

*In
search
of*

Truth and Right

Tim Henderson, Editor

**Vol. 01
No. 10
10/09/
2006**

"Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things." Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)

A publication
of the
**Wellsburg
church of
Christ**

Two Men Attend Worship Services

By Bill Hall

via: Two Men ... Articles on Practical Christian Living

Two men attend worship services. **The first man** attends wholly out of a sense of duty. He understands the teaching of Heb. 10:25 *"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,"* and is determined to obey faithfully that teaching. He will not allow anything within his power to stand in the way of his attending the worship periods of the church.



The second man recognizes his duty in this matter, too, but his primary motivation in attendance is his love for the Lord and his joy in blending his voice and heart with other Christians in praise and adoration to the Lord. He delights in worship and the spiritual strength he derives through worship.

The first man is mentally passive throughout the worship service. If the words of the song happen to catch his attention, he observes and appreciates them; otherwise, he just sings along with little concern for what he is singing. If the sermon is interesting, he listens; otherwise, he just relaxes, and hopes the time won't drag too badly. He does meditate briefly concerning Christ's suffering and death as he partakes of the supper, for somehow the importance of the memorial feast has been impressed upon his mind.

The second man comes mentally prepared to worship. He pays close attention to the words of each

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Bible Classes*	10:00 AM
AM Worship	10:45 AM
PM Worship	6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes*	7:00 PM
----------------	---------

(* Bible Classes for All Ages)

This Bulletin is published by the:

**Wellsburg
church of Christ**

which meets at:

**112 Sunset Ave.
Wellsburg, WV 26070
304-737-1422**

song and makes the sentiment of the songs his own sentiment. In fact, he sometimes studies the words of frequently used songs so he will be sure he understands their meaning. Depth of meaning is of greater importance to him than a catchy tune or rhythmic beat. He listens to each phrase of the prayer that is led, and if he can approve the petitions of the prayer, he unites with the one who leads with his "Amen." He discerns the Lord's body as he breaks bread, and he listens carefully to the sermon, volunteering his attention, hiding the word in his heart, that he might not sin against God (Psalm 119:11). If his mind wanders occasionally, he brings it back to the worship. He worships with a consciousness of God as the object of his worship, the One toward whom these expressions of adoration are directed.

The first man reduces his service to a mere code of external rites, while **the second man** obeys "*from the heart*," combining the outward with the inward. **The first man** is more likely to be satisfied with his service to the Lord, for he has accepted the easier standard, but it is **the second man** who enjoys God's approval. "*God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth*" (John 4:24).

We ask the reader: "In which of these two men do you see a reflection of yourself?" The need is obvious! We must cast off our laziness and indifference, revitalize our spirits, and bring ourselves to worship God acceptably. There is a considerable difference between mere attendance of a worship service and truly acceptable worship.

Two Men Try To Worship

By Bill Hall

via: Two Men ... Articles on Practical Christian Living

Worship under the best of conditions can sometimes be difficult. Distractions, human error, and sometimes funny situations can occur to take one's attention away

from the Lord. Attitudes, however, can prove to be a major factor in acceptable (or non-acceptable) worship. For instance ...

Two men sincerely try to worship. **The first man**, though, is frustrated throughout. His frustrations begin with the opening announcements when the man in charge takes ten minutes to say what any normal man could say in three. He is hardly over that when the song leader adds to his frustrations, selecting a song he is sure contains an unscriptural phrase. The man who presides at the table doesn't help when he uses the term "loaf" instead of "bread," and then the man who is called on to "give thanks for the bread" gives thanks for everything but the bread. The preacher makes a major contribution by totally misapplying a passage of scripture ("He probably didn't spend enough time on that one," the man thinks). When the worship period is finally dismissed, he tries to share his frustrations with those around him, but no one seems to care.

The second man observes many of the mistakes the first man observes. In fact, without fanfare he just doesn't sing the questionable phrase in the song and he silently thanks God for the bread when he realizes the leader's failure to do so. But while observing mistakes, he focuses attention on the good sentiments of the songs that are used, and on the death of his Savior during the Lord's Supper. He makes the prayer that is led his own and appreciates the good thoughts presented in the lesson. He has come to worship God. He makes allowances for human frailty on the part of the leaders in worship, appreciates their sincere efforts, and refuses to let their mistakes keep him from his purpose.

The first man is to be pitied. His ability to "worship" is dependent on the ability of the leaders in the worship period, and any half-observant person knows how inept that leadership can be at times. He comes to worship, but spends the hour criticizing. He blames others for that which is really his own problem. Consequently, his problem with worship becomes a problem also with his brethren;

but one cannot have a problem with his worship and his brethren without having a problem in his relationship with God.

The second man, by maintaining a positive attitude toward his brethren, even when they make mistakes, is able to worship acceptably and is drawn closer to God by his worship.

We are not condoning sloppily conducted worship periods. Leaders in worship should seek to avoid mistakes and to do their work effectively. But acceptable worship depends far more on the heart and attitude of the worshiper than on the abilities of leaders. Our first man may point the finger of blame at others, but his real need is a total change of attitude within himself.

What We Give Our Children

By Bill Hall



Several years ago I visited with a lady whose sixteen-year-old daughter

had suddenly disappeared. No word had been heard from her in over a week. The mother couldn't understand why her girl had run away from home. She opened a closet door. "Look at all those beautiful clothes," she said, "We wanted our daughter to be as well dressed as any other girl in school." She pointed to a TV in the corner of the room. "We had a TV in the living room, but our daughter wanted her own private TV, so we bought it for her," the mother said. Then she pointed to a typewriter, "Our daughter was taking typing, and we thought she needed a typewriter at home for practice." That couple had provided everything for their daughter except that which she needed most—a **love for God and His word**.

Providing our children with a love of God and His word is our most important task as parents.

Parents, if you are not bringing your children to the services of the church; if you are not teaching them God's word; if you are not instilling in their hearts faith in God and submission to His will, you are failing as parents, no matter what you may be giving your children materially.

News N Notes

Sick:

- Continue to remember Ed Roberts' father; Marie Roberts will have eye surgery next week; Cindy North as she faces further surgeries; Joy Isinghood continues to be sick

Nursing Home:

- Hazel Carroll, Ethel Mahan, Pauline Sellers

Shut-ins:

- Josephine Clow, Mabel Fleming, Rhea Henthorn, Pauline Midcap
- A card, phone call or a visit can really brighten their days.

Meetings in the area:

- There are still several meetings going on in the area, check the bulletin board for dates and times.

Something Missing:

- Don't let me miss anything, if you see someone or something is missing, feel free to call me at one of the numbers below: 304-914-2262—304-914-2263