

TRUTH & RIGHT

the bulletin of the Wellsburg church of Christ

 **WELLSBURG**
CHURCH OF CHRIST



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Volume 14 Issue 15

April 14, 2019

1 CORINTHIANS 10:21

When God specifies something, then this eliminates everything else in that category. In other words, when God has told us in the New Testament to sing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; I Cor. 14:15; etc.) then this excludes any other kind of music. It is like when God told Noah to make an ark of gopher wood (Gen. 6:14). When God told him this, He specified the kind of watercraft (ark) and the material (gopher wood). That excluded every other kind of boat and every other material. Or, when God said that the Levites were to be the priestly tribe, then this excluded every other tribe from being priests. This is even made clear in Hebrews 7:12-14 when He said our Lord sprang out of Judah "of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood." In other words, God said

Levites were to be priests and the people understood no other tribe would be correct in serving as priests. We do the same thing today when we order something off of Amazon, eBay, or other things. We state what we specifically want, and pay for that. By stating what we want, then Amazon, eBay, etc., know we DON'T want anything else. We were specific, and didn't have to say, "don't send anything else." Those folks know we don't want anything else except what we ordered. Example: I called a bookstore and ordered a book the other day. I told the girl what I wanted and hung up. I expect a package in the mail this week and expect it to be what I ordered. I didn't have to tell her the book I wanted, and then go through the rest of the catalog saying, "But don't send me this

book, or this book, or this book” We understand this kind of speech when talking to others. We do the same thing at a restaurant: When we order a “#5” at the Mexican restaurant, we don’t then tell them, “Don’t make me #4, #3, #2, etc.” By being specific, we have excluded everything else in that category. It is the same with God. When He specified singing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; I Cor. 14:15; etc.), this command excluded all other kinds of music. To this, another responded by citing I Corinthians 10:31 (*“Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God”*). Without regard for context, the person argued that if someone does something, and it is “to the glory of God” then it is Scripturally authorized. Is this what Paul was teaching? When we read the context (I Cor. 10:25-33) we see that Paul was talking about people eating meat sacrificed to idols. He told Christians how to conduct themselves in the eating of this meat (v. 25-28). He then reminded people about their eating and drinking, that whatever is done in this realm, do it to the glory of God (v. 31). In other words, don’t harm someone else’s conscience in

this matter of eating meats sacrificed to idols. The subject matter here is similar to the writing in Romans 14 where Paul taught those people how the strong brother should treat the weak. Therefore, in whatever we are doing regarding this matter of eating or not eating (ie., matters of opinion), then let us make sure what we do is done to the glory of God! Again, this is similar teaching to Romans 14:6. Could we then say that if we do something “to the glory of God” then it is accepted? Of course, not! We do not personally determine what glorifies God (Jer. 10:23). It is God who tells us what glorifies and pleases Him! The truth revealed in Scripture will let us know what brings glory, and not a subjective feeling or thought. In the specific case above, someone tried to say that they can bring glory to God by playing instruments in worship. Yet, God has already specifically told us that singing “*psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs*” is what He wants (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; I Cor. 14:15; etc.). How then can a man glorify God when his very actions are sin? Yes, it is evident that some have come to the point of Isaiah 5:20 and

Malachi 2:17. I Corinthians 10:31 does not give us “carte blanche” to do as we please and deem it is to God’s glory! If some try this, where does it end? Can we juggle for God’s glory in worship? How about solos? How about a dance recital? How about burning incense? When one opens a door like this, there is no stopping place! Just name a sinful act, say it is “to God’s glory” and do it! Friends, let us respect what God says and respect the context in which He says it. In so doing, we will truly please God and be blessed.

- Jarrod Jacobs

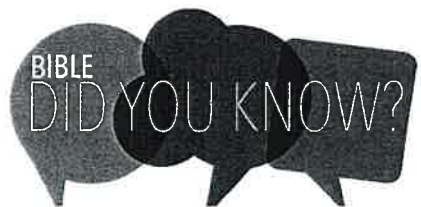
We who are parents need to realize the importance of our spouses. We often fail to appreciate the need for husbands and wives to stand together as parents. Yet, it is very important that we are united (Matt. 19:5-6; Eph. 5:31).

Jesus said, “*Every city or house divided against itself shall not stand*” (Matt. 12:25; also: Mk. 3:25; Lk. 11:17). With a little time and experience, we will see this sad reality coming to pass in the lives of people. When spouses are divided, then the home will soon fall apart. It may be that

divorce divides the house. It may be that the spouses remain, but the children have a “falling out” with their parents. I pray this never happens to you.

How did this happen? Perhaps some folks are genuinely ignorant as to the cause, but most aren’t. Certainly, a great deal of our family problems are based upon the fact that spouses are divided. Instead of the two becoming one (Gen. 2:21-24; Matt. 19:5-6), the “two” remained “two”. They are living in the same house, but were never united! Don’t let that be you, parents!

Parents, let us learn from the example of Abraham (Gen. 18:19). – Jarrod Jacobs



“My son, if you will receive my words and treasure my commandments within you, make your ear attentive to wisdom, incline your heart to understanding; for if you cry for discernment, lift your voice for understanding; if you seek her as silver and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will discern the fear of the LORD and discover the knowledge of God.”

Prov. 2:1-5

People, Places, and Things of the **BIBLE**



Ketef Hinnom Scrolls

Many archaeology finds are named after the location in which they are found. The Ketef Hinnom scrolls are from Ketef Hinnom which is southwest of old Jerusalem, in Israel. More specifically they were located near the road that runs between Jerusalem and Bethlehem. They are possibly the oldest manuscripts currently known that recite what appears to be clear biblical verses.

They are often referred to as amulets as they were likely worn around the neck of whoever owned them. The idea behind an amulet is that some object on your body could ward off evil or danger. However, they are also still scrolls as they were sheets of silver rolled up. This idea is reinforced by the fact that the scripture that could be read are clear verses about the Lord preserving His people. The specific passages were part of the priestly blessing that Jewish priests would recite over the people. The same blessing is still common today at the end of many church services, such as the Lutherans.

24 "The Lord bless you and keep you;
25 The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
26 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
And give you peace."

(Numbers 6:24-26)

The dating of the amulets are believed to be about 6th century BCE. Their survival is partly due to the material that was used to create them. The amulets were inscribed on silver which is not the most resilient metal but enough that it was able to survive longer than the average piece of parchment. These scrolls are relatively unknown, but they can be seen today in the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

