

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Two Highways into Eternity

Highways take us to many different places. Sometimes they take us to where we want to go. Sometimes they lead us to unexpected places. Sometimes they lead us to dead ends. The one thing every highway has in common is that it leads to somewhere (and hopefully, to the destination we are trying to reach).

Each of us has traveled on many highways in our lives. We take specific highways in order to reach our desired destinations. Sometimes (really, many times) proper directions are needed to get us to where we want to go. Road maps and GPS are handy tools to use in finding the right highways or roads or interstates to take to get where we want to go. A failure to heed the directions will result in us taking the wrong highway and winding up somewhere we never intended to be.

In this life, each of us is traveling towards that unknown thing called eternity. Each of us will be somewhere in eternity, either in Heaven with God or in Hell with the Devil. The choices we make in this life will determine where we will live in eternity. We must make the choice of which highway we will take into eternity.

In His “Sermon on the Mount,” Christ declared that there are two roads (“highways”) through life, and every individual will travel one of these two roads. However, these two roads have two different, drastically dissimilar destinations. Christ said: “Enter by the narrow gate, for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.” (Matthew 7:13-14).

We want to consider those two spiritual highways and where they lead, but most importantly we will consider why all men should desire to travel the narrow and difficult highway. We will see that though there are two highways into eternity, there is but one that leads to eternal bliss. In order to reach that destination we must travel the right highway; in order to enter that highway, one must follow the right directions.

The first highway Christ speaks of in this text is the highway to Hell. This highway is easy to travel. It is not hard to find because it is a high traffic road. This highway is the way of the world. It is the way of sin, of unrighteousness, of iniquity and of ungodliness. It is the easy way because those who travel this way are those who disregard God’s authoritative will as manifested in His Word. These refuse to be instructed in the ways of righteousness. Sadly, those who enter this road and continue therein will find that destruction is the destination of this highway as it leads straight to a devil’s Hell. Yet, there is a better highway that God desires all to travel and that highway is the highway to Heaven.

The highway to Heaven unlike the “broad” way is a difficult way to travel. It is difficult because the way of Christ is not an easy way. Christ never promised those who followed Him an easy time. (Consider the parables regarding counting the cost in Luke 14 for further explanation.) It is difficult because those who travel this highway will face trouble that they must overcome (I Peter 1:6-9). It is also a restrictive way because one cannot travel this way while living any way one so chooses; one who desires to travel this highway must abide by the laws or rules governing it (the law of Christ—the New Testament, Galatians 6:2).

In order to travel this way one must be willing to follow the directions God has provided through His Word. God directs all men to hear His Word, which produces the Faith necessary to please Him (Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6), to Repent or turn from sin (Luke 13:3,5), to Confess faith in God’s only begotten Son (Romans 10:9-10) and be immersed into Christ in order to obtain the forgiveness of sins through His precious cleansing blood (Romans 6:3-4).

Upon meeting those conditions, one must live faithfully unto death in order to reach the final destination that traveling this highway provides—Heaven (Revelation 2:10). However, traveling this highway to Heaven, one who strays off course, and back on to the highway to Hell, must repent of sins and pray to God for forgiveness as an erring child of God (Acts 8:21ff). God, who is faithful and just, will forgive once more (I John 1:8-9). To find this highway and travel therein, it is imperative that we follow the right directions. Christians also need to actively engage in evangelism (Mark 16:15).

When we travel in this life, it is the case at times we may find ourselves on the wrong highways and stubbornly remain therein believing it will eventually take us to where we want to go. However, eternity is

far too long for one to stubbornly continue traveling the broad way because it will lead to a dead end existence in eternity. All men who are on this highway are implored to change direction and follow God's highway by responding positively to His Word while they have the time and opportunity to do so.

—Robert Alexander

Sympathy

Our prayers go out to the family of **Caleista Millican**. Caleista passed from this life Tuesday, July 28th after a lengthy battle with breast cancer. Her funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, August 1st at the Sunset Memorial Funeral Home. Allen Weakland conducted the service.

Our condolences go out to Jack Wright and his family on the loss of his youngest brother, **Timmy Joe Wright**. T. J. lost his battle with cancer early Friday morning, July 31st. A memorial service will be held for him in Cleburne, TX. Keep this family in your prayers.

