

## SUNDAY MORNING

### Announcements

Bryan Garlock

### Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

### Lord's Supper

Bill Brittenham      Jack Calvert  
Mark Davis            Joseph Barry

### Prayers

Mike Davis      Jerry Schnelle

## SUNDAY EVENING

### Announcements

Bryan Garlock

### Song Leader

Hayden Ellis

### Lord's Supper

Bill Brittenham      Jack Calvert

### Prayers

Preston Ellis      Gerald Eaton

## WEDNESDAY

### Announcements

Bill Brittenham

### Song Leader

Jack Calvert

### Prayers

Cole Meador            Bill Rinehart

### Invitation

Rodney Ellis

## ABOUT US

### Elders

Jack Calvert            Rodney Ellis

### Deacons

Jon Barry              Bill Brittenham  
Mike Davis            Clay Morris

### Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Study .....9:30 A.M.  
Worship .....10:15 A.M.  
Worship .....6:00 P.M.

### Wednesday

Bible Study .....7:00 P.M.

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## GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

**Hear** the word of truth ..... Romans 10:13-17

**Believe** the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

**Repent** from all sins .... Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

**Confess** the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Acts 8:35-30

**Be Baptized** in His name ..... Mark 16:16;  
1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

**Walk** in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death ..... Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

# Think On These Things

Franklin Drive Church of Christ  
2301 Franklin Drive ■ Texarkana, AR 71854 ■ (870) 772-0746



Volume XXIII

December 16, 2018

Issue 50

## Do You Have Anything You Need to Burn?

Bryan Garlock

“Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.” (Acts 19:18-20)

Luke recorded that upon hearing the gospel preached in Ephesus, believers took the necessary extremes to rid themselves of their past sinful lives, indicating that Paul’s message was one of repentance from sin (cf. Gal. 5:20). While these particular Christians were once sorcerers, they had found true power in Jesus Christ (cf. Acts 8:9-24; 16:16-29; 19:11-17). This is certainly one reason why they were so willing to burn their expensive books that promised a false power and hope.

By burning their books, they showed at least three things. The first was that Jesus

was their Master now - not the things of the world. Secondly, they had truly repented and were willing to give up something once so valuable to them, never to turn to again. Thirdly, they did not want anyone else partaking in their old practices.

This ought to teach us a valuable lesson. Perhaps there are things we need to burn in our lives. Examine your possessions. Do you have anything that is valuable to you, but that is contrary to God’s holiness? It may be tight clothing that reveals the shape of our bodies, clothing that reveals too much skin, inappropriate books and novels, magazines (like Teen Vogue or Cosmopolitan which are full of ungodliness), filthy music CDs, movies in a DVD collection, devices used to view pornography, or simply social media and Netflix that take up too much of our time and keep us from being spiritually productive. While we may not have considered this, being enslaved to social

## FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Willie Margaret Mobley, Bob Buls, Bonnie Allgor, Lahron McJunkins, Maxine Burnham, and Francine Davis.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

**Gerald Eaton** had a bone marrow test this past week.

The next **Ladies Bible** Class will be Tuesday, **Jan. 8th** at 11:30 AM at the **Jean Crone's** or 6 PM at the **Calvert's.**

The **2019 Communion List** is in the foyer. Please sign up to prepare the communion for a month next year.

The **2019 Daily Bible Reading Schedule** is now available.

Many thanks to **Daniel Allgor.** The list of things **Daniel** does for us is too long to include here. So we just say, "Thank you, **Daniel**" for **EVERYTHING** you do.

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media and Netflix - even if we are watching clean movies - is as evil as watching an rated R-rated movie full of inappropriate language and scenes. Idolatry is not just bowing down to a carved image or something evil in nature; it is bowing down to anything that consumes our time (television and sports, perhaps). For example, how often do we not have time to study and pray, but we can binge watch a seven-season show with fifteen episodes per season on

Netflix? Perhaps it is time to burn - disconnect - Netflix? Simply put, we must burn anything that feeds our worldly desires.

Even more so, we must keep these things away from others. This writer once preached a lesson on dressing in a godly fashion. One sister went home and threw away all her clothes that revealed too much of her body. Do we cry extreme? Do we gasp at the idea of "burning" all that money up? What about shelters and poor people who need clothing? Why not give it to Goodwill?

Should the believers who burned their magic books have donated their books to the "local library" or sold them at the nearest "magic shop" to use the money to feed their families? By burning the books they kept others from participating in that sin. They could not rid the world of sin, but they could rid their lives of it as well as keep from influencing others. By burning her immodest clothes, our sister kept herself and others from wearing that which did not bring glory to God, but rather, attention to the body.

Perhaps one reason why we find ourselves holding on to what we ought to burn is that we have never truly repented. Repentance requires bearing fruit (Matt. 3.8). For example, consider the prostitutes that came to Christ for forgiveness (cf. Matt. 21.28-32). Prostitution was their livelihood and provided for all their necessities. However, after truly repenting, they gave up their lucrative business.

Another reason why we do not burn things is we find value in them. Interestingly, Luke makes it a point to tell the reader the value of the books. This implies that no matter what something has cost us to obtain, we must be willing to forsake it all for the sake of the gospel (Luke 14.33). We ought to find no value (or

love) in the things of this world (1 John 2.15-17). Thus, if we cannot bring ourselves to completely rid ourselves of evil, then we will forfeit our souls (Matt. 16.26).

If this article encourages you to go home and "burn" some things, then realize that there is no value in them. Do not sell your evil books, CDs, DVDs, or revealing clothing in a yard sale; do not give them to Goodwill. Trash them or burn them. You will not influence others to sin, nor will anyone question why a Christian would have these things in their possession.

Too extreme? It was not too extreme for our brethren in the first century. It may cost you something now, but you will be fully reimbursed in the life to come. BG

### How Important Are You To God?

Warren E. Berkley

Jesus said, "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?" (Matthew 6:26)

Have you ever seen a bird dressed up like a farmer? Have you ever observed, in a pick-up truck, a bird driving, going out to check the fields and put out irrigation lines? Have you ever witnessed a bird going to the bank to apply for a loan, to have funds to put a crop out, or buy equipment?

Sounds funny. But what we never see; what we observe in the "unemployment" of birds in farming, is the very thing Jesus is affirming: "Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns."

So, how do the birds survive, would be the question. And Jesus gave the answer: **Your**

**Heavenly Father feeds them!!** {Granted, they have to work to get the food and eat it, etc. But that isn't the main point here.}

It occurs to me, **Jesus did not say, "The Birds Heavenly Father."** No — He said, "Your Heavenly Father feeds them." But is this just a lesson in how God takes care of birds??

No — **the whole point of this comes with the next statement, which is stated as a rhetorical question: "Are you not of more value than they?"** Now — when we read statements like this — we need to include ourselves. There is every reason in the context, to see that Jesus is addressing the value of people; not groups, but individuals!! He goes on to say, two verses later, "Why do you worry?" "Worry" is a function of individuals. This is about the value of individual people, in the sight of God; in the estimation of heaven.

And this is what matters most!! You may think nothing of yourself. You may imagine that others think of you in demeaning ways. People may even tell you or display to you in some way **that they think little of you.** You can mark that down as human estimation. Then, get focused on divine estimate. Jesus said you are of high value — crowned with glory and honor, regarded by God as His valuable creature! Read the 8th Psalm.

## SINGING

**Mt. Pleasant. Jan 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 P.M.**  
**The Southside church in Mt. Pleasant is having their annual Singing.**