

THE BEACON OF TRUTH

September 15, 2019

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17

Worship in Song

Vernon Curry

As a preacher, I often sit and look around at the people who are singing. We are singing songs of praise to the God of the universe. We stand in awe at the power and majesty of God. We know this is the same God who created the universe and who will bring it to an end. This is the same God who raised Jesus from the dead and we are so happy that He did. We believe He is able to raise us from the dead, also.

We sing praise to God. We also are singing the praises OF God. We want everyone to know how we feel about Him and how we love and adore Him. Without God we would be nothing and without God we would surely perish. Oh, we love God!

We may not sing on key. We may not even know what “on key” is. We may not know where “on key” is. That isn’t why we are singing. We are singing praises to/of our God. We are not looking for the praise of men in how good we sing. We are not looking for the praise of men in how beautiful our voice is. We are praising God, OUR God.

Then sometimes I see someone who isn’t singing. Let me ask you a question: How do you feel about your God? This is your God, right? You love and adore Him, right?

Then sometimes I hear someone say they can’t sing. Let me tell you a story about turkey hunting. Calling turkeys in the spring is an “art”. Some towns have contests for the best turkey callers. A friend of mine enjoys turkey hunting. He has a good calling ability. There is a certain way people are taught to call.

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By the Numbers:

Week of 9/8/19

Contribution – \$2573

Attendance:

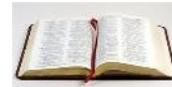
Sunday Bible Classes – 28

Sunday Worship* – 54

Wednesday Night – 37

*Total for the day

Bible Trivia Question



Last Week’s Answer: Himself
(Paul) (1 Tim. 1:15).

Q: Of what was Paul’s life pattern?

Answer to be given next week!

SERMON SPOTLIGHT:

AM — Trespassing Brothers

1. What key aspect of church discipline do we often overlook?
2. Does church discipline work? If sometimes it doesn’t, is it God’s fault or OUR fault?

PM — The Parable of the Unjust Judge

1. This is another CONTRASTING parable.
2. The unjust judge delayed judgment for selfish reasons, but God delays judgment because He is long-suffering!

Schedule Of Services

Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible study 7:00 P.M.

Website

Beaconcofc.com

Preacher

Chase Green
318-608-7418

Elders

Bill Schooley 318-396-7296
Tim Green 318-547-4026

Missions Supported

Ronnie Goolam - India
Marlon Retana - Panama
Brad Harrub - Focus Press

BEACON CHURCH OF CHRIST
2326 JONESBORO ROAD
MAIL: P.O. BOX 3057
WEST MONROE, LA 71294

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED

1. Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17).
2. Believe (Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6).
3. Repent (Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30).
4. Confess Christ (Matt. 10:32, 33).
5. Be baptized (immersed) (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).
6. Continue faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).

Mailing Address

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

NEWS AND NOTES TO OUR GUESTS—A WARM WELCOME

Thank you for coming today and please come back soon and often. If you have questions about the church of Christ, what is taught here, or the way we do anything please feel free to ask. Please fill out the Guest Register on the table in the foyer so we may have a record of your visit.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Margie Tippen, Regina Simmons, Marcia Green, Kevin Green, Jerry Tippen, Harold Myers, Joy Skipper, Ruth Coston, Lindy Brown, Kaitlyn Wilson, Kathy Lawrence, Melba Tippen Creech, Mike Jones, Kenneth Hendrix, Tim Green, Mildred Allhands, Anthony Ortega, Debbie Grice, Virginia Wainwright, Stetson Ortega, Bettie Young, Dewey Young, Wendy Traweek (Out of the hospital now. Please pray for her continued improvement), Bill Schooley, as he recovers from his hernia surgery

OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Youth & Young Adults: Be on the lookout for monthly events.
- Monthly Fellowship Meal: Next Sunday, September 22nd.

