

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Longing for “New” Things

It was said of the men of Athens, and strangers located there, that *they “spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell or to hear some new thing”* (Acts 17:21). With that appetite for something new, they allowed Paul to speak to them. Some were satisfied desiring to hear no more from Paul, but there were those who mocked the message (Acts 17:32).

The things we possess and use, of a material sort, are affected by time and there is a need to replace them. There is indeed a proper desire for new things that, within the bounds of our faithfulness to God and our stewardship, does not displease God. In furthering our desires along those lines, we obtain new homes, new automobiles, new clothes, etc. Even fulfilling those desires pose a danger, if all is not kept within the limits spirituality demands. The ruling principle in our lives must be the seeking first the kingdom of God and the righteousness of God and the material needs of this life will come as a matter of course (Matthew 6:33).

The tendency, though, is that man will tire of God’s things and will give in to a desire for constant change and constant newness in religious matters. Such has been a desire born, not in heaven, but in the other region. Adam and Eve ventured into new areas and through their sin brought awful consequences upon mankind. Israel, in the brief absence of Moses, turned to fashion and served a new god. The history of that nation is the history of instances of faithfulness, followed by instances of turning toward the new, the different—the change men desired. Always, a punishment from God followed.

In just such a time, with men possessed of the longing for newness, Jeremiah made appeal: *“Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways and see and ask for the old paths; where is the good way and walk therein and ye shall find rest for your souls”* (Jeremiah 6:16).

He follows that by the declaration that, “they said, we will not walk therein.” Notice these points from this passage: (1) Man will travel, walk in some path. All men are responsible and accountable before God concerning their lives and conduct. (2) Man’s will enters the picture, for man is a creature with freedom of will and can, and will, make the determination as to the way he walks. (3) The call is for man to walk in the old paths—the paths of God, the paths established and set forth from old. (4) God reveals to us that this is the good way. There are many false ways, hurtful ways and non-spiritual ways. God reveals to man that which is good (Micah 6:8). The ways of God are the ways of good. And, (5) at the end of this way is salvation—rest for the soul!

As was true in Jeremiah’s wording, it has been true of mankind in all of his history. He possessed a desire for the new and different and turned from the ways set forth by God. This is exactly why brethren will turn to denominationalism for the borrowing of its means and methods, but also explains why, in time, they begin to pick up and use denominational theology. In all of it, we find a growing discontent with the things of God and thus, the cry is, “Give us something new, something different!”

Behind this, of course, is defective faith. Men with proper faith always have the desire toward God and His Word that says, “Speak Lord, for thy servant heareth.” And such will always want to take great care to abide by the pattern. They have no desire to re-do, alter and change the pattern. They do not desire to change the plan of salvation, the New Testament pattern of worship, church organization, etc., nor do they tire of abiding by the patterns set forth by God.

It is decidedly a non-spiritual attitude that desires newness to the extent that there is developed a change from God’s will that men might be pleased. The very idea of those proposing to belong to God and then developing a desire of “newness at any price,” is completely contradictory. It is a sad time in spiritual Israel when so many of our people can be satisfied with so little Bible in the

congregations' teaching and preaching work and can be pleased with entertainment and social activities because such, in its departure from the Word, is new. Indeed, Jeremiah's words are so appropriate in this day and this very hour: "ask for the old paths...and walk there in!" We shall lose our souls if we turn from those paths in the quest for constant newness.

—Bill Jackson

Prayer Request

Charles Simmons (Susan's husband) was taken to Compass Rehab Center last Saturday. Susan has requested prayers for him at this time.

Sandy Lawless underwent breast cancer surgery on Tuesday, October 1st in Chillicothe, OH. Sandy is Devida's cousin.

Concerns Update

Brian Basaldua is home now. He is still unable to keep his food down. Brian may have to have a feeding tube installed. Brian is Devida's son-in-law's brother. He is in need of prayers.

