

THE SURE WORD OF THE LORD

David Eldridge

Because of her involvement with the events concerning Naboth's vineyard, the Lord had said, "The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel" (1 Kings 21:23). These words come to pass when Jehu came to Jezebel at Jezreel. "He looked up at the window, and said, 'Who is on my side? Who?' So two or three eunuchs looked out at him. Then he said, 'Throw her down.' So they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses; and he trampled her underfoot. And when he had gone in, he ate and drank. Then he said, 'Go now, see to this accursed woman, and bury her, for she was a king's daughter.' So they went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands" (2 Kings 9:32-35).

When people speak of God's faithfulness, they often talk about the sure nature of His good promises. This is true, provides hope, and needs to be remembered. However, as we consider this example, let us note that God also keeps his "negative" promises. Just as he had said that the dogs would eat Jezebel, they did. He will also keep His promise that, "The wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). God's faithfulness is seen in His keeping of His word, whether in reference to His goodness or to His severity (Rom. 11:22). -

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



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

- www.defendthegospel.com
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5th Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

Southside church of Christ, 1167 South Lowry

Smyrna, TN 37167, Phone (615) 459-7854

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

Volume 12, Number 25

June 26, 2016

REPENTANCE

Michael Pickford

The idea of repentance is essential in the realm of spiritual matters. To repent means to make a commitment to change your life from evil to righteousness, from disobedience to obedience, and then follow through with that commitment. Consider some thoughts related to repentance...

God commands it. "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30). This leaves an exemption for no one. All accountable souls must repent if they are to be pleasing to God

Jesus Commanded It. We cannot justify our own sins by pointing out the sinful behavior of others. This is the concept Jesus addressed when He said, "But unless you repent, you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3, 5).

Godly Sorrow Produces It. "For Godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death" (2 Corinthians 7:10). Worldly sorrow is when one is sorry that he got caught doing something wrong. Godly sorrow is when one is truly sorry he has sinned, realizing how much it hurts God. This is the person who is going to truly try to change his sinful behavior.

Necessary for Sins To be Remitted. If one is going to have any hope of eternal salvation, he must first have his sins washed away, remitted, forgiven. This is impossible without repentance. Peter commanded the murderers of the Lord, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38; see also Acts 3:19).

God Desires It. Since repentance is essential for salvation, God desires that all men do it. "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

Must Bear Fruits Worthy Of. John commanded his audience, "Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance" (Matthew 3:8). Anyone can say, "I repent," but true repentance will manifest a true change in behavior.

Repentance is For Christians Too. It is possible for Christians to sin and their souls be in jeopardy as a result. Simon became a Christian (Acts 8:13), but when he sinned, he was going to "Perish" for it (Acts 8:20). He was commanded to "Repent therefore of this your wickedness" (Acts 8:22). ☞

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-471-1612, mpickford3@comcast.net

www.defendthegospel.com

WE NEED DOCTRINAL TEACHING!

Greg Gwinn

It has been reported that American students are not doing well in important Math and Science studies. In fact, they rank 35th in the world on achievement tests in Math, and 27th in Science. However, it is also reported that the very same American students rank among the highest in the world regarding how they feel about their Math and Science abilities. This is direct evidence of the over-emphasis that has been given in recent years to the subjective matters of self-worth and self-esteem. Our educators have obviously worried too much about "feelings," and not enough about real learning.

We may be following the same mistaken agenda in our spiritual teaching. It seems that we have lost a sense of balance in our preaching and in our Bible class studies. We may be stressing certain "feel good" themes too much, while neglecting important instruction in matters of doctrine. The results tend to indicate this. We have a generation of Christians that don't know and can't explain simple doctrinal truths. Many would be hard pressed to explain what's wrong with instrumental music in worship, why we oppose church sponsored recreational and social activities, or what the Bible teaches about institutionalism and unscriptural church cooperative enterprises. Some could not even describe the simple New Testament plan of salvation, or prove that baptism is essential for the remission of sins.

Members of the Lord's church once had the reputation as "people of the Book." We knew and could defend the truth on a wide variety of Bible subjects. Members of various denominations dreaded, and even avoided, discussions with us because they knew that we knew the Bible and could answer their faulty arguments. Sadly, we've lost much of that reputation. Let's get back to teaching and emphasizing "all the counsel of God," while "keeping back nothing that is profitable" (Acts 20:20, 27). -

Why Mechanical Instruments In Worship Is Sinful

How can something so beautiful be so sinful? This is the sentiment of many in religion when it comes to the use of mechanical instruments in worship. But a thing is not authorized in religion based upon its beauty, or how good it makes one feel; it's authorized based on God's word. When God is silent on a matter, that silence forbids the matter. Moses spoke nothing about a priest coming from Judah; he never said, "Thou shalt not take a priest from Judah," yet that was forbidden because God specified that priests come from the tribe of Levi (Hebrews 7:12-14). In the New Testament, God has authorized and commanded singing in worship (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16), and has remained silent regarding the use of instrumental music. He did not have to say, "Thou shalt not use mechanical instruments of music in worship" any more than He had to say to Israel, "Thou shalt not take a priest from the tribe of Judah." If we desire true fellowship with God, we cannot go outside of Christ's doctrine; but this is something that must be done in order to justify the use of the mechanical instrument of music (2 John 9).

-MP

SERMON NOTES

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

Title: _____

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Glenn Isbell
Reading: Hebrews 6:17-20
- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Table:
 - Lead.....Kenny Todd
 - Serve.....John Nelson
 - Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
- Closing Prayer.....Sam Miller

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Invitation.....

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Invitation.....Kenny Todd

Thank You For Serving!

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

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.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!

*Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!*