

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 Preacher:

*Steve
Wallace*

*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*

We would like you to join us as we
spread the **Good News** during our ...

Gospel Meeting September 19-24

with speaker:

Steve Wallace

at the

Wellsburg church of Christ
112 Sunset Ave., Wellsburg, WV 26070

Sunday 10:00 AM
10:45 AM
6:30 PM
Mon.—Fri. 7:30 PM



- Plain Bible Preaching
- No Nightly Collections
- Simple, Biblical Worship



*Bring your Bibles and join us as we
study from the Word of God*

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www.truthandright.org*

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Our Authority in Religion

David A. Cox
via-The Market Street Messenger,
Sept. 12, 2010, Athens, AL

Why do you do what you do in religion? Many may say, "Because mother and daddy did it." Others may say, "My preacher said it was this way." Even others may reply, "Because I just like it this way." It is not an unknown fact that there are many differences in the religious practices of our world today. Often in discussing these differences with individuals, the above answers or a similar type of answer is given. What should be our authority in religion?

Authority Is From God

Authority simply means "the power or right to command, make decisions, enforce obedience." Who has this authority? Who has the right to give commands, make decisions and enforce obedience? Clearly, the answer is our creator, God. All authority extends from Him. God's order of authority is seen when Paul writes "*the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God*" (1 Corinthians 11:3). God ultimately has the authority, but has delegated all authority to Christ (Matthew 16:18). In the affairs of men, God ordained that there be governments, but their authority is only good as long as it does not violate the teaching of God. In Acts 4, this is illustrated when Peter and John were commanded "*not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard*" (Acts 4:18-20). Later, they were threatened again for continuing to teach about Jesus, "*But Peter and John answered and said unto them, 'Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.'*" Clearly, Peter and

John understood that the ultimate authority in all things is God.

The Necessity of Authority

Throughout the scriptures, we see the need for practicing in religion only that which we have authority from God to do. The sacrifice of Cain in Genesis 4, when he offered a sacrifice of the fruit of the ground, is one example. The Lord was not pleased because that was not what He had authorized. In Leviticus 10, Nadab and Abihu offered "*strange fire that the Lord commanded them not. And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord*" (Leviticus 10:1-2).

We continue to see this need for authority stressed in the New Testament. In the sermon on the mount, Jesus mentioned on the day of judgment there would be those that would have practiced many things in their religion calling Him Lord. But Jesus said, "*Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity*" (Matthew 7:22-23). Jesus points out that even though they were practicing and doing many things in the name of God, they were doing these things without the proper authority. Notice Jesus said that they were "*workers of iniquity*" or "*lawlessness*." We see that in the matters of religious faith and practice, that proper authority for what we do is necessary.

What This Means To Me

Understanding that Jesus is the one who has all authority and that authority is necessary for what we do in the faith and practice, what must we do? We must look into God's word and see what it teaches about the Lord's will. The Lord has given us all things that "*pertain unto life and godliness*" (1 Peter 1:3). This means that as we go through life, we can look to the word of God and find all that God wants us to do. As we then seek to please Him, we do what the scriptures teach us. We

do not rely on what others say, or what our parents believed, but we act upon our own faith that comes from the word of God (Romans 10:17). We do what God authorizes us to do in the way He would have us to do it. In doing this, we are then practicing things by the authority of God; the proper authority for us.

At All Costs

By—Gary Henry

“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” Matthew 16:25,26

There is nothing of more value to us than our souls, and we are not wise if we hang on to other things that jeopardize our souls. Jesus went so far as to say that if we were ever faced with a choice between our souls and the entire rest of the world, we would be foolish not to let go of the world and preserve our souls. When the ship is sinking, we must swim away from it.

It is not easy to keep in mind that our intangible, invisible “possessions” are of greater value than those of a more visible nature. A man, for example, will sometimes be willing to put his entire reputation, his career, his family’s happiness, and many other invisible things at risk for the momentary pleasure of one immoral trinket that is so immediately present to his physical senses that he thinks he can’t possibly do without it. Tangible treas-

ures and physical pleasures can seem so valuable in a moment of temptation that we completely forget about the much greater value of the things we’ll throw away if we yield to the temptation. When we’re hungry enough, we’ll trade our birthright for a bowl of soup. And like Esau, we later regret having done so (Hebrews 12:16,17).

Jesus used some of His starkest language to warn us about the danger of confused values. Do whatever it takes, He said, to sever yourself from anything that endangers your spiritual welfare: *“If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell”* (Matthew 5:29).

Much of the wisdom of life consists in knowing what to let go of and when to let go of it. Nowhere is there an exhaustive list of all the things that can potentially put our souls at risk. The truth is, there are few things in the world that MIGHT not do so under certain circumstances. But WHATEVER threatens to cut us off from God, we should cut ourselves off from that thing. Immediately.

“Imagine a burning house. A few occupants run naked from the house. They abandon everything else to save their lives. Others in that house attempt to save some furniture and other precious possessions. They return into the blazing structure several times in order to bring things out. Ultimately they die in the smoke and flames. This is misplaced attachment” —Pseudo-Macarius

Those Serving This Week

Sunday AM

Class Prayer	Dave Harless
Announcements	Ed Roberts
Song Leader	Wayne Campbell
Scripture	Matthew 22:23-46
Reader	Terry Smith
Prayer	Nathan Marshall
Speaker	Steve Wallace
Lord's Supper	
Bread	Earl Miller
Fruit of the Vine	Tim Henderson
Serve	Dan Marton
Serve	Ken Prager
Closing Prayer	Don Coen, Sr.

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

Sunday PM

Announcements	Ed Roberts
Song Leader	Ken Prager
Scripture	Matthew 23:1-22
Reader	Nathan Marshall
1st Prayer	Don Coen, Jr.
Speaker	Steve Wallace
Communion	Harold Marshall
Closing Prayer	Dave Harless

Wednesday

Class Prayer	Dan Marton
Announcements	Ed Roberts
Song Leader	Dan Marton
Invitation	Steve Wallace
Closing Prayer	Chuck Isingood

News N Notes

Please continue to remember these in your prayers:

Sick/ Poor Health:

- **Lenora Abrigg**, Nancy Morris' sister-in-law
- **Jay Glasure**, Ronald & Charlotte Lancaster's son-in-law
- **Zeda Goddard**, also her family— sons, **Dallas** and **Terry**, and daughter Tammy Garrison
- **Blake Headen**, Alberta's husband, is to go back soon to have a stint put in for the other kidney.
- **Jerry & Dottie Henderson** are in Medicine Hat, Canada. After this week they will begin the journey home.
- **Becky Johnston** will be having surgery Sept. 24th
- **Virginia Malick**, Peggy Miller's mother
- **Ronald Lancaster** is still in the hospital.
- **Alfred & Mary Jane Myers**
- **Paula Prager** as she continues to deal with a difficult pregnancy
- **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

Ann's Retreat:

- Josephine Clow

Brightwood Center:

- Shirley Campbell

Valley Haven:

- Ethel Mahan
- Pauline Sellers

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