

# Plain Path

Weekly newsletter of the Fry Road church of Christ

Sunday, May 18, 2014

Volume 19, Number 20

“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)

*(Editor's Note: While the following "letter" from Nadab and Abihu is a work of fiction, the irony in it's tone as compared to the outcome of their actions is very thought provoking. In this age of second guessing God's word, it is important that you read this, have your children and grandchildren read this, and then read the Bible account in Leviticus 10.)*

## NADAB AND ABIHU

by David Brassfield

“Brethren, It is with the utmost humility that we inform you of a change of worship practices in your normal sacrificing. Be assured that we are bringing about this change only after much prayer and study. We have recently concluded an in-depth study of the Law as delivered by our brother Moses that covered 400 days. (We might note that is ten times the length of time it took the Lord to impart this Law). We have decided to bring about a change in the type of fire used in worship. We are aware that there is a standing tradition of using only one source of fire, but we, as holy priests, do not feel obligated to

blindly follow tradition. Numerous polls of our worshipping clientele indicate the overwhelming opinion that they do not care where we get the fire used for their sacrifices as long as the service is conducted in a respectful and meaningful way. We are in agreement with this growing majority, as we cannot see how a change in fire will affect anything in the least about our sacrifices. The animal is still properly cooked, the incense burned. We are of the mind that were we to secretly substitute a different fire it would be impossible for any of the worshippers to know a change had taken place.

Besides all this, we became

aware of the fact that nowhere in the Law does the Lord forbid the use of what some of our detractors have referred to as “strange fire.” We feel that the lack of such a restriction was meant to give us freedom. For those who disagree, we would ask you to show us any place in the Law that tells us we cannot do something the Lord has not seen fit to condemn. We are simply asking, “Where does it say we cannot do this?” We also wish to point out that the congregation of Israel is the only religious group in the known world that willingly limits itself to only one kind of fire. We have become the laughingstock of the land of Canaan and have been ridiculed openly by many groups. This “only-one-fire” self-righteous policy has alienated us from everyone else. We believe this change will open up many fellowship opportunities.

Now, to set the minds of some of you at ease, we will continue to  
(Fire Service, continued on pg 2...)

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(Fire Service, *continued from pg 1...*)

offer a traditional service using the old-fashioned fire as well as this progressive service with the new fire. As a matter of fact, we may occasionally use the old fire in our progressive service for special feast days. In this way we hope that our older citizens are still comfortable even though they dogmatically insist on a worship style which is declining and we believe to be stunting our growth. Consider the freedom this new practice affords us! We will no longer have the expense of maintaining a constant fire in one location. This will also make it possible to appeal to a younger audience as we discover more entertaining ways to “light the fire” of our assemblies. (We hope you caught the little play on words

there!)

For those who still oppose the use of new fire, we ask you not to be judgmental of new ideas. We also hope you will not use this change as an excuse to divide our people or stir up trouble within the congregation. We remind you that this has been well thought out and the majority of elders have signed on with us. It is true we have not included our father Aaron in this deliberation; but we were well aware of his tradition-bound views and still plan to leave him in charge of doing the traditional service anyway. We also have not consulted Moses, but his humility is well known and we are confident he will want

to uphold the majority decision in this effort to improve our worship.

We are very much looking forward to our first new fire service. We hope you will make a special effort to be present to witness a new age of enlightenment in the church of Israel. We know God will be watching and we anticipate that His joy over seeing his people take a great step toward throwing off the burden of binding tradition will be an electrifying experience. See you there. Bring some extra barbecue sauce, for we think this new practice is going to spread like wildfire! For freedom’s sake!”

*Nadab & Abihu*, DDLP  
(Doctors of Divine Law and Progress)



## THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

LUKE 1 - 3

May 18 - 20

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

LEVITICUS 25 - 27;  
NUMBERS 1 - 2

May 21 - 24

**I TIMOTHY 4:13**

## Turn off Your Turn Signal

by Bob Pulliam

I was driving on the highway this morning, and came to a man with his left turn signal on. I was in the center lane, and he was in the right lane. When I saw the blinker, I slowed to leave room for him to join my lane. I could see him in his side view mirror, and watched as he stuffed his mouth and started chewing. He wasn't looking my way. Did he really want to come over? Soon he had hand to mouth again, then quickly looked down. He must have dropped some. Guess he didn't want to make a mess on his shirt. Still wasn't looking my way. It became increasingly clear that this man had no interest in

moving over to the left. Perhaps he had the radio up so loud he couldn't hear the clicking... so I carefully passed him.

While driving presents interesting metaphors for life (*e.g.* destination, route, caution, etc...), here is one that we have a hard time getting 'hold of. We are telling the world something with our lives, but what is it? We claim to follow Jesus, but is that nothing but a blinker that appears stuck? Do we have the world turned up so loud that we really have no clue as to what we are telling people around us? Hypocrisy (saying one thing, but living another) is a constant danger for

(Signal, *continued on pg 3...*)

# 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:*

**V.B.S. ("We Would See Jesus")**  
June 23 - 26, 2014

**Gospel Meeting (Rick Moore)**  
July 12 - 13, 2014

**Annual Singing**  
September 6, 2014

**Gospel Meeting (Joseph Casimier)**  
September 7 - 10, 2014

## *Sick and Shut-Ins*

## *Baptized...*

## *Condolences*

*Sections have been removed to preserve members' privacy*

## **Sermons:**

### **Next Sunday:**

Saved Unto What?

### **Tonight:**

The Greatest Plot Twists  
and Ironies of All Time

*If you have an  
announcement in the  
section above, please give  
Bob an update. Otherwise, it  
could be purged from the list.*

(Signal, continued from pg 2...)

us. Where Christianity is concerned, we may cause people to despise the way of truth (II Cor 6:3; I Pt 3:16; 2:11f). They may, by our actions, decide that there is no benefit in listening to the truth. No other area of life will find them exercising such disjointed logic, but they will where God is concerned. After all, have you ever known someone to say, "I'm not driving on that road, people leave their turn signals on while they eat and drive. They don't really want to change lanes."

Let's check our turn signal levers.



# 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  
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:

Bob Pulliam                      bob@fryroad.org