

PRAYERS

Butch and Chris – Chris was in the hospital for high temp and low white count.

Wilma (Anita’s Sister) – Is back home after rehab.

Zev Napier (Carmen’s grandson) – He is suffering from Mono.

Mark (Linda’s family) – Making good progress in rehab.

Chance – She is in the hospital in Sioux Falls with Kidney issues. The DRs are trying dialysis for a few days to see if that helps get her numbers down.

Congregation News

Daylight savings time is next Sunday, remember to set your clocks forward Saturday night.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Most of us are spared the torment of genius.

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

3/4/18

3/11/18

Bible Class	Colby Crawford	Paul Darling
Announcements	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Song Leader	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Opening Prayer	Colby Crawford	Paul Darling
Lord's Supper	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Scripture Reading	Paul Darling	Tom Bright
Sermon	Paul Darling	Tom Bright

Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

Adult	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Children	Colby Crawford	Linda McBrayer
Toddlers	Cindy Bright	
Babies	Anissa Crawford	

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Building Cleanup

McBrayer

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Bulletin Submissions

If you would like anything added to the bulletin such as prayer requests, news, or events, please make submissions by Friday night to: tlbj@sbcglobal.net

Aberdeen church of Christ

March 4, 2018

What does the Bible Say about Worship

One of the many strange things we find in the religious world today is the great variety of worship. By going from church to church you can “worship as you desire”. It would seem that God has left no instruction as to what He desires for us to do in worship! But is that true? It seems that such would be unthinkable since He has given us “all things that pertain unto life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3)! In fact, it is not true. In John 4 we read where Jesus spoke with a Samaritan woman at the well. In that passage the woman asked Him about worship (verse 20). In His response Jesus answered her question, as well as ours. He said, *“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”* (John 4:23-24)

What then does the Bible say about worship? From this text we can glean several important facts:

First, our worship must be to God. We *“must worship Him.”* No other being (and certainly no object) is worthy of worship. If this is so, we will not be bowing to objects or men in worship, kissing the hands of any religious leaders or giving titles to man which are rightly due to God.

Second, our worship to God must be *“in spirit.”* This speaks to our attitude, giving our heart to God in our worship. The Psalmist proclaimed, *“I will praise the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation”* (Psalms 111:1). Worship that is insincere or *“incidental”* cannot be rightly offered to God.

Third, our worship must be *“in truth”*. God tells us in John 17:17 that His word is *“truth”*. While many may be sincere in their worship, if it is not in accord with His teachings, it is in vain. Jesus proclaimed that those who would use man’s word as their guide rather than God’s Word worshipped *“in vain”* (Matthew 15:9).

With these things before us, it would behoove us all to consider Who we worship, our attitude of heart in our worship and also whether those acts of worship in which we engage are in fact authorized by His truth. It does matter!

How Big Are Your Fiery Serpents?

It's interesting to note that John's Gospel is regarded as a "spiritual Gospel." John Calvin remarked, "And since they all [i.e. all four Gospels] had the same object, to show Christ, the first three exhibit His body, if I may be permitted to put it like that, but John shows His soul."

98 times the word "believe" occurs in the Gospel of John. John, inspired of the Holy Spirit, is painting this vivid and elaborate picture of what all the "signs and wonders" that Jesus carried out were to accomplish. It would also do us well to remember that this was not everything that He did (John 20:30-31), but the things He did do were to evoke belief.

When you get to the 3rd chapter of John we are introduced to a man named Nicodemus—a ruler of the Jews who realized that Jesus wasn't any ordinary man, He was a teacher from God. What impressed Nicodemus about Jesus were the signs that Jesus was able to carry out.

Therefore, Jesus tells Nicodemus, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:5). Jesus then follows that statement up with the imperative statement, "You must be born again" (John 3:7), and this saying is rather perplexing to Nicodemus.

Within John 3:10-13, Jesus tells Nicodemus that he, being a teacher, should understand these heavenly things. In the midst of Jesus' dissertation of being born again, He does not validate Himself by carrying out other signs but goes back to Moses in the Old Testament. Jesus, in John 3:14, gives us an illustration of the brazen serpent and if you blink you will miss it.

Jesus is referring to Numbers 21 when the children of Israel were, yet again, moaning and complaining in disbelief, the LORD sent fiery serpents among the children of Israel, and many of them died (Num. 21:5-6). The children of Israel realized their sin and asked Moses to "pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us."

Moses did pray and the LORD responded by telling Moses to make a bronze serpent, "and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived." (Num. 21:9).

I wonder how many of the Israelites died because they were so engrossed with those snakes creeping closer and biting them that they could not simply look at the bronze serpent and live?

Today, we do not have fiery serpents biting us because of our unbelief. However, could it be that our sins carry on in a similar fashion as those

snakes in Numbers?

1. For the Israelites who chose not to turn and look at the brass serpent, those snakes were their end. For a person outside the body of Christ or an unrepentant Christian, sin will be their end.
2. For the Israelite that chose not to turn and look at the brass serpent, they allowed the bite of a snake to overshadow the greatness of God's love. When an individual who hasn't become part of the Lord's body, they are in effect allowing their sinful life to overshadow the undeserved mercy of God made available through the obedience of faith.
3. For the Israelite who chose not to turn, they believed they were hopeless. When people vaguely comprehend that there is a God, but they believe their life is so engrained in sin that they are hopeless, they do not know the God of the Bible. If unchanged, they will continue in that hopeless state.

The God of heaven, the Father of the Only Begotten, has given every human being on this planet the opportunity to allow Him to eclipse your sinful life and ways with the blood of the Lamb if you will obey Him allow Him to rule your life. It's not the easiest choice, but it is the greatest choice. May you and I be in heaven together for an eternity!

Acts 8:35-39 NKJV "Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. (36) Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" (37) Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." (38) So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. (39) Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.'

Welcome to our Assembly. . .

Whether you are a first time visitor or a long time member of this congregation, we are happy to have you with us this morning. For those visiting, please make yourself comfortable. A good deal of information about this church and its activities can be found on this sheet. We encourage and invite anyone interested to participate in the activities offered throughout the week. If you have any questions about the facilities, our worship service, or want more information about the church, feel free to ask anyone present. Someone will be glad to help you!