

Our Prayer List

- ◆ James Ray Adams
- ◆ Sarah Adams
- ◆ Dawn Copes
- ◆ Bill Cyrus
- ◆ Dottie Daniels
- ◆ Jackie Eubank
- ◆ Tom & LaVonne Haines
- ◆ Keith Hodges
- ◆ Beulah Keppler
- ◆ Bob Meiers
- ◆ Gaylin Miller
- ◆ Mike Miller
- ◆ Janice Ortman
- ◆ Hallie & Don Phillips
- ◆ Jewel Price
- ◆ Carol Waterman
- ◆ Katie Wood
- ◆ Shirley Young
- ◆ Geco "Hannah's Aunt"

Health

Encouragement

- ◆ Don Craig
- ◆ Matt Wood

Order of Service

Morning

Song Leader	Bob Calvert
Prayer	David Craig
Table	Don Craig
Assist	Arnold Miller
Assist	Eric Whitaker
Assist	Charlie Bryson
Lesson	Shawn Daniels
Prayer	Jerry Witt

Evening

Song Leader	David Craig
Prayer	Eric Whitaker
Lesson	Doug Cyrus
Prayer	Arnold Miller

From Ogden Biblical Recourses
Thought for the Day, www.aogden.com

Looking ahead is a good way to keep from falling behind.



This Morning Sermon

“The Letter to the Seven Churches of Asia—Ehpesus”

(Rev 2:4) “Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.”

Memory Verse

Let us work on expanding our knowledge and memory of the scriptures.

(Heb 4:13) “Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”

Righteousness is defined by Webster’s as “acting in accord with divine or moral law” or “free from guilt or sin”. Righteousness is the same as being right in the eyes of God or in other words, justified.

There are only two ways for a shirt to be clean. One way is that the shirt never gets dirty, and the other way is for it to be washed. The same is with one to be righteous or right in eyes of God. Either we are never wrong, or we are washed. This is one of the great points of Christianity.

Paul tells us that we have all sinned. He says, “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.” (Rom 3:23) Seeing how we’ve all sinned, then we all have gotten ourselves dirty. Therefore, the only way for us to be clean or righteous again is to be washed.

How is one washed? Paul tells us, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God

revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.” (Rom 1:16-17) The reason Paul isn’t ashamed of the gospel of Christ is because in the gospel is the ‘Righteousness of God’ revealed. This righteousness of God is not speaking of God’s attribute. We would know without the gospel of Christ that God is righteous. We could learn that from the law. What we do learn, however, from the gospel of Christ is God’s plan in making us righteous.

If one wants to be washed and become righteous then one has only to appeal to the gospel and obey it. Paul also

says in the book addressed to the Romans, “But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.” (Rom 6:17) Before the Romans obeyed that form of doctrine they were the servants of sin. After they obeyed it they became the servants of God. Paul goes on to say, “Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.” (Rom 6:18)

Notice that after one has been made free from sin, then can they become the servant of righteousness. How does one become free from sin? Paul says, “For he that is dead is freed from sin.” (Rom 6:7) One must be dead to sin.

How is one dead to sin? Paul says, “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” (Rom 6:3-4) We are buried by or through baptism into death.

We die to sin when we are baptized into Christ, and we rise up to walk in a newness of life.

With that said we’ll stop here at this thought and pick up next week with the second main point of Christianity, temperance.

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from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.” (Gal. 1:8.) Still man dares to reject God’s word and way in substitution of his own.

The plea to “restore the ancient order of things” launched by the Campbells more than a century ago was essentially, or in principle, the same as that of Jeremiah during that period of Israel’s apostasy. It was not a quickly-gotten-up scheme of a few dissatisfied zealots seeking a following. It was the outgrowth of the research which resulted from the freedom of untrammelled investigation of the Scriptures, made possible by emancipation from the domination of pope and priest. It was, in reality, but the climax of the Lutheran reformation; for, as stated heretofore, the restoration of the New Testament church, after being so long lost “in the wilderness,” was not the accomplishment of one man or generation, but rather the culmination of the work of several men and the events of several centuries.

