

*In  
Search  
of ...*

# Truth & 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."* Phil. 4:8 (NASB-U)

A publication of the  
**Wellsburg  
church of Christ**  
Which meets at:  
**112 Sunset Ave.  
Wellsburg, WV 26070  
304-737-1422**

*We appreciate so much your presence here with us today. We would like to extend an invitation to join us at any of our other times of worship.*

## **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)**

## **Today's Sermons:**

*AM: Behavior Fitting  
a Christian*

*PM: God & Military  
Strategy*

*Audio CD's are available  
free of charge in the foyer.*

*Please visit our website:  
**www.truthandright.org***

*If you have any questions regard-  
ing what we teach and practice,  
please feel free to ask*

## *Is Sincerity Sometimes Enough*

*By: Stan Cox*

Christians have long objected to the demands for union and tolerance among denominational people. We have rightly pointed out that sincerity is simply not sufficient in determining acceptance before the Almighty. The claim that as long as a person is sincere in his worship, he is accepted by God does not jibe with what is revealed in His will. Notice Matthew 7:21-23, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 'And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" This verse clearly indicates that acceptance by God is dependent upon obedience to Him. He is accepted who "does the will of My Father in heaven."

Other verses teach the same exact thing. Notice 2 John, verse 9, "Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son." John is stating that acceptance by God is contingent upon fidelity to His revelation.

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We may notice as well that God expects us to mark and avoid those with whom He has no fellowship. Following the declaration of John noted above, he further states in verses 10 and 11, *"If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds."*

It is alarming that some brethren are now espousing the fellowship of someone who teaches false doctrine, or practices certain sins. Such clearly conflicts with the principles we enumerated above. However, some believe that they have found a "loophole" in the fourteenth chapter of Romans. The contention is that the principles outlined in that chapter, in which we are to, *"Receive one who is weak in the faith, {but} not to disputes over doubtful things"* (vs. 1), includes matters of doctrine.

Not only does this conflict with such passages as 2 John 9-11, as indicated above, it also does violence to the context of the chapter. Notice the following about the scenarios, (eating of meats, and observance of days), as revealed in the context.

1. Nothing is said of the one who abstained from eating meat being sinful, only weak (v. 2).
2. It was equally right to eat meat or eat only herbs, esteem or not esteem a day (vs. 3-5).
3. One could eat or not eat *"to the Lord"* (v. 6).

In effect, God does not care whether one eats or not. It is a matter of indifference to God, and therefore those who differ should receive one another. To insert matters of faith or doctrine, or things sinful into this passage does violence to the context. Put other things into the context ... false teaching, adultery, immorality, idolatry, etc., and the true meaning of Romans 14 becomes clear. To say that any Christian could practice sin, or espouse false doctrine and do it *"to the Lord"* is absurd! There is no comfort to be found in that great chapter for those who would fellowship error. Brethren, let us remain pure!

## *Two Men Disagree with the Preacher*

*Bill Hall*

Two men disagree with the preacher. They have both been taught that they are not just to "swallow" everything the preacher says; that they are to think for themselves. They are to be commended, therefore, for their careful evaluation of what is taught.

The key words with the first man, however, are, "It seems to me." All teaching is judged according to his own thinking, as to whether or not it makes sense to him.

*"It seems  
to me ..."*

The key words with the second man are, "What does God say about it?" He desires truth and knows that truth can only be found in God's word (John 17:17). If he disagrees with the preacher, he does so because he is convinced the preacher has misused a passage of scripture or has failed to consider a scripture that might affect his conclusion. He comes with an open Bible and an open mind, prepared to defend his position or to yield if he sees that it is indefensible.

*"What does God  
say about it?"*

The first man exalts self. He places too much confidence in his own thinking. He may do so unconsciously, but in reality he makes his own intellect and experience his god. His thinking is reflected in the words of Naaman, "Behold, I thought," words that would have taken Naaman to a leper's grave had it not been for the admonition of his servants (2 Kings 5:1-14).

The second man exalts God. His confidence is in what God says in the scriptures. He recognizes that his own intellect and experience fade into nothingness when placed

in the brightness of the light of truth. A “thus saith the Lord” ends all controversy with him. His thinking is reflected in that of the Bereans who “*were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they... searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so*” (Acts 17:11).

Unless the first man changes his attitude he is hopeless. He is susceptible to all manner of false ideas. He cannot come to know God and His truth through his own wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:21). He must throw his own wisdom, intellect, and experience aside; he must become poor in spirit, meek before God, mourning, hungering and thirsting for righteousness; he must bow in submission to the Lord and to His word. He must say with Paul, “*Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor?*” (Romans 11:33-34).

The second man is a blessed and fortunate man indeed, for he will learn the truth that will make him free (John 8:32). Unfortunately, he is a rare man in the twentieth century. But he does exist—and he can exist even in the man who is presently reading this article.

