

Plain Path

Weekly newsletter of the Fry Road church of Christ

Sunday, October 26, 2014

Volume 19, Number 43

“Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path... Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart” (Psalm 27:11-14)

YOU ARE STILL LOST

by Norman Midgette

FALSE HOPE! It abounds everywhere. For those who do not want to obey the gospel of Christ and still hope to be saved they have company, both ancient and modern.

God does many good things for the heathen who are lost but woe be unto them if they mistake this goodness for salvation. Here are some examples.

Jesus said, “...for he maketh the sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sendeth rain on the just and the unjust” (Matt. 5:45). God does this for the unjust. When he has done it they are still as unjust as before. They may have the sun and the rain but they still have their sins. Paul confirmed the same thing in Acts 14:17 when he said, “And yet he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave you from heaven rain and fruitful sea-

sons, filling your hearts with food and gladness.” Even if you have a bountiful crop in your garden or you have a good job and can buy all the good food you want that does not mean you are saved. The heathen then have gladness and joy and life, often go their way, and the obstacles are so few. Woe to the man or woman who interprets this to mean they have the fellowship of God and are saved.

There are those who think God has answered their prayers and because of this falsely believe God has saved them. Such would be a tragic conclusion to draw. I may not always know how God works but I do know this: “We know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshiper of God, and do his will, him he heareth” (John 9:31). In Proverbs 28:9 God said, “He that turneth away his ear from

hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.” The prayers of Cornelius had gone up “for a memorial before God” (Acts 10:4), but even after the angel of God told him this, Cornelius would have been a very mistaken man if he had concluded he was a saved man. We know this is true because shortly thereafter the Holy Spirit told Peter to go to the house of Cornelius and speak to him “words” by which he and his house would be saved (Acts 11:14). What God does with your prayers has nothing to do with how he deals with your sins.

And finally the greatest thing God has done for you while you are an alien sinner is to have Christ die for you. “But God commendeth his own love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8). Just because he died for you does not mean you are saved else we have universal salvation.

Many good things have come from God to the alien sinner. Do
(Lost, continued on pg 2...)

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What Does It Mean?

by Bob Pulliam

The article on page one was written many years ago, but is still as appropriate as ever. People have a tendency to get what they want out of things they hear and read. This morning's sermon will emphasize the truth of that phenomena. Although people claim to believe that God gave a message that is important, they will often-times turn right around and deny it by allowing it to mean different things to different people. My question is, "Why didn't God give us a message everyone could understand?" Many people today cannot answer that question. But I can. You see, God *did* give a mes-

(Mean, continued on pg 3...)

THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS

NEW TESTAMENT READING

I TIMOTHY 1 - 6;
II TIMOTHY 1 - 4

October 26 - 28

OLD TESTAMENT READING

II SAMUEL 1 - 4:
PSALMS 1 - 11

October 29 - November 1

I TIMOTHY 4:13

If Jesus Came to Your House (author unknown)

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two —
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do.
Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored Guest,
And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best.
And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there —
That serving Him in your own home is joy beyond compare.
But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door
With arms outstretched in welcome to your Heav'nly Visitor?
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in,
Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?
Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard,
And wish you hadn't uttered that last, loud, hasty word?
Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn books out?
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?
And I wonder — if the Saviour spent a day or two with you,
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?
Would you keep right on saying the things you always say?
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?
Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace,
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?
Would you sing the songs you always sing and read the book you read,
And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go,
Or would you maybe change your plans for just a day or so?
Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends,
Or would you hope they'd stay away until His visit ends?
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on,
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do
If Jesus Christ in person came to spend some time with you.

(Lost, continued from pg 1...)

not mistake any of these as signs of your salvation. There is only one thing that will save you. That is your faith in and obedience to the gospel of Christ (Rom 1:16; II Th 1:7f). Until you obey the gospel, all the rain, sun, fruitful seasons, and gladdened hearts will not save you. You are still lost. It is time you let go of these false hopes and obey the gospel where there is real hope.

Confess your faith in Christ, repent of your sins, and be baptized for the remission of those sins (Mt 10:32f; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38). You will be lost no longer and you will still have all of these blessings plus many more. Take your stand with Christ today not just with his blessings.

(copied from
Guardian of Truth)

FAMILY NEWS & NOTES

News and Notes of Interest
to Fry Road Members

Because of the large number of visitors to our services, we would ask those wishing to identify with the congregation to do so by expressing this interest directly to the elders.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Gospel Meeting (Dee Bowman)
January 11 - 14, 2015

Gospel Meeting (Carl McMurray)
April 12 - 15, 2015

V.B.S.
June 21 - 25, 2015

Annual Singing
September 12, 2015

Gospel Meeting (Jim Deason)
September 13 - 16, 2015

Sick and Shut-Ins

Sections have been removed to preserve members' privacy

Sermons:

Next Sunday:

Wandering in the Wilderness

Tonight:

The Word of God
Is Not Chained

"...I was sick, and you visited me..."
Matthew 25:36

(Mean, continued from pg 2...)

sage that we can understand. The problem is in our willingness to let Him say what He means. At times, people play with the wording to twist a passage out of it's context, or make it seem confusing. At other times they will claim that a passage is no longer valid today. Efforts are made to make it seem like the Bible contradicts itself so interpreting it can become an every-man-for-himself effort. Here is where you hear the ever popular "I feel", which eventually gets around to what the Spirit is telling *them*.

Timothy had the Holy Spirit (I Tim 4:14), but he was told, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Paul recognized that the word of truth may be wrongly divided. Therefore, Timothy needed to be certain that he was "rightly dividing" it. Paul also told Timothy that the word of God is sufficient for all the information God would have us use in serving Him (II Tim 3:16f). Would the Spirit today tell people something differently from what He told disciples 1,900 years ago? No! However, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Prov 14:12)

If you want to know what the Bible means, *it* will tell you. But you have to study it for what it says; not for what you want to hear. Or, sometimes it's a problem of what you *don't* want to hear.



Grief Stricken

FOR THE RECORD

WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS

Sections have been removed to preserve members' privacy

IN KEEPING WITH OUR LONG STANDING AGREEMENT, THOSE SERVING PUBLICLY ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE DRESS IN A MANNER RESPECTFUL OF THE GOD WHOM WE SERVE.

ELDERS:

Ruben Amador
Matthew Heaton
Donnie Mangrum
Steven Martin
Steve Voss



DEACONS:

John Coleman	Ken Dunsmore
David Ellison	Ray Farrell
Aubrey Garner	Steve Geraci
Steve LaGrasta	John Light
Steven Martin	Mike McMurray
Jason Mock	David Stevenson
Glenn Tomblin	

TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:30 PM

EVANGELIST & EDITOR:

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