

April 10, 2022

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
P.O. Box 683
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803
www.olneychurchofchrist.org

Services

Sunday

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

Wednesday

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| 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.

The LORD Looks at the Heart

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 Eliab was the one God had chosen to be king because of his *appearance*. 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,

The LORD Looks at the Heart

(Continued)

“Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee.”

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, ***“You have heard that it was said, ‘Do not commit adultery;’ but I tell you that everyone who looks at a woman to lust after her has 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

Terre Haute church of Christ:

April 10 – 15 (with Jesse Flowers)

Sun: 10:00, 11:00, 2:30, 3:00; Mon-Fri: 7:00 PM
(Eastern Time)

*Our Gospel Meeting will be

April 17-22 with J.R. Bronger*

Sun: 9:30, 10:20, 2:00; Mon-Fri: 7:00 PM

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God's Plan for Saving Man

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|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 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

“and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.” – 2 Corinthians 5:15 (ESV)

Prayer List

Holly G
Jerry & Sandy S
Cheryl S
Norma C
Raymond B
Robert C
Sharon G (Cancer)
Doans' Grandson, Wilson
Devin D (Cancer)
Vicki S (Cancer)
Susan F (Cancer)
Christie's Brother, Jerry (Lung Cancer)

Daily Bible Reading

April 10 – 1 Samuel 15-16; Luke 10:25-42
April 11 – 1 Samuel 17-18; Luke 11:1-28
April 12 – 1 Samuel 19-21; Luke 11:29-54
April 13 – 1 Samuel 22-24; Luke 12:1-31
April 14 – 1 Samuel 25-26; Luke 12:32-59
April 15 – 1 Samuel 27-29; Luke 13:1-22
April 16 – 1 Samuel 30-31; Luke 13:23-35

“And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.” – 1 Thess. 2:13 (ESV)

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, April 10, 2022

Bible Study: Darrell
Worship: Michael
Evening: Dan H

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Steve

Clean Building

Jeanette

Prepare Communion

Jeanette

Upcoming Reminders

Wednesday (13th) adult class:

Ephesians 3:8ff

Next Sunday (17th) adult class:

J.R. Bronger teaching (Gospel meeting)

Assignments

Sunday, April 17, 2022

Reading: Mark
Announcements: Jeff
Table: Dan H
Serve: Mike
Jeff
Jim
Roger

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Invitation:

Anniversaries

Birthdays

April 25 – Jessica

April 29 – Emily

April 29 – Jerry