

Let's Visit

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God Don't Make No Junk!

There is no individual more miserable than the individual who believes that he or she is not good for anything. Paul realized that some people in the church might have such thoughts, so he told us the church was like the human body. It has different members. All the members are valuable to the body. He said one member could not say it was not of the body because it was not another member. Evidently some had been having such ideas. Paul was very careful to make this matter clear. Perhaps we should read again sometime the 12th chapter of the First Corinthian letter where these things are discussed. It would at least make us know we are good for something.

It is wrong for a person to not do what they are capable of doing. If we know to do good and don't do it, James says it is sin. Beloved, there is enough buried talent in the Lord's church to explode the world for Jesus Christ if we could only get folks interested in digging it up and turning it loose. Too many of us have allowed our timidity and feelings of inadequacy to keep us from doing the great things for the church that we are capable of doing. Being the natural optimist, I am convinced that we would be surprised at what we could accomplish if we ever really got moving.

I found the following clipping, somewhat yellowed around the edges with age in one of my file cabinets. I have no idea what newspaper or magazine it came out of, nor how old it is. I want to insert it here, exactly as it was written.

"You're good! Hold on to that fact. So often others doubt you and ridicule you and point out your mistakes. So often you doubt yourself.

And yet, in spite of that doubt there persists that old faith you had in yourself as a child. It isn't

conceit. It's just a belief that you are something special, something good.

And it's true. You are good!

You do hold miracles within your power.

You can spread comfort and courage through this darkened world.

You are needed more than you have ever dreamed.

You may not have a plushy job. You may not be particularly talented. You may only have the ability to smile. But that is enough.

This isn't highbrow philosophy. It's just plain horse sense. You are what you believe. You are as tall and as wide as your own faith in yourself.

You can lift yourself by your own boot strings and if you once realize that fact there's no force on earth, however evil, that can overcome you.

You are good. You are good for something. Then get going."

If we could only see this in religious matters and if we would just try it. If we would only give ourselves a chance to do things for God we would be surprised at how big we really are. Anyone who loves the cause of Christ, with the help of Christ can do great things for Him. You may come out looking a little worn because of your labor. But your heart will be singing because you have done something for the master.

tp

In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry
KSLA 12 - Shreveport - 7:30 a.m. Sunday
DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday
DIRECT TV channel 307 - 6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

"Lives Are Changed By Love"

Our text comes from Galatians 2:20. Paul tells us there he lives a new life because Christ lives in him.

FOR THE PANTRY....

Canned Milk

How Hollywood Taught Us To Worship

By Wes McAdams

Hollywood seems to make a lot of movies with no real plot. The story makes very little sense and is not very intriguing, in and of itself. The characters are one-dimensional and the audience feels no real connection to them. However, these movies still make money because what they lack in substance, they make up for in cheap thrills. Playing on the audience's emotion, rather than on their intellect, Hollywood fills the plot holes with multi-million dollar explosions.

Worship, amongst many religious groups, has followed this pattern. Because there is no depth of spiritual knowledge, they substitute theatrics to draw a crowd. Reverence, fear, and awe have been traded for the cheap thrills of a rock concert.

Alexander Campbell had very strong words for those who used an instrument in worship. He said such a thing was only necessary for those who had "no real devotion and spirituality." In other words,

when people have no spiritual depth, they resort to amusements to excite their souls.



True worship does not need light shows, loud music, and fog machines to excite the soul. True worship is expressed when a person realizes he is in the presence of a holy God, "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:28-29).

Don't trade worship for theatrics.

On The Lighter Side.....



You're figuring on a long sermon today, huh?

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Little Tommy was asked to write an essay on water. After chewing on his pen for a long time he wrote: "Water is a wet liquid that turns dark when you wash in it."

Miscellaneous



Those To Remember In Prayer

Daniel New (Kenley Dover's grandfather)

Ronnie Stanfield scheduled for knee surgery July 27th.

Tina Vaughn diagnosed with Bell's Palsy

Jerry Pate recovering from knee surgery

Bob Keffer (Bobbie Holder's father) heart issues

John Melching (Karen McCormick's father) Covid 19

Corey and Tara Yaws Covid-19

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE :

LeLand Bradshaw and Lucas Tate

A Certified Gospel

"But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man"
(Galatians 1:11)

A certified gospel is simply a guaranteed gospel. Paul guaranteed the Galatians that the gospel which he preached did not originate with men, but originated with God and was revealed to him by the revelation of Jesus Christ. Men are always careful to obtain only those products that are guaranteed to come up to a certain standard; but it is different with the gospel, with religious teachings. They are apt to accept just about anything, whether it has a guarantee or not when they consider religion.

In only one place can we find a certain gospel today. That is in the pages of inspired scripture, the teachings of the New Testament. When Paul preached, he proved the gospel to be from God by miracles that God did through him. Today, however, it is not necessary that miracles occur for the listener to recognize the certified gospel, he has only to go to the teachings of the New Testament and prove the preaching he hears by what he reads in God's word. If what is preached is found in the Bible, then it is guaranteed to be true. If it is not found in the Bible, then it is not the certified gospel and should be rejected.

How thankful we should be that there has been given to us, the word of God in a permanent form so that we can turn its pages and study His will! Let us not neglect our opportunities to study and to practice that which we learn. By so doing, the world will have a demonstration of the certified gospel, a sure proof as to the reality there is in the religion of our Lord.

*-Foster L. Ramsey
-Just a Moment*



September 13, 2020

Our annual "Friends and Family Day" is tentatively scheduled for September 13, 2020.

Pray that we can have the worst of this pandemic behind us and have a wonderful time of Worship and Fellowship on that day!

**Remember our Mid Week Bible Study
Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.**

As we have said on numerous occasions, Facebook and the Internet are "Door Knocking" for the 21st Century. We have started publishing video sermons to Facebook and we have also established a You Tube channel for the Center Church of Christ. It would be appreciated if you would give us permission to automatically share to your personal Facebook page videos when they are posted. If you are willing to do this, please sign the following form.

I hereby grant permission for the administrators of the Center Church of Christ Facebook page to post videos and other posts generated by the Center Church of Christ to my personal Facebook page. This will also include meeting advertisements, columns (Across The Preacher's Desk) and other items posted from time to time.

Signature _____

Date _____



Across The Preacher's Desk

I know this will come as a shock to many people, but I will confess that I have been fishing once or twice in my life. I will not go so far as to put it at the top of my list of "preferred recreational activities", in fact, it probably would not make the top 100. But I have tried it. I remember using a cork and watching it float on the surface of the water. I know that even when the cork is submerged, it will float to the top. I have even done some reading on this subject and found that you can press a cork down 10 or 50 or even 100 feet below the surface of the water and release it and it will rise again. Yet, I also read if that same cork is pressed down 200 feet below the surface of the water, it cannot rise again. The reason being that the water pressure at that depth is too great. The cork will collapse. That made me stop and do a little thinking. That scares you doesn't it?

You see, it's that same way with sin. The lower a man or woman sinks in the depths of sin, the greater the difficulty and less the probability of his or her ever rising again. The pressure of persistent sin can so damage the conscience of an individual that they cannot hear the call of God through the Gospel and therefore cannot be lifted from the mire of sin.

May our hearts ever be tender and alive to the call of the gospel and the pleadings of our Savior. Let's make sure we don't get so deep in sin and neglect that we never rise again!

it's something to think about. . . .tlp

**Great Churches are built with
Commitment!**