

THE FLORAL HEIGHTS INFORMER

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**Floral Heights
Church of Christ
1814 Buchanan
Wichita Falls, Texas
76309
(940) 322 - 1650**

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Our Elders:

Mike Chancellor
(322 – 6374)

Tom Witherspoon
(766 – 5368)

Deacons:

Joe Cronin

Jim Hall

David Witherspoon

Preacher:

John C. Robertson

Authorized Worship

David once wrote, *“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go unto the house of Jehovah”* (Psalms 122:1). When you go to the *“house of Jehovah”* to worship what is taking place? Much of *“church worship”* today consists of rock concerts, theatrical plays, and story telling. I receive an online bulletin from Jerry Blount of Wichita Kansas on a regular basis. This week Jerry placed some links to youtube.com videos that showed what goes on in many worship services. One video showed a rock concert where the worshippers were playing an ACDC rock song titled *“Hell’s Bells”* about people who want to go to hell. Secondly, another video showed worshipers playing the Garth Brooks song, *“I’ve Got Friends in Low Places.”* This song is all about drunkenness yet it was played at a church service. The preacher comes to the microphone, after the ACDC song was played, and said that if anyone does not like what they did they need to consider the fact that 20 some odd people were *“saved”* today. Does it really matter how we worship God?

Jesus said, *“But the hour comes, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth: for such doth the Father seek to be his worshippers”* (Jn. 4:23). The precepts and doctrines of men have no place in the worship assemblies of God’s people (see Col. 2:22-23). The apostle Paul said, *“Whatsoever you do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him”* (Col. 3:17). Those who would call themselves Christians must give book chapter and verse when determining whether their worship is acceptable to God. The Bible reveals only five acts of worship. Those five acts are praying (Acts 2:42; I Tim. 2:8), Singing (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16 etc. / occurs in the assembly; cf. I Cor. 14:26), partaking of the Lord’s Supper (Acts 20:7; I Cor. 11:23-24), giving of our means on the first day of the week (I Cor. 16:2; II Cor. 9:6-7), and gospel preaching (Acts 11:26; 20:7). Are these things happening where you worship?

It Makes A Difference

Edwin Broadus

Truth Magazine III:3, p. 1; December 1958

Local News:

Welcome to all our visitors:

We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please do come back at your every opportunity!

Quincy Adams has another scheduled visit with the doctors in Dallas during mid May. After this visit it will be determined what type of surgery he will need on his eye.

Jim Summers has left for Saudi Arabia and will be gone a long while. Let us keep his family in our prayers and avail ourselves to them in any way that we can.

Adult Bible Studies:

Sunday mornings we are studying the book of James and Wednesday we are studying The Book of Ruth.

Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Calvin York
692-0489 (Home).

Bessie Murphy
4600 Taft Blvd, Apt. 538

1. It makes a difference what a person believes. Some will believe a lie and be lost (2 Thess. 2:11, 12). Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). It is not enough to be honest and sincere; one must also believe the truth.

2. It makes a difference what church one is a member of. Jesus promised to build his church (Matt. 16:18). All churches built by men will be destroyed, for Jesus said, "Every plant which my heavenly Father planted not, shall be rooted up" (Matt. 15:13). One church is not as good as another. One must be a member of the Lord's church.

3. It makes a difference what name one wears. The name given the Lord's disciples in New Testament times was the name Christian (Acts 11:26), and they were told to glorify God in this name (1 Pet. 4:16). It is dishonoring to Christ to wear the name Lutheran, or Baptist, or Methodist, or any other human name.

4. It makes a difference whether one is baptized. Jesus said that "he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). He also said it is for the "remission of sins" (Acts 2:38). The Bible makes no promise of salvation until we have been baptized.

5. It makes a difference how one is baptized. New Testament baptism is burial in water (Rom. 6:4), and not sprinkling or pouring. It is "for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38), and not because one's sins have already been taken away. When Paul found some who were improperly baptized, he baptized them again (Acts 19:1-7).

6. It makes a difference how one worships. The New Testament furnishes us with the divine pattern for worship. It teaches, for example, that the Lord's supper should be observed each first day of the week (Acts 20:7). To do it less frequently is to subtract from God's word. The New Testament does not teach us to use instrumental music in worship. To use it is to add to God's word. Jesus taught that our worship is vain when we substitute the ordinances of men for the commandments of God (Matt. 15:9).

7. It makes a difference how one lives after he becomes a Christian. If, after having "escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ," one is again entangled therein and overcome, the last state is become worse with them than the first" (2 Pet. 2:20). Christians can so sin as to be lost eternally, if they do not turn from that sin. "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).

The difference between all of these things could well be the difference between being saved and being lost forever. We beg of you, study God's word, and do what he commands. A man's soul is far too precious to gamble with. Every man owes it to himself to make his salvation as certain as possible by studying God's word and following it as closely as possible.

More than Conquerors

Romans 8:37

Introduction:

The Apostle Paul wrote of various things that have the capability to separate us from Christ in Romans 8. He concludes the discussion by saying, “*Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us*” (Rom. 8:37). Are there events in your life that have caused you to be separated from Christ? If so, let us understand that God gives us the power to conquer our tribulations, persecution, needs, perils, and principalities in dark places. Let us not grow weary and neither let us be discouraged. May God help us to press forward through the face winds and uphill battles of life knowing that there is an eternal and wonderful place awaiting the faithful.

I. If God is for us who is against us?

- A. The Christian has no equal in relationship to enemies.
- B. No man, angel, or principality has the true power to overcome the faithful.

II. Who shall lay anything to the charge of God’s elect?

- A. The elect of God are those who have met God’s prescribed manner of lawful living (see Rom. 8:29-30; Eph. 1:3ff; I Pet. 2:9).
- B. Blame and sin can only come through my own negligence (James 1:13ff).

III. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

- A. Christ love is manifest in that he laid down his life for us (see Jn. 15:13-15).
- B. Jesus provides justification (Rom. 3:24; 5:1ff).
- C. Who, therefore, has the power to separate us from the love of Christ?
 1. Shall the godless society we live in separate of from Christ? (II Cor. 6:17; II Peter 2:7-9)
 2. Shall we allow peer pressure to separate us from Christ? (Gal. 2:11ff).
 3. Shall we allow the lust of our flesh to separate us from Christ? (James 1:13).
 4. Shall we allow pride and the vainglory of life separate us from Christ? (I Jn. 2:16).
 5. Shall we allow a spirit of elitism to separate us from Christ? (Phil. 2:1ff)

Conclusion

The Apostle John once said, “*Ye are of God, my little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world*” (I Jn. 4:4). The Christian overcomes, is victorious, and conquers sin and spiritual death through the precious blood of Jesus Christ (Eph. 2:1ff). No person, power, or authority on this earth has the capability of taking that wonderful state of forgiveness away from us. Man’s biggest issue is sin and the day to day grind of overcoming temptation.