


The Reminder

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

“Heaven’s Residents”



Our desire is to be with the countless number gathered around the throne of God and the Lamb. This assembly is mentioned several times in Revelation, and no greater honor or blessing could be imagined by God’s children than to be counted with them. The earthly character of this heavenly host is described for us a number of times in the Bible, indicating that they aren’t there accidentally. They have diligently prepared themselves for eternity with God.

God expects service such as giving a cup of water to the thirsty, clothes to those in need, visiting the sick, etc. Having done this, have we earned praise? Do we get credit for our good works, either with men or God? This is the point where we need to glorify God. “If any man speaketh, speaking as it were oracles of God; if any man ministereth, ministering as of the strength of which God supplieth; that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ...” (I Peter 4:11). We may do the work, but God provides the means.

First, they know God - The Greek words we translate “know” imply learning of Him until we reach a point of confidence, a point where there is no uncertainty. Of course, it involves knowing His law, and obeying it (I John 2:3); but it goes far beyond that. We should be able to recognize God as Satan seeks to confuse us by displaying many gods. The idols of the world have always troubled God’s people. Pleasure, business, power, money, etc..are intoxicating. As a child recognizes it’s mother by the feel of her hand, the beat of her heart, the sound of her voice, so God’s people should know Him.

Second, they Glorify Him. “Glorify means to praise or honor, and while most of us would do this with our lips, it isn’t just a spoken praise that God deserves. Most of us have read Matt. 25:31-46 until we can quote it.

Finally, they give Thanks. Someone lamented, “Of all human faculties, gratitude has the shortest memory.” Why should this be true? List the things you have to be thankful for, even if it’s a somewhat negative list. Paul encouraged the Thessalonians, “In everything give thanks” (5:18). Not for everything but “in” everything.

Read the moral condition of the Romans in chapter 1:24-32. How did they get in a mess like that? How has our generation gotten in a similar mess? “Because that, knowing God, then glorified Him not as God, neither give thanks/but became vain in their reasonings, and their senseless heart was darkened...” (Rom. 1:21f). How do we grow close to God and prepare to spend eternity with Him? The praise given around the throne is but a continuation of that praise we give here. Know Him, Glorify Him, Thank Him; now and forever.

JLS

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 28, 2014

BELLAIRE
church of Christ
8001 South Rice Ave
P.O. Box 1029
Bellaire, Texas 77402
www.bellairechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY:
9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study
5:00 PM Worship

WEDNESDAY:
7:30 PM Study and Devotional

Morning Lesson

Joseph Casimier

Evening Lesson

Joseph Casimier

News and Notes:

Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues.

Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn and Don Hurd have ongoing health issues

Joseph Casimier, who worships with the Cy-Fair church will be speaking both morning and afternoon.

It's a holiday week. Both Steve and I are gone as well as many of our number. Please be safe on the road.

"Learning To be Thankful"

Daniel Defoe gave some good advice through his fictitious character, Robinson Crusoe. The first thing Crusoe did when he found himself on a deserted island was to make out a list. On one side of the list he wrote down all his problems. On the other side of the list he wrote down all of his blessings.

One side he wrote: I do not have any extra clothes. On the other side he wrote: But it's warm and I don't really need any. On one side he wrote: All of the provisions were lost. On the other side he wrote: But there's plenty of fresh fruit and water on the island.

And on down the list he went. In this fashion he discovered that for every negative aspect there was a positive aspect, something to be thankful for. As the new year begins, perhaps it's time to sit down and take an inventory of your blessings. "Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness...

ASSIGNMENTS

MORNING SERVICE

Announcements - M. Pharris

Hymn Director - M. Krueger

Scripture Reader - J. Martin

Mark 14:23-25

Opening Prayer - P. Selgas

Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

EVENING SERVICE

Hymn Director - G. Williams

Opening Prayer - B. Haley

Closing Prayer - M. Pharris

EVANGELIST

Jack Smith

Steve Garrett

ELDERS

Mark Mann

Matt Miles

Mike Pharris

Jack Smith

Bible Classes

Acts

Holy Spirit

Exodus and Deuteronomy

Graded Classes for Children

"Blessed is the man who doesn't speak until he knows what he is talking about."

"Blessed are those who can laugh at themselves, for they shall never cease to be amused."

"A man is a fool who thinks that because he doesn't believe in hell, his opinion shuts the door and puts out the fire."