What a challenge to each of us! After all, it is one thing to disagree with a preacher, but quite another thing to disagree with Almighty God!

## *Broken Cisterns*

*Gary Henry*

*“For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, And hewn themselves cisterns; broken cisterns that can hold no water.”*

**Jeremiah 2:13**

Everything we were ever created to need can be found in the God who made us. But we don't always allow Him to satisfy

us. Even though the fulfillment that is available in God is perfect in every way, we still make the mistake from time to time of looking for our satisfaction in other places. And when we do so, we do the same thing the people of Judah did in Jeremiah's day: we forsake “*the fountain of living waters*” and drink from “*broken cisterns that can hold no water.*” When we could be slaking our thirst with the fresh waters of a sparkling spring, we content ourselves with the stagnant contents of a holding tank. This does not make good sense. Why would we do such a foolish thing?

Generally, we do foolish things when we have been deceived as to the facts of our situation. And when it comes to the created needs that are deep within us, we have a spiritual adversary who is a past master at making his cheap counterfeits look better than the fulfillments that God offers. The devil's deceptions are not clever enough to withstand very close scrutiny and it's only a matter of time until we discover the truth, but in the very short term, he can make black look white and vice versa. He can actually lead us to believe that a broken cistern is better than the fountain of living water. And unfortunately, he has had a certain amount of success in getting us to act on that untruth.

Life is full of discoveries, however, and many of them are sad ones. “A thousand voices clamor for our attention, and a thousand causes vie for our support. But until we have learned to be satisfied with fellowship with God, until he is our rock and our fortress, we will be restless with our place in the world” (Erwin W. Lutzer). In the long run, if not in the short, we find that nothing we've ever substituted for God has quenched our thirst. Eternity is in our hearts, and nothing but God can satisfy our souls.

*“Father I know now, if I never knew it before, that only in Thee can my restless human heart find any peace. For I began life without knowledge, but full of needs. And the turmoil of my mind, the dissatisfaction of my life all stem from trying to meet those needs with the wrong things and in the wrong places.”*

Peter Marshall

**Songs for Singing Night:**

13—Alleluia      530—Looking To Thee  
610—A Mighty Fortress  
682—The New Song

## Those Serving This Week

### Sunday AM

<b>Class Prayer</b>	Don Coen, Jr.
<b>Announcements</b>	Harold Marshall
<b>Song Leader</b>	Ed Roberts
<b>Scripture</b>	Ezekiel 36:1-19
<b>Reader</b>	Terry Smith
<b>Prayer</b>	Nathan Marshall
<b>Speaker</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Lord's Supper</b>	
Bread	Ken Prager
Fruit of the Vine	Tim Henderson
Serve	DC Coen
Serve	Chuck Isinghood
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Dan Marton

Please inform the one in charge of announcements if you are unable to fulfill your responsibilities.

### Sunday PM

<b>Announcements</b>	Harold Marshall
<b>Song Leader</b>	Ken Prager
<b>Scripture</b>	Ezekiel 36:20-38
<b>Reader</b>	Chuck Isinghood
<b>1st Prayer</b>	Ed Roberts
<b>Speaker</b>	Tim Henderson
<b>Communion</b>	Don Coen, Sr.
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Earl Miller

### Wednesday

<b>Announcements</b>	Harold Marshall
<b>Class Prayer</b>	Dave Harless
<b>Song Leader</b>	Singing / Praying
<b>Invitation</b>	Nathan Marshall
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Don Coen, Sr.

## *News N Notes*

**Please continue to remember these in your prayers:**

#### **Hospital:**

- Earl Miller is in Allegheny General Hospital recovering from surgery for a fracture near his hip joint he suffered this past week.

#### **Recovering:**

- Ann Rudolph                      - Mary Jane Myers
- Marie Roberts                    - Phyllis Coen

#### **Traveling:**

- Alfred and Mary Jane Myers

#### **Prayer Requests:**

- Ila Marshall, Harold Marshall's mother.
- Cary and Grace Lancaster
- Albert Miller, Earl Miller and Marie Robert's brother, as he recovers from heart surgery.
- Alfred Myers diagnosed with a leaky valve in his heart
- Mary Jane Myer's daughter-in-law has cancer in her neck .
- Zeda Goddard's sons, Dallas and Terry, and her daughter Tammy Garrison
- Frank Miller, Dorothy Lancaster's brother and Rick Miller, Dorothy Lancaster's nephew
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband, as he continues to deal with cancer treatments.
- Lucille Harless, Dave Harless' mother
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Blake Swanson, Dorothy Lancaster's grandson
- Bud and Merl Frey
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father

### **Don't forget our Shut-ins**

#### **Nursing Home:**

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

#### **At Home:**

- Josephine Clow
- Mabel Fleming
- Pauline Midcap

Send them a card—give them a call—let them know we are thinking about them.

If someone needs to be added to this list, please call 304-914-2262