The restoration movement centered in the plea to “speak where the Scriptures speak, and be silent where the Scriptures are silent.” All Bible believers must at once accept the aphorism as being a sound and Scriptural principle. Indeed, the principle is couched in the words of inspiration: “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God.”

But to accept it required the abandonment of party names and creeds. It demanded a “Thus saith the Lord” for every article of faith, act of obedience, and item of worship. The clergy protested. Blinded

by religious prejudice, the people followed the clergy, a case of “the blind leading the blind,” and the worthy work of restoration was retarded.

When Martin Luther began his reformatory movements, the Bible was covered up beneath the mass of Catholic creeds, decrees, and encyclicals. The task of Luther was to uncover the Bible, rescue it from such wreckage and rubbish, and deliver it back to the people to read for themselves. This task Luther nobly accomplished. Then, strange but true, Luther himself wrote a creed; Wesley wrote a creed; Calvin wrote a creed--ad infinitum. And the Bible was again covered up beneath Protestant creed! How much better is Protestant creed than Catholic creed? Barring the issue of civil and religious freedom,

none. Scripturally, orthodox Protestantism is as far wrong as Roman Catholicism. Neither is Christianity.

So the task of those men committed to the principle of “restoring the ancient order” and “speaking where the Scriptures speak” was to rescue the Bible from the Protestant clergy and creeds and to restore the New Testament church in its primitive perfection. Briefly summed up, the aim of the restoration movement was simply this: First, to abolish every human creed for the Bible, and the Bible alone; second, to abandon every party name for the name of Christ; third, to require of sinners the same acts of obedience as conditions of their salvation as were required by Jesus Christ and the apostles; fourth, to practice in the worship only those things for which we have Scriptural precept, command, or example. And that is yet the spirit and genius of the restoration plea.

FEW

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Article taken from “Gospel Advocate” January 15, 1931

WORDS FROM THE PAST

“The Church Lost and Found—No. 3”

By: Foy E. Wallace Jr.

“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. But they said, We will not walk therein.”--(Jer. 6:16.)

The human tendency has always been to set up man’s wisdom against God’s word. The history of God’s people in every age has been one of departure and apostasy. Hence, religious reformation has been an ever-present need. Moses lifted his voice in constant warning to Israel, but, with all his tearful pleading, Israel wandered from God. Prophets were raised up to call the people back to the “old paths” and to plant their feet in the “good way,” and God must yet raise up men to cry against bypaths to keep our wandering feet in the right way.



old paths for new ways, and the prophet was calling them back. He bids them “stand . . . in the ways, and see”--pause and think--and ask for the good way. There are many ways, but only one good way. Jeremiah exhorted the people to find and walk in that way, the only way that leads to rest. But the people said: “We will not walk therein.” They rejected God’s way. So they do today.

Notwithstanding man’s disposition and apparent determination to have his own way, it is a plain Bible fact that God forbids it. God teaches man his way. “For the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them.” (Hos. 14:9.) God forbids man’s way. “The way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.” (Jer. 10:23) God curses perversion. “But though we, or an angel

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GOD’S PATTERN

By: Wayne Greeson

Patterns are an important part of our lives in many ways. When a contractor builds a house, he follows a pattern known as a blueprint. When a mother sews a dress for her daughter, she follows a pattern.

In each case there is a standard pattern to be followed to achieve the desired results. The pattern must be followed or the end product will not be faithful to the original and the results could be disastrous. The house not built to pattern may leak or worse, it may collapse; the dress not made by the pattern may look more like a clown outfit.

Many people who have the common sense to recognize the need to faithfully follow patterns in their everyday lives, fail to recognize the most important pattern of

all the Bible. God has always provided a pattern for His people to serve as a guide to worship and service acceptable to Him.

