

The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

Volume XXXII

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Number 9

THINKING GOD IS LIKE MAN

"These things have you done, and I kept silence; you thought I was altogether such a one as yourself: but I will reprove you, and set them in order before your eyes" (Psa. 50:21). In this Psalm God asked the wicked: "What have you to do to declare my statutes, or that you should take my covenant in your mouth? Seeing that you hate instruction and cast my words behind you" (v. 16f) The wicked would offer his interpretation of God's statutes, though he hated instruction. He would consent with a thief and partake with adulterers. He gave his mouth to evil and his tongue framed deceit. He would speak against his brother and slander him. Why was the wicked critical, unfair, and immoral? Because he treated God as he would treat a man. Man has always had this problem. Consider some of the things we do because we think God is like us.

1. **Man can hide from man**, so he thinks he can hide from God. Adam and Eve "hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God" (Gen. 3:8). They were not successful. Proverbs 15:3 says, "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." Heb. 4:13 says, "Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and open unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do." David understood he couldn't hide from God when he said, "Whither shall I go from your Spirit? Or whither shall I flee from your presence? Yea the darkness hides not from thee; but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to thee" (Psa. 139:7-12).
2. **Man can deceive man**, so he thinks he can deceive God. In Acts 5:1-10 Ananias and Sapphira lied to God, but they were discovered, exposed and punished. In Gal. 6:7-8 the apostle warns, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap. For he that sows to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that sows to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."
3. **Man may be slack in keeping his word**, so he is tempted to think God may be like him. However, we learn from 2 Peter 3:9, "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." God doesn't count time like we do, but He does keep His word. He never forgets, though things don't happen when we think they should.
4. **Man may think Sin is not so bad**, so he thinks God feels the same way. God considers sin as a curse. He looks upon it as darkness, filth, bondage and corruption. God says sin deceives, burdens destroys, enslaves and brings reproach and shame. "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). Sin is defined as "any thought, word, action, omission or desire contrary to the law of God." We may take it lightly, but God does not.
5. **Man may think one religion is as good as another**, so he thinks God feels the same way. But Jesus warned: "Enter at the strait gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat. Strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leads to life, and few there be that find it" (Matt. 7:13ff).

Let us never make the mistake of confusing God and man.

Condensed from an article by Carrol Sutton

BulletinBoard

Sermon
Notes:

AM Lesson - Jack - "Is This A Good Church?" (concluded)
PM Worship - First Sunday singing. Lee directs.

Please keep the following members in mind who have difficulty being with us due to prolonged illness: **Dee Boyd, Doris Norman, Billie Glitsch and Don Hurd.**

NEWS AND NOTES: We've had several out recently with allergy/cold problems. They are better, and hope to see them today. We also have a couple from out of state here for cancer evaluation. Tom Wood, who was here last week at MDA, is at home (Paris, Tx) now. Our prayers go out for these brethren and their families. Cancer is both physical and emotional in its impact. God can help both. Jay Martin's grandmother, Dot, may have surgery this week. Remember her.

New classes begin today. I'll be teaching the book of Revelation in the auditorium. Robert will teach Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther and the "Silent 400 years" in room 107/109,

Our gospel meeting begins two weeks from today. March 17-20. Don Truex will be with us. Hope you've made plans to be here. Looks like a great week.

"A perfectionist is one who takes great pains - and gives them to other people."

A DIFFERENT VIEW OF LIFE...

What if I had no pain?...I could not relate to those who are in agony.

What if I had riches untold?...I could not relate to those in abject poverty.

What if I was always cheerful and happy?...I could not weep with those in the valley of despair.

What if I was always loved by everyone?...I could not relate to those who are unloved and rejected.

What if I had never lost a loved one?...I could not relate to the one who has just lost the light of their life.

What if I had full use of my eyesight?...I could not relate to the one who has never seen.

What if I was well and strong with full use of my arms and legs?...I could not relate to someone who is maimed and crippled.

"Alcoholism isn't a spectator sport. Eventually the whole family gets to play."

"The way of the transgressor is hard - but it isn't lonely."

Assignments for today

Sunday, March 3, 2013

Morning Service

Announcements.....Jesse Knapp
Hymn Director.....Weston Hodge
Scripture Reading.....I Tim. 1:12-17
Scripture Reader.....Rudy Black
Opening Prayer.....Samuel Camp
Closing Prayer.....Jesse Knapp

Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Lee Williams
Opening Prayer.....Chad Smith
Closing Prayer.....Jesse Knapp

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Schedule of Services

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible study
5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional
Minister and editor
Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

The Reminder is published weekly by the church of Christ in Bellaire