

In
Search
of...

Truth & Right

GENESIS

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 Sermon:

*The Church
Family—Body—
Kingdom*

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

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

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

The Good That Diligence Will Do

Gary Henry

*"The soul of a lazy man desires,
and has nothing; but the soul of the
diligent shall be made rich"*

— Proverbs 13:4

We must do something about our desire for God, and the things we do must be done with diligence. "You have need of endurance," we are told, "so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise" (Hebrews 10:36). In regard to God, diligence is not merely advisable. It is necessary.

Of course, diligence ALONE will not result in a right relationship with God. We may tackle the question of God with desire and determination, but if we're acting on the basis of misinformation, then our hard work will only produce a more diligent form of idolatry. As A. W. Tozer pointed out, "Wrong

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ideas about God are not only the fountain from which the polluted waters of idolatry flow; they are themselves idolatrous. The idolater simply imagines things about God and acts as if they were true." And as Stephen R. Covey has suggested, if we're guided by a mistaken map, then diligence will just get us to the wrong place more quickly. So wherever intellect is concerned, our seeking of God must be steered by a real commitment to objective truth.

But make no mistake about it: intellect and emotion will not get the job done either, if they're not accompanied by an active WILL. We may know that certain things ought to be done and we may even desire to do them, but it is a decisive, hard-working will that separates the dreamers from the doers. Knowledge is a serious thing. James even went so far as to say, *"To him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin"* (James 4:17).

Jesus distinguished true worship from false in these memorable words: *"The hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him"* (John 4:23). So worship that is deficient in either spirit or truth is something less than true worship. But even so, God must still be WORSHIPED! Intellectual truth and emotional desire can carry us only so far. At some point, a commitment must be made. And not only made, it must be carried out. Thinking and feeling alone are not enough.

*"Reason comes to the foot
of the mountain; it is the
industrious will urged by
the passionate heart which
climbs the slope"*
—Evelyn Underhill

Submission, Sacrifice, and Strong Joy Gary Henry

*"I will very gladly spend and be
spent for your souls"*
—2 Corinthians 12:15

There is more than one kind of thing that might be "sacrificed" or "given up" for the Lord's sake. Think, for example, of three situations in which we might let go of something:

(1) **Repentance from sin.** When we turn away from any sin, we are "giving up" a practice that we know is displeasing to God. Depending on the sin and how long we've been engaging in it, it may be a hard thing to surrender, but the task is made somewhat easier by the fact that the thing we are giving up is evil.

(2) **Giving up something that is required by God's command.** When a parent makes a financial sacrifice for his or her child, it may well be a sacrifice that involves difficulty, but it is hardly one that is optional. What is necessary will be done joyfully, of course, but even so, God's command left very little choice about whether to do it.

(3) **Voluntarily relinquishing something exceeding good in order that someone else may have something they need.** Here we come to a very different kind of sacrifice. When Jesus left heaven to come and die for us, He gave up things the goodness of which we can only imagine. But let us keep our thinking clear: the things the Lord gave up were not sinful things that NEEDED to be given up, nor were they things He was under any OBLIGATION to give up. These were sacrifices made voluntarily — in the sheer purity of love.

Too often, when we have an opportunity to learn something of this kind of love in our own lives, we miss our chance by trying to hold on

to what we want. But when our needs were coming down the road, Jesus' attitude led Him to step out of the way so that our needs could pass by unhindered. And Paul says, *"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus"* (Philippians 2:5).

This type of sacrifice, in which we yield our wants to someone else's needs, is part of the SUBMISSION that the Lord asks us to learn. *"Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others"* (Philippians 2:4). I can tell you, there is not a purer joy in the world than doing this, and I can also tell you, there is no more freeing, liberating experience. Yielding to someone else's dreams will break many a chain the devil has made.

"In submission we are free to value other people. Their dreams and plans become important to us" —Richard Foster

*Only the Loving Heart
Truly Worships*

Gary Henry

"... to love Him with all the heart, with all the understanding, with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is more than all the whole burnt offerings and sacrifices"

—Mark 12:33

If we seek God diligently, we will find "Worship" to be one of our lifelong challenges. Even when our desire is to improve the quality of our worship, it is not easy to get the emphasis in the right place and keep it there. We tend to lose our balance.

One mistake we often make is presuming that God will be honored by anything that we choose to define as worship. Unfortunately, our age is characterized by a bold, self-centered approach to worship, one that feels free to offer God whatever is currently fashionable in religious circles, however devoid of scriptural precedent that may be. But God has always retained the right to say what honors Him and what does not. It is urgent that we regain the kind of reverence that will bow before God and wait for Him to tell us the actions by which He desires to be worshiped. True worship centers on the perfect glory of the King, not on the changing tastes of His somewhat rebellious subjects, and we dare not try to create God in our own image.

But having said that, we must hasten to say this also: even the scriptural actions by which God has instructed us to worship Him mean virtually nothing if they don't proceed from a heart of true love. And here is where we quite often fail, despite our sometimes scrupulous attention to the details of worship. We see worship simply as a set of respectful motions God has required us to go through, and we forget that it is our heart that He is really after. If our hearts are not warmed by gratitude and love, then our worship will fall short of real reverence.

Even in our human relationships, we understand that the highest kinds of honor are those where respect is combined with love. We may appreciate the respect of casual friends, but we're much more deeply touched when it comes from the heart of those who know us best and love us most. In the case of God, He not only loves us, He desires to be loved BY us. What He seeks from us is perhaps best described by an old word that we don't hear much anymore: ADORATION. Our praise grows toward perfection when the King before whom we bow is also the Father whom we love.

*"I never knew how to worship
until I knew how to love"*

—Henry Ward Beecher

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Dave Harless
Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Song Leader	Ed Roberts
Scripture	Matthew 11:20-30
Reader	Terry Smith
Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Earl Miller
Fruit of the Vine	Tim Henderson
Serve	Wayne Campbell
Serve	Chaz Shaffer
Closing Prayer	Matt Ferrell

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

Sunday PM

Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Song Leader	Earl Miller
Scripture	Matthew 12:1-21
Reader	Dan Marton
1st Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.
Speaker	Tim Henderson
Communion	Matt Ferrell
Closing Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.

Wednesday

Announcements	Don Coen, Jr.
Class Prayer	Tim Henderson
Song Leader	Dan Marton
Invitation	Matt Ferrell
Closing Prayer	Ed Roberts

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Travelling:

- Dave & Wilma Harless
- Alberta Headen
- Ronald & Charlotte Lancaster
- The Marshall's

Sick/ Poor Health:

- Zeda Goddard, also her family— sons, Dallas and Terry, and daughter Tammy Garrison
- Blake Headen, Alberta's husband, is doing well after surgery, he is to go back soon to have a stint put in for the other kidney.
- Jerry & Dottie Henderson are in Medford, OR for the next few weeks
- Virginia Malick, Peggy Miller's mother
- Alfred & Mary Jane Myers
- Jimmy Roberts, Ed & Marie's son
- Jim Roberts, Ed Roberts' father
- Marie Roberts
- Kris Shane
- Gabriel Taylor, 4 year old great grandson of Don & Phyllis, dealing with cancer.

Don't forget our Shut-ins

Valley Haven:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

At Home:

- Mabel Fleming
- Zeda Goddard
- Betty Hunter
- Pauline Midcap
- Ann Rudolph

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 or 304-914-2263