In the Old Testament, God led the children of Israel out of the slavery of Egypt to Mt. Sinai. There God called Moses up the mountain and gave him a pattern of laws and a pattern for a place of worship. As God gave Moses this pattern, He also gave a warning: “According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so ye shall make it” (Ex. 25:9). And He repeated this warning: “And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shown thee in the mount” (Ex. 25:40).

Following God’s pattern, the Jews con-

structed the tabernacle and all the articles for worship to be placed within and without: the brazen altar, the laver, the golden candlestick, the table of shewbread, the altar of incense and the ark of the covenant.

Not all the Jews heeded God's warning to follow his pattern. Two priests determined to disregard God's pattern of worship and follow their own worship. Nadab and Abihu "offered strange incense before the Lord, which he commanded then not" (Lev. 10:1). The consequences of violating God's divine order were immediate, "And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord" (Lev. 10:2). God's punishment of these two men was for our benefit to teach us to treat His pattern with respect.

When David became king he planned the build a permanent place of worship in Jerusalem. While David was not allowed by the Lord to build the temple, David did make all the plans and preparations for the construction of the temple which he passed on to his son, Solomon, to complete. As David commissioned Solomon to build the temple he explained, "All this the Lord made me understand in writing by His hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern" (1 Chron. 28:19). David urged Solomon to follow God's pattern in the commands of his Law as well as building His temple.

Despite God's warnings again the Jews failed to respect and keep God's pattern. Towards the end of his life Solomon drifted away from God. Following Solomon under the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, more Jewish kings were unfaithful to the Lord. Because of the apostasy of the Jews, God allowed them to be taken into captivity and the temple to be destroyed.

While in captivity in Babylon, God sent a special vision of the temple to the prophet Ezekiel. In the vision Ezekiel saw a man with a measuring rod measuring

God's temple and all the articles in it. Why? What was the meaning of the vision? "Thou son of man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern" (Ezk. 43:10).

Just as God gave the Jews a pattern through Moses and David, He has given us a pattern of work and worship. The Old Testament, the tabernacle and the temple were only "a copy and a shadow of heavenly things" that are now provided for us by Christ under the New Testament.

The pattern Christians have to follow is complete and sufficient. It is complete as it has "given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness" (2 Pet. 1:3). It is sufficient as it "is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

As God warned the Jews not to violate or tamper with His pattern, He warns us also.

We must obey God's pattern. It is necessary to obey "that form (pattern) of doctrine which was first delivered to you" (Rom. 6:17). To fail to obey His pattern leads to sin and death (Rom. 6:18-23).

We must walk by God's pattern. The apostles, led by the Holy Spirit are an "ensample" or pattern for us to learn from, imitate and walk after (Phil. 3:17; 2 Thes. 3:9).

We must keep God's pattern. "Hold fast the form (pattern) of sound words, which thou hast heard of me" (2 Tim. 1:13).

We must make all things by God's pattern. As Moses was warned to follow the pattern of God in all things, so God warns us in the New Testament "for See, sayeth He, that thou make all things according to the pattern" (Heb. 8:5).

Will you heed the warning?

WG

CHURCH NEWS & EVENTS

Announcements

Birthdays this month:

Bob Whitaker	5
Bea Brown	8
Caleb Whitaker	16
Doug Cyrus	18
Cora Shrake	22
Heidi Cyrus	28

Anniversaries this month:

No anniversaries listed

Tell an out-of-town friend to sign up for an e-Bulletin, and they can have an e-Bulletin delivered to their email inbox every week!



Check out our new online bulletin board for the congregation. On this bulletin board you can make announcements, ask for prayers, and discuss questions. You can find the bulletin board at:

www.panachurch.com/bb



Hickory Estates Singing Night will be held on January 29, 2008 at 6:30 pm.

READ AND STUDY YOUR BIBLE DAILY!

“A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels”

(Prov 1:5)

