

September 16, 2018

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803
www.olneychurchofchrist.org

Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Visitors are welcome
We offer Bible classes for all ages
We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

“Tomorrow’s Sun May Never Rise”

The second verse of the hymn *O Why Not Tonight?* states “*Tomorrow’s sun may never rise To bless thy long deluded sight; This is the time, O then be wise: Be saved, O tonight.*”

Knowing that “*tomorrow’s sun may never rise*” should lead us to prioritize life properly. Recognize what is eternally significant, and prepare without delay, knowing that the earth may not be here tomorrow (**2 Pet. 3:10**).

If corrections need to be made for us to be right with God, why put them off? What could be worth looking back on our lives and wishing we had done differently as we stand unprepared before Christ’s judgment seat (**2 Cor. 5:10**)?

Matthew 16:26 asks “***For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?***” Our souls are too valuable to lose for the sake of earthly pursuits.

It can be unpleasant to imagine one’s life on earth ending. Yet, every one of us will face this at some point. We have the choice to be ready.

Considering that “*tomorrow’s sun may never rise*,” may we obey God’s will at whatever cost, in order to prepare our souls for what lies beyond our brief time here on earth.

-Michael Hickox

Fervent in Spirit

By Michael Hickox

In **Acts 18**, we are introduced to Apollos, who was a Jew, “**born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures**” (verse 24). He had been “**instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord,**” (verse 25). He knew “**only the baptism of John**” (verse 25), but was taught the need for baptism in the name of Christ by Aquila and Priscilla (verse 26).

The phrase “**fervent in the spirit**” used to describe Apollos is an important phrase. In **Romans 12:11**, the Holy Spirit says this phrase should be true of each of us. Speaking of what we should be and not be, He says: “**Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;**”

The Greek word translated “**fervent**” in **Acts 18:25** and **Romans 12:11** is the root of the word often translated “**zeal**.” This word literally means “*to boil with heat, be hot*” (Thayer; see Strong G2204). It is used metaphorically at times to refer to one who is so passionate about something that it could be said he or she is “on fire.” Apollos had this much passion for the Lord.

The *lukewarm* church at Laodicea exemplified the more common approach to the will of God. The Lord commanded them, “**be zealous therefore, and repent**” (**Rev. 3:19**). Serving God is not something to be apathetic toward. The Laodiceans needed to get “fired up” for the Lord.

While God wants us to be zealous, He tells us that zeal must be properly directed.

In **Galatians 1:14**, Paul spoke of “**being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of [his] fathers**” prior to his conversion. In **Philippians 3:6**, he said “**concerning zeal, persecuting the church.**” Like those Jews he spoke of in **Romans 10:2**, Paul had “**a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge**” prior to his conversion.

These passages show that it is possible to be zealous for something, yet be wrong. What is more, it is possible to be zealous for God, yet be entirely wrong. Like Paul came to realize, our zeal must be based on God’s truth. The wide variation of beliefs among those who claim to be Christians indicates that many today have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. There are not *many* truths, but *one* truth (**John 17:17**).

God wants us to be fervent for the truth that is revealed in His Word (cf. **Rom. 1:16**). He wants us to be zealous for good works (**Tit. 2:14**), based on what *His Word* tells us is a good work (cf. **2 Tim. 3:16-17**).

Apollos’ fervency caused him to “**mightily [convince] the Jews**” that Jesus is Christ (**Acts 18:28**). He loved God’s truth and was eager to share it with others, while putting it into practice in his life.

To please God, we must, like Apollos, be fervent for the Lord as He commands.

God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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Words to Consider

"I will extol thee, my God, O King; And I will bless thy name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless thee; And I will praise thy name for ever and ever. Great is Jehovah, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable."—Psalm 145:1-3

"Don't seek revenge yourselves, beloved, but give place to God's wrath. For it is written, 'Vengeance belongs to me; I will repay, says the Lord.'...Don't be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

—Romans 12:19,21

Prayer List

Holly
Barb A
Harold (Prostate Cancer)
Sandy (Foot Injury)
Betty
Mabel
Norma's Grandson, Ryan (Head Injury)
Cheryl (Breast Cancer)
Norma (Injuries from fall)
Jerry G (Throat Cancer)
Mattie B (Leukemia)
Tom B (Pancreatic Cancer)
Linda & Family
Caleb & Darcy & Family
Dody G
Joe (Lung Cancer)
Allen S (Cancer)
Raymond

Daily Bible Reading

Sep. 16 – Proverbs 8-9; 2 Corinthians 3
Sep. 17 – Proverbs 10-12; 2 Corinthians 4
Sep. 18 – Proverbs 13-15; 2 Corinthians 5
Sep. 19 – Proverbs 16-18; 2 Corinthians 6
Sep. 20 – Proverbs 19-21; 2 Corinthians 7
Sep. 21 – Proverbs 22-24; 2 Corinthians 8
Sep. 22 – Proverbs 25-26; 2 Corinthians 9

"I will meditate on your precepts, and consider your ways. I will delight myself in your statutes. I will not forget your Word."—Psalm 119:15-16

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, September 16, 2018

Bible Study: Steve

Worship: Dan D

Evening: Carlyle

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Mark

Cleaning Building

Misty

Prepare Communion

Misty

Upcoming Reminders

Sep. 22: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.

Assignments

Sunday, September 23, 2018

Reading: Steve

Announcements: Roger

Table: Don

Serve: Mark

Mason

Dan H

Roger

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Invitation: Mike

Anniversaries

Birthdays

September 20 - Michael

September 24 - Maxwell