

March 21, 2021

The Word of Our Creator

By Michael Hickox

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
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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.

2 Timothy 3:16-17: *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

The Creator of this universe communicates to us “***all things that pertain unto life and godliness***” (2 Pet. 1:3). How He does this is not a “mysterious” thing, or something only done for a select few. Rather, it is through the Bible. As the Word of our sovereign God, the Bible is infallible.

Many, like Pilate, ask the question “***What is truth?***” (John 18:38). Jesus answered this when praying for His disciples in John 17:17: ***Sanctify them through thy truth: thy Word is truth.***

The infallible truth contained in God’s written Word, the Bible, is not *only* available to satisfy man’s curiosity about how the world came to be. God’s Word leads to something more significant than knowledge alone...our salvation.

The Gospel is the “***power of God unto salvation***” (Rom. 1:16). The Bible teaches about the dreadful condition our souls are in due to sin (Rom. 3:23; 6:23). Yet, it also teaches how we can have forgiveness of sin through God’s grace. This gift is not earned, but God requires obedience to receive it (Phil. 2:12). The

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works of obedience He requires are all revealed in the Scripture He has authored.

Despite this, many ignore the Bible.

“Self-help books” are popular, but “***all things that pertain unto life and godliness***” are neglected. Thoughts of men are praised as profound and powerful, but thoughts of God are brushed aside.

This may be due in part to a belief that the Bible is outdated. God gave an answer for this in **1 Peter 1:24-25**: ***For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the Word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the Word which by the Gospel is preached unto you.***

Another reason some ignore the truth is because it does not “make sense.” Using our own wisdom, we might expect something different than what God teaches.

It takes humility to realize that “***the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God***” (**1 Cor. 3:19**). Instead of trying to fit God’s will to our pre-conceived ideas about right and wrong, we must change our ideas of right and wrong to fit God’s will. When we do the latter and hear God’s Word with the right heart, we will have no doubt that it is truth from Him.

Once we recognize the Bible as truth from God, we should desire it as a newborn babe desires milk (**1 Pet. 2:2**).

The Bereans referenced in **Acts 17:11**

showed this attitude. They “***searched the scriptures daily***.” This verse does not tell us how much time they dedicated each day to studying. Nor does the Bible “spell out” exactly how much time meets God’s “minimum requirements” of study. If we hunger and thirst for God’s Word though, we won’t want to put our Bibles down.

As we study the Bible, we learn both through the Old Testament, which was “***written for our learning***” (**Rom. 15:4**), and the New Testament, which contains the commands, examples, and inferences that apply directly to us today (cf. **Matt. 26:28; Col. 2:14**).

It takes meekness to let God’s Word direct us (**James 1:21**). We must humble ourselves as little children when hearing the Word (**Matt. 18:3-4**).

We must also remember that there are questions mankind has that God does not answer for us. We must be careful not to “fill in the blanks” with our own *opinions* (cf. **Rev. 22:18**).

Yet, we must also recognize that God has revealed all we need to know about why we are here and who we are to be. The most important questions for each of our lives are answered by the Creator through His Word.

God does not speak verbally to us today, but He does communicate through another means: the Bible. May we use it faithfully.

Area Gospel Meetings

Hazel Dell Church of Christ:

March 21-26 (with Ron Griffin)

Sun: 9:00, 10:00, 6:00; Mon-Fri: 7:00

*Our Gospel Meeting will be **April 18-23** with Wayne Walker (see flyers for topics)*

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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

"For the LORD is good. His loving kindness endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations."

– Psalm 100:5

Prayer List

Holly G
Sandy S
Mabel H
Cheryl S
Norma C
Raymond & Maxine
Barbara G (Cancer)
Lyla B (Leukemia recovery)
L.A. S (COVID recovery)
Justice G (Perthes disease)
Robert C

Daily Bible Reading

March 21 – Genesis 43-46; Matt. 12:24-50
March 22 – Genesis 47-50; Matt. 13:1-30
March 23 – Exodus 1-4; Matt. 13:31-58
March 24 – Exodus 5-8; Matt. 14
March 25 – Exodus 9-11; Matt. 15
March 26 – Exodus 12-13; Matt. 16
March 27 – Exodus 14-15; Matt. 17

"For this cause we also thank God without ceasing, that when you received from us the word of the message of God, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also works in you who believe."

– 1 Thessalonians 2:13

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, March 21, 2021

Bible Study: Mike
Worship: Jeff
Evening: Mark

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

Travis

Assignments

Sunday, March 28, 2021

Reading: Dan H
Announcements: Travis
Table: Dave
Serve: Jim
Mason

Clean Building

Patty

Prepare Communion

Julzy

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

Invitation:

Upcoming Reminders

April 18-23: Gospel Meeting
(with Wayne Walker)

Anniversaries

March 22 – Raymond & Maxine
March 28 – John & Cynde

Birthdays

March 23 – Patty