

Rom. 14:19 So then let us follow after things which make for peace, and things whereby we may edify one another.

THE LENEXA EDIFIER

John 8:32

"And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free"

March 27, 2022

OUR GOSPEL MEETING

With Tim Jennings

THE LENEXA CHURCH OF CHRIST INVITES YOU TO A GOSPEL MEETING MARCH 27-30, 2022

Following is the Schedule of Lessons:

Sunday AM Bible Class - 9:30 AM
ARISE AND BUILD

Sunday AM Worship - 10:20 AM
THE JOY OF SERVICE

Sunday PM Worship - 5:00 PM
LIVING IN THE SHADOW OF BABEL

Monday Night Lesson - 7:00 PM
LOVE LIKE GOD LOVES

Tuesday Night Lesson - 7:00 PM
DO NOT FEAR, ONLY BELIEVE

Wednesday Night Lesson - 7:00 PM
SPEAK MORE CAREFULLY

**Come let us learn the value of knowing
Jesus Christ and learning from Him.**

THE FAITHFUL WILL INHERIT
by Jim Stauffer

"Blessed are those who have been persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you and

persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

(Matthew 5:10-12)

Paul tells Timothy, *"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."* **(2 Timothy 3:12)**

Why do you suppose these verses and others place emphasis on enduring persecution? There is an obvious connection between faithfulness and persecution. Faithfulness to God does not allow compromise or accommodation of error. Therefore, those who do practice, compromise with or accommodate error will distance themselves from the faithful and be naturally critical of their stance for truth. These are those for whom the kingdom is reserved.

Can we be faithful to God and Christ and not be alienated from the world? Of course not! The Lord dealt with this issue when He said, *"For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it."* **(Matthew 16:25)**

Those who inherit have special attributes granted from God. Paul sums it up rather completely when he says, *"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works."* **(Titus 2:11-14)**

Salvation by God's grace comes to those who, once they have been redeemed from iniquity, deny ungodliness and worldly lusts **(1 John 2:15-17)** and live

that sober and righteous life in this present world zealous of good works. Therein is the challenge. In this present world, a world that prefers to serve the lusts and desires of the flesh. We have been born again (**John 3:3-5**), becoming a new creature (**2 Cor. 5:17**) living a life guided by the Spirit (**Gal. 5:16; Rom. 8:9-11**), and we are called to walk in this life as our Lord did (**1 Pet. 2:21-24; Eph. 5:1,2**). We are walking a different pathway than the world around us and that will ultimately lead to persecution, a rejection of the narrow way to which the Lord has called us.

That is when we will be challenged to trust in Him. His promise of the inheritance is true. His promise to sustain us and help us through these difficulties remains. The Psalmist remembers the promise of God to be with us and sustain us and help us fight these battles, *“The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them; but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming. The wicked draw the sword and bend the bow to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose ways are upright. But their swords will pierce their own hearts, and their bows will be broken.”* (**Psalm 37:12-15**) Paul reminds us we can do all things with the help of His strength (**Phil. 4:13**).

We must communicate with God by meditating on His word (**Psalm 19:14**) and in prayer (**Eph. 6:18**). That is our access to the strength He affords to those who serve faithfully to enable them to receive the inheritance promised.

The obvious plea to all those of the world is made in such efforts as this week’s series of lessons intended to increase both awareness and understanding of the call of the gospel and the inheritance of the saints. Please take the time to come hear these lessons in the hope of receiving the inheritance promised **only** to the faithful.

Why One Way?

In **Deuteronomy 12**, we read of what Israel was told while they were still in the wilderness; *“You shall not at all do as we are doing here today – every man doing whatever is right in his own eyes”* (**vs. 8**). This writer usually associates that phrase with the end of Judges, yet here it is, long before Judges. In the context, God was speaking about worship. How they were to worship and where they were to worship was prescribed. At the appropriate time, *“whatever”*, was not going to be acceptable.

Why? Why does how a person worship matter? That question has always been a concern for people. Why does it matter?

It shows who fears God – At first glance, it seems like fear should not be a part of a Christian’s life, as perfect love casts out fear (**1 Jn. 4:18**). The problem is, there are many verses that say we should fear. It was a part of the early church (**Acts 2:43**). It accompanied their edification and comfort (**Acts 9:31**). It is one thing that moves us to repentance and growth (**2 Cor. 7:1**). Back to Israel; Why did how and where they worship matter? It showed whether they feared God.

It shows who loves God – The world has its idea of love, loving pleasure, money, and self (**2 Tim. 3: 1-4**), but their love of God is in short supply. Romans tells us, *“love is the fulfillment of the law”* (**Rom. 13:10**). It is speaking about how we are to treat others. Our worship pertains to loving God though. Surely no verses need be given to illustrate that we should love God. We simply read Jesus’ words to Peter; *“Do you love Me?”* (**Jn. 21: 15-17**). Our love of God manifests itself in how we treat others, but firstly, how we treat Him. Back to Israel; Why did how and where they worship matter? It showed whether they loved God.

It shows who serves God – We have already seen in **2 Timothy 3** who most are interested in serving. Jude also speaks of those who only serve themselves (**vs. 12**). No, God is not served with men’s hands as though He needs something (**Acts 17:25**), but we do serve Him. As with Israel, so it is with us. Why one way? It reveals whether we are only interested in serving ourselves. “Whatever we think” is a sure sign of serving only ourselves.

Hopefully we also see that “one way” actually unites people. “Whatever you want to do” does not bring people together. It is individualistic. By giving a pattern, the Lord actually makes the way for fellowship in Him.

