



WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

REQUISITES OF ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP

“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” - John 4:24

Three requisites of acceptable worship are set forth in this verse: 1-We must worship God. 2-We must worship God in spirit. 3-We must worship God in truth.

The first commandment forbade the worship of any other being. It said, “**Thou shalt have no other gods before me.**” (Deut. 5:7). Verse 9 of Deuteronomy 5 reads, “**Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them; for I, Jehovah, thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the third and upon the fourth generation of them that hate me.**” Hence, however sincere might be the idol worshipper, his worship is highly displeasing to God, because it fails in the first of the requisites above given. It is not directed to God.

Secondly, the worship must be in spirit, i.e., proceeding from a sincere heart and rendered with attention and understanding. This forbids worship that is merely formal—worship that consists of rites and ceremonies in which the worshipper may engage without attention. Catholicism is a system of such worship where the worshipper may not know, and indeed is not expected to know, the significance of much in which he engages.

There is some danger that this type of worship should come to obtain in Christ’s church. The unvarying routine of services, the formal and mechanical participation in song, prayer, and the Lord’s Supper, the failure to give attention and enter heartily into the worship leads to that which is not in spirit.

This is that which Jesus rebuked in the Pharisees in Matthew 15:9—vain worship. Such people as this worship him with their lips and give utterance to phrases of worshipful nature, but the heart is not in it, and God is not pleased. We should ever be on our guard that we do not fall into a mechanical, formal, heartless type of devotion to God.

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Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 41, NUMBER 8 February 22, 2015

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T.J. Bolen— Knowing Bible Origin - Why it Matters

PM: T.J. Bolen— A thorn in the flesh, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

MAN’S “WISDOM” VS. GOD’S

**“IF ANY MAN OFFEND NOT IN WORD,
THE SAME IS A PERFECT MAN” - JAMES 3:2**

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NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
COME SEE!**

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SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320

*Nursery provided
Bible Classes for all ages*

*Informal Bible Study
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your Bible questions
Saturdays 3 pm*

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Margaret Herring, Stephanie Rigney, Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.*

- **Margaret Herring** has an appointment on March 2nd to evaluate an abscess on her salivary gland. She is also still having trouble with her foot. **Stephanie Rigney** is to have a PET scan soon to see if her cancer is still in remission.
- **Steve Nimmon’s** (Trevia’s son-in-law) mother is very ill and has only a few weeks to live according to her doctors.
- **Anna Porter** is back home but still facing many issues, hoping she will not have to return to the hospital.
- The **Brisbons** have found work in New York. Pray they find a congregation of the church as well, that will help these new Christians grow.
- Remember those listed above and: **Tommy and Michelle Johnson; Gwen Pittman; Grant Parks** and family; **Debbie Sheppard; Nikki Willis; Eileen Lester; Floyd Richbourg** with knee problems.
- Pray for all these, send them a card, show them you love them.
- **Be thankful that God hears our prayers and answers! (1 John 5:15)**

“My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever.” - Psalm 73:26

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Carolina Men’s Fellowship** in Rock Hill, Saturday March 14, make plans to go.
- Lots of stray dishes in the kitchen, please pickup any that are yours.
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**

“They that trust in the Lord shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth forever.” - Psalm 125:1

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

HOW MUCH DO YOU LOVE GOD?

EVERYONE! Please be at the church building this Sunday afternoon at 2PM to get some plastic bags with flyers announcing the upcoming **“How We Got the Bible Class.”** The plastic bags are small and intended to be hung on door handles in the Cayce/West Columbia area. Brother Bolen will give directions. Take some and put them out. Very simple, but necessary to get the word out about the bible class. It should not take more than an hour or so. The class will begin on Tuesday, March 3rd @ 7 PM.

“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” - Galatians 6:7-9

REQUISITES OF ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP —(Continued from page 1)

Finally, worship, to be acceptable, must be in truth. To be “in truth” is to be according to God’s word. Jesus said, **“Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth.” (John 17:17).** Any act of worship—however sincere might be the worshipper—is not acceptable to God if it is not in harmony with the scriptures. This teaches us that God will accept only that which he has specifically set forth in the scriptures for us to do in worship. We walk by faith and not by sight, (2 Cor. 5:7), and since faith comes by hearing God’s word, (Rom. 10:17), we can offer in faith only that which is set forth in his word.

This will exclude from our worship everything not specifically mentioned therein. By this rule, we can never use instrumental music in worship, because it is nowhere commanded or even mentioned in Christian worship. Therefore, we cannot engage in it “by faith.”

True, David used instrumental music, but he also offered animal sacrifices and burned incense in worship. We do not take our orders from David today. Christ is our lawgiver and guide. (Matt. 17:5; 28:18; Heb. 1:1-2). He has nowhere authorized instrumental music, the Holy Spirit-inspired apostles did not sanction it, no New Testament writer mentioned it in Christian worship, and no apostolic church practiced it. To engage in it is to fail to worship “in truth.” But God is pleased when one only worships in truth. Therefore, instrumental music is not pleasing to him.

The items of worship are set forth in Acts 2:42 and Eph. 5:19. These are (1) teaching, (2) singing, (3) prayer, (4) the contribution, and (5) the Lord’s Supper. These items were observed on every first day of the week by the church in apostolic times. (1 Cor. 16:2; Acts 20:7).

The disciples were directed by men who were empowered with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:42; 2:1). We can do no less than this and be assured to pleasing God today. What pleased him then will surely please him today. All else must be rigidly excluded from worship and service to God.

“Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”

1 Samuel. 15:22

- H. Leo Boles, 1874-1946, Gospel teacher

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Sun AM Sermon— *Knowing Bible Origin - Why it Matters*

1. Answering" Why"
2. The constant denial of the Bible not being from God is not going away.
3. A means of increasing and maturing in your faith.
4. Another way to distinguish yourself as a follower of Christ.