

August 23, 2020

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
P.O. Box 683
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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Elders: Mike Gerber, Travis Hall
Deacons: John Frost, Dave Goff, Roger Sholders

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.

“Is Your Heart Right with God?”

By Michael Hickox

In **1 Samuel 16**, God instructed Samuel to visit the house of Jesse, where Samuel would find the one who God had chosen to be the next king of Israel. When Samuel *looked* at David's older brother Eliab, he assumed that he was the one God had chosen to be king because of his *appearance* (**verse 6**).

God responded to this assumption by saying, “***Don't look on his face, or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for I don't see as man sees. For man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart***” (**verse 7**).

God knows the hearts of *all* people (**Acts 1:24**). He sees each of us as we *truly* are. As **Hebrews 4:13** says, “***There is no creature that is hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of Him to whom we must give an account.***”

God not only knows every word ever spoken and every action ever taken, he knows every *thought* of our *hearts*.

This is seen in the example of Simon the (former) sorcerer. Simon became a Christian in **Acts 8**, and sinned shortly after becoming a Christian. In **verse 22** of the chapter, Simon was told, “***Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.***”

“Is Your Heart Right with God?”

(Continued)

Notice what it was that Simon needed to be forgiven of. While we can sin through actions and words, **Acts 8:22** shows that we can also sin in the *heart*.

Matthew 5:27-28 is another passage that demonstrates this principle. There our Lord says, “**Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.**”

Sins such as that identified by Jesus in **Matthew 5:28** are not as obvious to *others*, but *God* is fully aware every time such sin is committed.

God is also aware of our *motives* when doing things in service to Him. He knows whether we are doing the right things for the right *reasons*.

God saw right through the scribes and Pharisees who did all their religious works “**to be seen by men**” (**Matt. 23:5**). He sees through the “show” of righteousness put on by those today whose service to Him is not sincere.

More generally, God knows whether our affection is truly set on things above

or set on things on the earth (**Col. 3:2**). He knows if we are laying up treasure in heaven or on earth (**Matt. 6:19-20**).

He knows if each one of us has an “**honest and good heart**” (**Luke 8:15**) that is truly committed to pleasing Him no matter the cost, or if one’s heart is such that a certain comfort or pleasure in life is valued more highly than pleasing Him.

While God’s perfect knowledge of our hearts is frightening to the hypocrite, it is a comfort to the faithful. The phrase, “God knows my heart” can (and should) be more of a relief than a concern. Such comfort is contingent, though, on each of us doing our part to purify our hearts.

The instruction David gave to Solomon in **1 Chronicles 28:9** is appropriate for us to consider today. There he told Solomon to “**serve [God] with a perfect heart and with a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands all the imaginations of the thoughts...**”

As the hymn alludes to, each of us should sincerely examine ourselves and ask, “is *my* heart right with God?”

Area Gospel Meetings

Prayer List

Hazel Dell Church of Christ:

Aug 30 – Sep 4 (with Chuck Richardson)

Sun: 9:00, 10:00, 6:00; M-F: 7:00

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

Words to Consider

"This is the end of the matter. All has been heard. Fear God and keep His commandments; for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, with every hidden thing, whether it is good, or whether it is evil." – Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Holly G
Sandy S
Mabel H
Cheryl S
Norma C
Raymond & Maxine
Ken & Chris F
Brandon O's Grandmother (Lung Cancer)
Jeanette's Mother, Fontella
Jerry S (Prostate Cancer)
Carlyle (Hip)

Daily Bible Reading

August 23 – Nehemiah 10-11; Acts 4:1-22
August 24 – Nehemiah 12-13; Acts 4:23-37
August 25 – Esther 1-2; Acts 5:1-21
August 26 – Esther 3-5; Acts 5:22-42
August 27 – Esther 6-8; Acts 6
August 28 – Esther 9-10; Acts 7:1-21
August 29 – Job 1-2; Acts 7:22-43

"I have taken Your testimonies as a heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart." – Psalm 119:11

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Bible Study: Travis
Worship: Dan D
Evening: Douglas

Wednesday, August 26, 2020

Jim

Clean Building

Patty

Prepare Communion

Linda

Upcoming Reminders

Assignments

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Reading: Jim
Announcements: Travis
Table: Steve
Serve: Darrell
Jeff
Harold
Mark

Wednesday, September 2, 2020

Invitation:

Anniversaries

September 3 – Dan & Lovetta

Birthdays

August 24 – Debbie
August 26 – Olivia
August 31 – Stephanie
September 2 – Dan H