

*In
Search
of*

Truth and Right

Tim Henderson, Editor

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"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." Philippians 4:8 (NASB-U)

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Christ**

Before You Jump on Anyone's Bandwagon

*By: Tim Nichols
Charlottesville Beacon—August 12, 2007*

A freshman at Eagle Rock Junior High won first prize at the Greater Idaho Falls Science Fair, April 26. He was attempting to show how conditioned we have become to the alarmists practicing junk science and spreading fear of everything in our environment. In his project he urged people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical "dihydrogen monoxide." And for plenty of good reasons, since it:

1. causes excessive sweating and vomiting.
2. is a major component in acid rain.
3. can cause severe burns in its gaseous state.
4. is a fact that accidental inhalation can kill you.
5. contributes to erosion.
6. decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes.
7. has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients.

He asked 50 people if they supported a ban of the chemical dihydrogen monoxide. Forty-three said yes, six were undecided, and only one knew that the chemical was... WATER!!!

The title of his prize winning project was, "How Gullible Are We?" The conclusion is obvious.

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which meets at:

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

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)**

Religion is another area where people have a tendency to be gullible. Extreme examples can be found in David Koresh's followers and the Heaven's Gate cult. But it can happen any time we believe someone without checking out God's Word to see if what is being taught is the truth. Faith does not mean blindly accepting whatever anyone (even a preacher) says. John warned, "*Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*" (1 John 4:1).

Today's Preachers:

AM: Matt Ferrell

PM: Chuck Isinghood

Use God's Word to discern between what is true and what is false. And if you feel like living dangerously today, pour yourself a big tall glass of dihydrogen monoxide. Have a great day!

This ought to cause us to remember and to beware that facts can be so easily manipulated and that gullible people are ready, willing, and able to uncritically believe and act upon just about anything. Careful thinkers gather all available and relevant facts before drawing hasty conclusions. Divisive "church members", dishonest politicians, faultfinders, and other evil sorts distort and manipulate facts for the consumption of the gullible. Adolf Hitler was not willing to openly discuss his doctrines. He correctly believed that if you repeatedly claim that certain things are true, long enough, then people will believe them.

We all need to always obey the biblical injunction to "*test all things*" and to "*hold fast what is good*" (1 Thessalonians 5:21). The result, for all honest and faithful people will be that we will "*abstain from every form of evil*" (1 Thessalonians 5:22).

Is There A Basis For Your Joy

By: Stan Cox

Charlottesville Beacon—June 24, 2007

Do you feel good about yourself? Your relationship with God? Do you feel good about those with whom you have spiritual fellowship? Do you have joy without measure? A peace which passes understanding? Does a smile invariably crease your face when you contemplate your eternal welfare? It does? Good! ... Now for the most important question. Upon what do you base all of these positive emotions?

Hopefully, you have a ready answer to this last question. The proper answer would be, "From a study of God's word, I recognize that I have been obedient to His will, and am a partaker of the blessings that are reserved for His children." Now, you might not word it in exactly the same way, but the point is that your good feelings, your emotions, are based upon an intellectual recognition. You know you have been obedient to God. You know that God has promised blessings to those who are obedient. You know that God keeps His promises. Therefore you are happy. However, many experience that same happiness without that intellectual foundation.

**Do you feel good
about yourself?
Your relationship
with God? ... Upon
what do you base all
of these positive
emotions?**

Emotions are peculiar in that respect. You can be happy, sad, peaceful, worried, etc., without a proper foundation. A mother can be worried about the safety of her child, when in reality the child is perfectly safe. A city can sleep peacefully in the supposed safety of its beds, not knowing an earthquake is imminent. A follower of Mohammed can glory in his certainty of an eternal reward, not knowing that salvation is to be found only through Jesus (cf. John 14:6). An emotion is valid only if it is based on fact. Worry is appropriate only if there is the potential of harm; a feeling of peacefulness only if there is actual safety; spiritual joy only if a relationship with God actually exists.

Herein resides the problem with the emotionalism prevalent among religious people today. Too many believe themselves saved, not because they have the facts, but rather because they feel good about themselves. We see that it would be unreasonable for a mother to fret about the safety of her child when she sees and knows her child is safe. Why is it so many can not see how unreasonable it is to base their salvation upon a "feeling in my heart." There is a popular notion that the facts don't matter. That we should stop emphasizing the scripture, and just love one another. That we should emphasize the Man instead of the plan. That it does not matter what you believe, so long as you are sincere. This is simply not so.

I feel good about myself and my eternal destiny because I have obeyed the gospel of Christ. I have heard the saving gospel, and have believed it (John 3:16). I have repented of my sins, and have been baptized to have them washed away (Acts 2:38). I have confessed and am willing to confess the Lordship of Jesus before men (Romans 10:9-10). As such, I know that I have the hope of heaven. I worship and work with Christians who follow God's word in matters of worship, work, and daily living. We have a "thus saith the Lord" for all of our practices, and are willing always to defend what we teach and do for God.

Are you happy? It is an important question. But the second is more important. WHY? Upon what do you base that happiness? Think about it.

News N Notes

Remember these in your prayers:

- Phyllis Coen
- Mary Jane Myers recovering from surgery
- Phyllis Coen recovering from pneumonia
- Sue Prager, Ken Prager's mother, recovering from surgery
- Terry Smith
- Earl Miller
- Trudell Tennant
- Lucille Harless, Dave Harless' mother
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband.
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Blake Swanson, Dorothy Lancaster's grandson
- Bud and Merl Frey
- Tammy Garrison, Zeda Goddard's daughter
- Audrio Gaudio, Nancy Morris' great-granddaughter
- Marie Roberts, & Ed's father, Jim Roberts.
- Ila Marshall, Harold Marshall's mother
- Cary & Grace Lancaster

Nursing Home:

- Pauline Sellers
- Ethel Mahan

Shut-ins:

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Pauline Midcap