John Hines; 25th Street Bulletin

Abortion

Keith Sharp | Mountain Home, Arkansas, USA

According to christianliferesources.com, since 1973 (Roe vs. Wade) approximately 67,460,000 legal abortions have occurred in the U.S.. In contrast, approximately 1,300,000 American soldiers have been killed in battle since 1775. In comparison to the killing of

the unborn in America today, Pharaoh's murder of the Hebrew baby boys (**Exodus 1:15-22**) would not make the front page, Herod's destruction of the babes in Bethlehem (**Matthew 2:13-18**) was a minor incident, and Hitler's savage slaughter of 6 million Jews wouldn't rate headlines.

When Mary was pregnant with Jesus and went to visit her cousin Elisabeth, who was pregnant with John, Luke records of Elisabeth, *"the babe leaped in her womb"* (**Luke 1:41**). John, when as yet a fetus in Elisabeth's womb, was called by the Holy Spirit a *"babe."* This word (Greek *"brephos"*) is also used to describe Jesus as a newborn infant (**Luke 2:12**), the evangelist Timothy as a young child (**2 Timothy 3:15**), infants brought to Jesus (**Luke 18:15**), and the children Pharaoh had killed (**Acts 7:19**).

Not only is the fetus in the mother's womb a baby, it has emotions. Elisabeth exultantly informed Mary, *"the babe leaped in my womb for joy"* (**Luke 2:16**).

Little babies are, of all people, innocent (**Matthew 18:1-4; 19:13-14; 1 Corinthians 14:20, NASB, NEV**). A primary reason the Lord God destroyed ancient Judah was for murdering *"the innocents,"* their own babies (**Jeremiah 19:2-5**). How long can this wicked nation endure?

I recently asked a friend who favors abortion, What is the difference between abortion and the Holocaust? He had no answer. Actually, abortion is worse. In abortion, all the murder victims are innocent.

The New Testament makes no distinction between the nature of an unborn child and one already born. To kill the unborn is no different than Pharaoh's slaughter of the Hebrew babes.

And remember, both Pharaoh and Herod acted under the approval of the law of the land. How can anyone favor abortion on demand and at the same time oppose brutal child abuse? What is more brutal than killing?

The unborn child is a person. Give him/her the same love God demands we give all people, especially innocent, helpless people. Stop killing babies!

The Kingdom Is Within You **Kenny L. Chumbley**

The basis of all government is self-government. It increasingly seems the ineptitude and heavy handedness of our ruling class springs from a lack of

self-control. How can anyone govern anything or anybody until they have first learned to govern him or herself?

Self-government, self-rule, self-discipline is what Jesus was talking about when He said, *"the kingdom of God is within you."* It's what James was talking about when he said, *"Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war"* (**4.1– 2**). Addictions don't just happen; they happen when the war inside is lost. Wars and rumors of wars don't just happen; they happen when the war inside is lost. And the same goes for injustice, insider trading, slander, violence against another, etc.—all of these result because someone has lost or is losing the battle for their soul.

And because this matter is so serious (for what does a man profit if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul), and because self-control doesn't develop automatically, Paul, in **1 Corinthians 9.24–27**, tells us we are to reckon ourselves like an athlete on a racecourse running for a prize. To gain the prize, we must so run (KJV), run in such a way as to obtain it. The verbs Paul used reveal the difficulty and strenuousness of the contest: run, compete, fight, bring into subjection. Only through such effort, discipline and training can the kingdom be in us.

***Taken from Market Street Messenger~via
Gibson City Bulletin; Gibson City, Illinois.***

THEY MISSED HIM!

They were looking for A Lion, He came as a Lamb, and they missed him.

They were looking for a Warrior, He came as a Peace maker, and they missed him.

They were looking for a King, He came as a Servant, and they missed him.

They were looking for Liberation from Rome, He submitted to the Roman cross, and they missed him.

They were looking for a fit to their mold, He was the mold maker, and they missed him.

They were looking for their temporal needs to be met. He came to meet their eternal needs, and they missed him.

How about you? Don't miss Him.

-- Author Unknown

Psa. 1:1 *Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, Nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers: 2 But his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water, That bringeth forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also doth not wither; And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. 4 The wicked are not so, But are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. 5 Therefore the wicked shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For Jehovah knoweth the way of the righteous; But the way of the wicked shall perish.*

HOURS OF WORSHIP

Sunday A.M. 9:30 Bible Study

Sunday A.M. 10:20 Assembled Worship

Sunday P.M. 5:00 Assembled Worship

Wednesday P.M. 7:00 Bible Study and Worship

Visitors welcome

We conduct in home Bible Studies

We offer Correspondence Courses

Evangelist and Editor Jim Stauffer

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Check out the following websites

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Elders: Ron Peck

Jim Stauffer

Deacons: Bill Miller

Joe Hurd

NEWS AND NOTES:

SICK IN NEED OF PRAYERS:

JAN PATRICK, ALMA
BAUMGARTNER, DENESE GORING,
BROOKLYN BOYER, TRACY
RICHARDSON, MATT BASSFORD,
DAVID & JOANNE, BECKLEY, MARK
WALKER, STEVE WIMP AND
ERNESTINE BYERS.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS:
REVELATION - BILL MILLER

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS
GENESIS - JIM STAUFFER

SUNDAY MORNING SERMON:
GOSPEL MEETING

THE JOY OF SERVICE



What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the gospel - Romans 10:17

Believe in Jesus Christ - Hebrews 11:6

Repent of sins - Acts 17:30

Confess Christ as Lord - Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for remission of sins

Acts 2:38

Be Faithful unto death - Revelation 2:10