Cody Wesson
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Dex Dennard
Tommy Garcia
Jr. Munoz

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

"King Can Do No Wrong"

(2 Samuel 3:36)

Sunday PM

"Is Anything Too Hard For The Lord?"

(Jeremiah 32:36-37)

Our Records

Bible Class... 52

Morning Worship...90

Evening Worship...63

Wednesday...NC

Contribution...\$4,434.00