Prayer Requests

Maxine Newton has requested a part in our prayers. She has a lot of pain in her legs and walking is very difficult for her.

Opal Hager, Christy Weakland's grandmother, is dealing with health issues at this time. Opal lives in Weatherford, TX.

Tee Wood, Shona's mother-in-law, was admitted to Midland Memorial Hospital due to low sodium levels. Tee started her chemo treatments for breast cancer Tuesday, July 28th. She is in Room #532. Keep her in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Lee Roy Bell is continuing his therapy at Madison Health Resort. At the last report, Lee Roy has lost 50 lbs. and is able to eat without being nauseated. He looks good and is feeling well.

Hannah Weakland's dental surgery went well. She is home recuperating but is having rough time with nausea.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Charles Browning; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; Jewell Bettes-Dennard; Brian Drake; James & Joyce Drake; Bernice Easlon; Ed Fisher; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Winford Hambricht; Linda Horton; Lon & Lana Howard; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Katie Limer; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Jack McCarty; Levi McGhee; Flossie Montgomery; Patsy Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Rudy Ochoa; Avery Ojado; Jonathan Pegan; Judy Phillips; Evan Rector; Elvia Ruckman; Blair Saldana; Christa Bella Sellers; Carmen Settle; Brenda Simmons; Nancy Slife; James Stevens; Johna Straw; Marilyn Upshaw; Bré elle Watts; Lisa Wells; Tee Wood

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Anna Groves; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Which country did King Nebuchadnezzar rule?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

The Apostle Peter had a vision of a sheet full of animals.

FYI

Denny Wilson is hosting a weekly radio program called "**Christian Take Aim**" at 6:30 pm Tuesdays; www.thegospelradionetwork.org. Feel free to please pick up a business card on the youth table in the foyer.

Watch “*In Search of the Lord’s Way*” every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

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.

Events

Fifth Sunday Potluck/Strengthening the Family Reorganization Meeting—Sunday, August 30th Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Strengthening the Family Group #1’s luncheon will begin Sunday, September 6th.

A “**Men’s Breakfast**” is scheduled for Saturday, September 5th.

There will be a “**Ladies Breakfast**” Saturday, October 3rd in the Annex. The men of the congregation will be doing the cooking.

Office News

Our “**Food Pantry**” is low on food. It needs to be kept supplied with food and supplies for the children’s homes and those in need especially as we near the holiday season. We appreciate your generous food donations to help meet this need.

The **New Mexico Children’s Home** will be in Odessa Tuesday, September 1st for a food drive. They are requesting **Oatmeal**. Also, we still have coin cans on the table in the east foyer if you would like to save your change for them. The coin cans and food will be picked up at the same time. Monetary donations are also welcomed.

God Has Not Changed!

In an effort to defend homosexuality, a letter writer to the editor of a Lexington newspaper asserted that the God of wrath in the Old Testament was replaced by a kind and loving God in the New Testament. It is sad how some abuse and misuse God’s Word. The old law was a “tutor” to bring us to Christ (Galatians 3:24). Paul wrote that God’s dealings with the Israelites were examples to admonish us not to sin as did the Israelites (I Corinthians 10:1-11). Friend, God hasn’t changed. It is still “a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Hebrews 10:31).

—John K. Wills

August 9, 2015

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer
Lord’s Supper

A.M.

Allen Weakland
Rudy Ochoa
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Dex Dennard
Scot Straw
John Carroll

P.M.

Allen Weakland
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Richard Siler
Josh Wells
George Warren

West...

Craig Wesson
Trinidad Wood
Cody Wesson

Bill Tolbert
Communion
(In Library)

East...

Charles Wood
Josh Weakland
Richard Siler

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* Allen Weakland 362-1403 *Deacon:* Richard Siler 362-1392 *Pulpit:* Chris Butler 362-7486
Table: Bill Tolbert 381-5564 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Tommy Garcia 638-2702;
Collections: Tommy Garcia 638-2702

Sunday AM”

“Thorn in the Flesh”
(II Corinthians 12:7-10)

Sunday PM

“Problem with Riches”
(Mark 10:17-27)

Our Records

Bible Class...95
Morning Worship...130
Evening Worship...71
Wednesday...72
Contribution...\$7,276.00