Prayer List

Brian Basaldua; Don Blackwell; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Sharon Brown; Bill Butler; Shawn Callendar; Cindy Campbell; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Emma Craig; Ronald Dement; Bessie Diaz; Jazmine Duron; Paulie Ann Easlon; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Winford Hambright; Leo Holloway; Letha Hooper; Debbie Howard; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Jed Martin; Patsy Mitchell; Ora McAfee; Jason Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Lavern Neithercutt; Juanita Orosco; Caydon Parker; Trina Plyler; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Bill Ryan; Paisleigh Grace Shepherd; Debra Shipley; Janelle Shirley; Charles & Susan Simmons; Mark Thompson; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; George & Jurlean Warren; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Jay Wesson; Tom Wilcox; Carolyn Wilkerson; Sondie Williamson; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

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

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

What were Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego's names before they were changed?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

The Philistines put the Ark of God beside the pagan god, Dagon.

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.

Thank You

Dear Brothers & sisters in Christ, We thank you for your prayers and cards. It has made our day brighter during this difficult time. In Christian Love, Carl & Lavern Neithercutt

Office News

OCTOBER ATTENDED NURSERY

10/06/19 Patsy & Holly
10/13/19 Tracie & Lanie
10/20/19 Virgie & Wanda
10/27/19 Sonia & Jaque

Keeping Worship Simple

Many people today are struggling with something that is really quite simple. The controversy concerning the instrument continues, because instruments and their use in worship is becoming more main stream. Even in churches that still affiliate themselves with the churches of Christ, instrumental music not only is coming up, but it is now becoming more accepted. For example, one church of Christ in a neighboring county explains it this way on their website—"The singing is a-cappella, meaning that we worship without instruments. This is by choice, rather than doctrine. We find nothing wrong with instrumental worship, but believe that the voice alone is a simple and beautiful way to worship God.... **What a sad state of affairs!**

What God wants us to know in regards to worship it is quite simple. There is commandment, example and authorization for singing in the New Testament church. None of these exist with regard to instrumental worship. The use of instruments in the worship of the church is not authorized by God. One can lament all they want to about it. One can dream about unity with denominational people. By taking the focus off of God and the bible and putting the emphasis on human wishes, the correct view of Scripture becomes skewed by opinion.

Instrumental worship is unauthorized worship. Whether it was offered by Cain, Nadab and Abihu or any Christian today, unauthorized worship is displeasing to God. God is the object of worship and we are the worshippers. Why speculate when God has already told us what to do in His Word? Why not honor God and His word? Why not worship Him in spirit and in truth?

What sets the church apart from the world and its religion is our love for God and one another so as to completely follow the Bible. Let's continue to be different and worship God the way God wants to be worshipped. This is worship that will both sanctify us and glorify our Creator.

"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him." (John 4:23)

—Jeremiah Tatum

Pulaski St. church of Christ, Lawrenceburg, TN

October 6th, 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	Cody Wesson	Craig Wesson
Second Prayer	Scot Straw	Bill Ryan
Closing Prayer	Josh Wells	Joshua Weakland
Lord's Supper		
(Scripture Reading)	<u>Tommy Garcia</u>	
West...	Gary Loving	John Wood
	Kevin Wilcox	Communion
	Oliver Hernandez	(In Library)
East	David Ryan	
	Clint Titlow	
	Rudy Ochoa	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 556-5547—*Deacon*:. Jacob Carson 940-3775—*Pulpit*;. Doug Guynn 260-0440—*Table*: John Wood 413-7444 — *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990—*Recording Sermons*; Trinidad Wood—413-7444
Collections: Trinidad Wood—413-7444

Sunday AM

“Savior We All Need”
(Hebrews 5:5-11)

Sunday PM

“Answer to Sin”
(1 John 2:1-2)

Our Records

Bible Class... 53
Morning Worship...110
Evening Worship...NC
Wednesday...73
Contribution...\$4,035.75