

A PHOTOGRAPH RELATIONSHIP

Michael Pickford

There is a vast difference in knowing about God and knowing God. It's nice to have a photograph of one we love. We enjoy the photograph; we look at it and admire it, but there's nothing like being with the actual person, seeing their smile in action and sharing in with their life.

Through His word, God has given us today a picture of Himself. It's one thing to be well acquainted with scripture, being able perhaps to quote several passages from memory; but it's quite another thing to actually get to know God.

He communicates with us through His word, but we must communicate

with Him through prayer. "*Pray without ceasing*" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). We get closer to Him as we get closer to His people (Hebrews 10:24; 1 John 4:20-21). We get to know Him better as we serve and do good for others (Matthew 25:35-40).

We come to know Him when we obey the Gospel of Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9). Don't just look at God's picture; don't just have a photograph relationship with Him. The Lord said "*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.*" (Matthew 22:37). This is demonstrated by our obedience (John 14:21). 

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don't hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God's word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD'S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.

COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

EVERYONE WELCOME!



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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." -Acts 17:11

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MISTAKES IN THE BIBLE

Michael Pickford

Skeptics of religion continue their attempts to manufacture mistakes in the Bible. The fact is, the Bible was written by an all knowing, all wise God Who does not make mistakes. Nevertheless, we find mistakes in the Bible concerning...

Washings. In 2 Kings 5:1-14 we read of a leper who almost made a terrible mistake concerning washings. Naaman was a great man, but he was a leper. He had heard about a prophet in Israel who could heal him. The message he received from the man of God was to dip in the Jordan river seven times to be cleansed. He thought it was ridiculous, wondering why it had to be the Jordan, and not one of the great rivers from his own land. His companions finally convinced him to follow the instructions and he was healed. Folks today make the same mistake when they question the Bible's clear teaching that baptism is necessary for salvation. It's the blood of Jesus that washes away our sins (Ephesians 1:7), but it's at the point of baptism that the blood connects with our sins; otherwise, how could the Bible say that baptism washes away sins (Acts 22:16)?

Warnings. 2 Samuel 6:1-7 tells us

about an incident in which a man named Uzzah did what man would consider a very good deed. He caught the Ark of the Covenant with his hand in order to keep it from being defiled on the dirty ground when the oxen stumbled. Yet Uzzah was struck dead for his mistake. You see, Uzzah (and all of Israel) had been warned that if they should touch the Ark they would die (Numbers 4:15). Regardless of the good Uzzah's deed accomplished he simply had no authority to touch the Ark. Many today do religious deeds that from man's standpoint do a great deal of good; but they have no Gospel authority for such practices. Jesus taught that such men would be rejected from heaven (Matthew 7:21-23). The ends do not justify the means. Heed the Lord's warning.

Watching. Matthew 25:1-13 records the parable of the ten virgins. The five foolish virgins made the mistake of being unprepared and missed out on the wedding festivities. The lesson of the parable is to be prepared. Jesus said "Watch." We do not know when He will return. To watch means to obey the Lord (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 5:8-9) and continue to serve Him faithfully until death (Revelation 2:10). 

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SINGING
Michael Pickford

“Speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19). “Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord” (Colossians 3:16).

We in the church of Christ are often accused of not believing in music in the assemblies. This is obviously a misunderstanding of our beliefs. Anyone who has worshiped with us will see that indeed we do believe in music in the assemblies; we believe in singing.

The accusation comes because we believe there is not scriptural authority for the use of the Mechanical instrument of music in the assemblies. This isn't a new belief; the Catholic church for a thousand years didn't use instruments. Most of the denominations did not use them in their beginnings. In fact, everyone knows the term “a cappella” means to sing without instrumental accompaniment; but many do not realize that the term

is Italian for “Like in the church.” So when someone says “Let’s sing a cappella,” they’re literally saying “Let’s sing like they do in the church.” That is, without musical accompaniment. And so there was a time when everyone knew and accepted the fact that mechanical instruments were not to be used in the church.

The Bible commands us to sing, with no mention of the instrument. We still respect this command. To add the instrument is to add to what the Gospel actually says; and this brings serious consequences (2 John 9).

The Psalms are to be sung, not played. Paul said “Speaking” to yourselves in psalms, etc. The phrase “*Making melody*” comes from a word that means to pluck, as on a harp; but the instrument that is to be plucked is specified: It’s the heart! Since it’s physically impossible to pluck the heart, we know figurative language is meant. It simply means we should “Put our hearts into it” when we sing. Don’t just go through the motions! 🗨️

“For the eyes of the Lord
are on the righteous,
And His ears are open to their
prayers;
But the face of the Lord is
against those who do evil.”
— 1 Peter 3:12

SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

Sight & Insight

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

<p>DUTY LIST...</p> <p>SUNDAY MORNING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Announcements.....Jason Hubbard ➤ Bible Reading by.....Sam Miller Reading: John 9:26-34 ➤ Song Leader.....Robert Johnson ➤ Opening Prayer.....Kenny Todd ➤ Lord’s Table: Lead.....Lynn Buttrey Serve.....Tony Jenkins Serve.....Frank Anderson ➤ Closing Prayer.....Ben Reagh <p>SUNDAY EVENING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Song Leader.....Ben Reagh ➤ Lord’s Table.....Lynn Buttrey <p>WEDNESDAY EVENING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Todd ➤ Invitation.....Justin Pragel 	<p>GOD’S PLAN OF SALVATION</p> <p>There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Hear The Gospel</u>: Romans 10:17 ➤ <u>Believe</u>: Mark 16:16; John 8:24 ➤ <u>Repent of Sin</u>: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30 ➤ <u>Confess Faith</u>: Romans 10:9, 10 ➤ <u>Be Baptized</u>: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21 ➤ <u>Remain Faithful</u>: Rev. 2:10 <p style="text-align: center;">Obey Today!</p>
<p><i>Home Bible Studies Available Upon Request!</i></p>	