(Continued from page 1)

Anyway, this friend was hunting one spring and heard someone calling. He said it was the worst job of calling he had ever heard. He thought it would surely improve, but it did not. So when he could stand it no longer he began to slip up on this caller to see who it was. He finally got pretty close and then he saw...a turkey hen calling for a gobbler. He then realized that the “art” of calling may not be what man thinks it is!

God made everyone’s voice. It may not sound good to me. It may not sound good to the person who has it. It may be beautiful to the Creator. Never deprive God of hearing His creature praise Him. Sing!

Note: The story about the turkey call makes an extremely important point. The purpose of our singing is NOT to focus on how well (or unwell) our singing sounds. Yes, I as much as anyone love to hear a song that is well sung, but the PURPOSE of our singing is fourfold: to praise/honor God with the fruit of our lips (Heb. 13:15), to give thanks to God (Eph. 5:19-20), to teach one another (Col. 3:16), and to admonish (reprove/encourage) one another (Col. 3:16). If the only thing you are concerned with is how well (or how unwell) the singing SOUNDS, you’ve completely missed the point! “Is any merrymery? let him sing psalms” (James 5:13b). — TCG

James 4:13-17

Chase Green

Verses 13-14: “Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.” The brevity of life is a certainty of life. The UN-certainty of life is a certainty of life! That is, we can be certain that life is UN-certain!

The cemeteries are full of headstones of the deceased of various ages. It is probably true that a small majority of graves are of those who lived to be in their 70s, 80s, and even into their 90s and 100s, but there are also plenty of graves of those who only lived to much younger ages. Tragedies in this life abound. Many a life has been cut short by car accidents, accidental drownings, house fires, etc. Other lives have ended prematurely due to violence, or cancer, or lung disease, or heart attacks, etc. Cemeteries even contain the graves of little children, sometimes even infants. One simply cannot know exactly when he will meet his appointment with death (Heb. 9:27).

Thus, James tells us to take heed of the fact of life’s brevity, and not to count on the morrow, for there may be no tomorrow. This reminds me of what Jesus taught in Luke 12:16-21. There, a “certain rich man” pulled down his barns in order to build bigger barns. He surely had grandiose plans for his life. He had worked hard to plan for this moment. Verse 19 seems to indicate that he was ready to relax and retire, and yet that very night his soul was required of him (he died). All the treasures that he had worked so hard to accumulate would merely be passed down to relatives, or someone else, to take possession of them. Thus, he SHOULD have been laying up for himself treasure in heaven. How many people today are foolishly storing up treasures upon earth, treasures that they will never see again once they cross into eternity?

Verse 15: “For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.” Just as the Lord taught His disciples to pray that the Lord’s will be done (Mat. 6:10), so we must be willing to accept His will in regards to the longevity of our lives. None of us are guaranteed a certain amount of time. Time is certainly a great blessing. Are we taking advantage of it? Are we redeeming it (Eph. 5:16)? Or are we squandering it? “Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest” (Ecc. 9:10).

Verse 16: “But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil.” Those who boast about tomorrow are just like the “certain rich man” from Luke 12. They are FOOLISH. Their boasting/rejoicing is evil. Surely the Father in heaven looks upon them with much disdain.

Verse 17: “Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.” In this context, could it be that James is emphasizing that we must do good WITH OUR TIME? I think so! Most probably think of sin, first and foremost, with regard to its negative aspect: doing something that God said NOT to do. But it is equally sinful to NEGLECT to do something that God said TO do! Will there be lost souls on the Day of Judgment because of the sin of NEGLIGENCE (omittance), rather than sins they have committed? We can be certain that it is so! What are some common sins of negligence? Neglecting Bible study (2 Tim. 2:15), neglecting fellowship (Heb. 10:24-25), neglecting church attendance (Heb. 10:25), neglecting evangelism (Mark 16:15), neglecting prayer (1 Thes. 5:17), neglecting the physical needs of others (Mat. 25:41-46), to name a few!

With love, Chase

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE

“But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.”
Luke 9:27

BE SURE TO TUNE INTO OUR RADIO STATION!
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