

# The Floral Heights Informer

www.floralheightschurchofchrist.org

**19 November 2006**  
Volume 6; Issue 48

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

## **In This Issue:**

**Responsibility ..... 1-2**  
**Local News ..... 2**  
**Sermon Outline ..... 3**  
**The Book of Psalms – Back  
Cover**

## **Our Elders:**

**Mike Chancellor  
(322 – 6374)**

**Tom Witherspoon  
(766 – 5368)**

## **Our Deacons:**

**Joe Cronin**

**Jim Hall**

**David Witherspoon**

## **Responsibility**

**by Tom Witherspoon**

A responsibility is simply a charge or duty given that must be accomplished or completed and it certainly seems that our responsibilities grow daily and never seem to let up. Fortunately, however, our responsibilities do let up some as we grow older and we have a little rest. There are, however, some responsibilities that last for a lifetime and those would be our responsibilities as Christians. Looking at our responsibility in being a citizen and our responsibility to our community two places in God's word comes to mind, Romans 13:1-7 and I Pet. 2:11-17 (please read both).

The Christian makes the finest citizen that any government can have. For he not only obeys the law himself, but encourages others to do the same. His obedience to the government is a part of his obedience to God. Paul writes, *"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation"* (Rom. 13:1-2). Also the Christian is deeply and vitally concerned about the welfare of his community. He will work hard for it's betterment in every way staying, however, in the confinements of God's word.

Brethren, Peter summed it up in I Peter 2:15-17 saying, *"For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. Honor all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king."* Think on these things!

## 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 come back at your every opportunity.

**Rita York** has re-injured her shoulder while going through rehabilitation. She has broken a bone in her shoulder area. Please pray for Rita and do whatever you can to encourage her. She has had a stretch of body ailments that is getting her down.

**Hobie Miller** was restored unto the Lord this past Sunday evening. Let us all be thankful to God for Hobie's good heart and intentions to do better in this life.

Be sure to peruse our **web page** from time to time. There are articles, sermon outlines, books of the Bible studies, audio sermons, archives of past gospel meetings, and a private members only page. The URL is [www.floralheightschurchofchrist.org](http://www.floralheightschurchofchrist.org)

**Continue to pray for our shut-ins:**

**Stella Davidson**  
696-1030 (Home)

**Calvin York**  
692-0489 (Home).

**Bessie Murphy**  
4600 Taft Blvd, Apt. 538

## Time

While contemplating upon the brevity of life upon this earth, as James so aptly expresses in chapters 1:10 and 4:14, I thought of this poem I recently read and I would like to share it with you. The author is unknown.

### No Time for God

You've time to build houses, and in them dwell,  
And time to do business – to buy and sell;  
And none for repentance, or deep earnest prayer;  
To seek your salvation you've no time to spare.  
You've time for earth's pleasures, for frolic and fun,  
For her glittering treasures, how quickly you run;  
But care not to seek the fair mansion above,  
The favor of God or the gift of His love.  
You've time to take voyages over the sea,  
And time to take in the world's jubilee;  
But soon your bright hopes will be lost in the gloom  
Of the cold, dark river of death and the tomb.  
You've time to resort to the mountain and gleen;  
And time to gain knowledge from books and men;  
Yet no time to search for the wisdom of God,  
But what of your soul when you're under the sod?  
For time will not linger when helpless you lie,  
Staring death in the face; you will take time to die.  
Then, what of the judgment – pause, think, I implore!  
For time will be lost on eternity's shore.

My friends, think on these things.

Tom Witherspoon

"O Jehovah, I know that  
the way of man is not in  
himself; it is not in  
man that walketh to

## **They Declare their Sin as Sodom, They Hide it Not**

### **Isaiah 3:9**

#### **Introduction:**

God's people were sin sick from the sole of their foot even unto the head during the days of the prophet Isaiah (Isa. 1:6). Their worship was mere formalism (Isa. 1:11ff), they were guilty of idolatry (Isa. 2:20), pride stricken (Isa. 2:11), confused evil acts for good (Isa. 5:20), and their women desired the lustful things of this world (Isa. 3:16-26). Repentance was no where to be seen. Israel and Judah were actually proud of their sinful ways (Isa. 3:9).

Many of God's people today, who would claim to faithfully wear the name Christian, are involved in wide open sin as were those during Isaiah's day. The Lord may very well proclaim to a shameless people, "*My young people declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not*" (Isa. 3:9). Jeremiah wrote, "*Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? Nay they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall; at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith Jehovah*" (Jer. 6:15).

Four probable reasons for a lack of shame among the young today is that first of all they do not know God's laws (cf. Jer. 8:6-7). Secondly, there is a lack of knowledge that has produced a generation of youth that do not believe they are in sin when they truly are. Thirdly, a lack of knowledge produces a lack of fear toward God (cf. Jer. 5:20-24). Fourthly, lack of fear results in a lack of true faith. Many are not aware that God's eyes are upon their every doing (Jer. 16:17; 23:23-24) and that all will be held accountable (Jer. 23:19). What's going on with our youth?

#### **I. Fornication:**

- A. Unlawful sexual intercourse between non-married people.
- B. I Cor. 6:9ff

#### **II. Satanism:**

- A. A fascination and worship of Satan. Acceptance comes in the form of attire and some music that portrays Satanism.
- B. Rev. 2:24

#### **III. Filthy Language:**

- A. Foul language that comes from the mouth can be traced back to one's heart (Matt. 12:34-37).
- B. Paul's admonition (Eph. 4:29).

#### **IV. Humanism:**

- A. The humanist's interest is in the individual (truth is determined by the individual rather than a religion). "Any effort to impose an exclusive conception of truth, piety, virtue, or justice upon the whole of society is a violation of free inquiry" (Secular Humanist Declaration; section 2, Separation of Church and State).
- B. Consider Rom. 8:5-7; II Cor. 1:12

#### **V. Homosexuality:**

- A. The sexual union of same genders.
- B. Consider Paul's admonition at Rom. 1:26-27

#### **VI. Alcohol and Drugs:**

- A. The use of intoxicants is prohibited in God's word.
- B. Consider Prov. 23:28-35; I Thess. 5:4-8

#### **VII. Immodest Dress:**

- A. The word of God clearly identifies immodest dress with sin.
- B. I Tim. 2:8-10 (dressing decently with a sense of shame).

#### **VIII. Filthy Jokes:**

- A. Making light of sinful things:
- B. Rom. 14:3 (set at nought); Eph. 5:4; Jude 8

#### **Conclusion:**

Much of the problems that we have identified can be traced back to foolishness of the young (cf. Prov. 22:15) and a lack of spiritual training by parents (Eph. 6:1ff). This lesson was designed to be an eye opener for both parents and our young people. I would like to personally challenge each parent (myself included) to log on to your child's **myspace.com** account and review it.