

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Jon Barry

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Clay Morris Danny Davis
Cole Meador Bryan Garlock

Prayers

Mike Davis Wendell Mobley

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Jon Barry

Scripture Reading

Bill Brittenham

Song Leader

Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper

Clay Morris Danny Davis

Prayers

Bryan Garlock Jerry Schnelle

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Bill Brittenham

Song Leader

Hayden Ellis

Prayers

Jack Calvert Clay Morris

Invitation

Bryan Garlock

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Clay Morris

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.
Worship6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 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; Romans 10:9-10

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 XXIV

February 24, 2019

Issue 8

Are We Shocked by All Sin?

Bryan Garlock

Are there any sins that you once openly condemned, avoided at all cost and found disgusting that you have allowed to find its way into your life where you not only approve of it but participate in it?

This is how sin works. It desensitizes us (numbs our mind) to the point that we no longer find it repulsive, and we become callous toward it.

What is worse is that we are shocked by some sin but not all sin. For example, who is shocked to see homosexuals on television or walking through the grocery store? Who is shocked when there is news of adultery within the church? Who is shocked when the law of the land allows for babies in the womb to be murdered? Moreover, who is shocked when a brother or sister gossips about another, or when a brother or sister forsakes the assembly of the saints, or when our favorite television show has inappropriate language and sexual

scenes? Unfortunately, many are hardly shocked at all by these sins.

When we are offended by some sin but not all sin it is easy to overlook or justify the sins we want to practice – the sins we are comfortable with. Thus, when we are not appalled by all sin, it affects how we serve God and it affects who we hold accountable to God; that is, the adulterer in the church but not the assembly forsaker.

How can we learn to hate all sin? The Psalmist wrote, "Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way." (Psalm 119:104) As we grow in God's word, we develop a hatred for everything contrary to God's will.

In self-examination, do you accept the sins that you enjoy and are comfortable with? Are you disturbed by some sins while you approve of others? Have you tried to justify those sins by any means

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.

Please remember **Tyna Armstrong's** brother and **Hunter** and **Sky's** father in your prayers.

Danny Davis has had some swelling in both his hands. The doctors are treating him. Please pray that the treatments relieve his problems.

Maxine Burnham is having additional health issues. She wants so badly to be able to worship with us, but is not able. Continue to pray for her.

The next **Ladies Bible** Class will be Tuesday, **Mar. 12th.**

Our Gospel Meeting: Singing, March 29th and **Meeting** with Tim Stevens, March 31st-April 3rd.

Please pick up some invite cards and ask for Bible studies. See Bryan if you need any help with home studies.

Lev. 10:3 Then Moses said to Aaron, "This is what **the LORD has said:** 'Among those who are near me **I will be sanctified, and before all the people I will be glorified.'**" And Aaron held his peace.

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necessary to ease your conscience before God? BG

Walking Standing and Sitting

Bill Brittenham

Psalm 1:1 *Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the wicked, Nor standeth in the way of sinners, Nor sitteth in the seat of scoffers: (ASV)*

It's interesting how David introduces his book of psalms. He begins by describing the progression (or digression) of the sinner. He is in the company of the wicked, sinners and scoffers. He listens to their counsel, associates with them and adopts their attitudes. First, he walks, then stands and finally sits with the unrighteous.

Walking In The Counsel of The Wicked.

In our own lives, we associate with sinners. As much as we try to keep ourselves unspotted from the world, we cannot go out of the world to escape those who live contrary to the will of God. (1 Cor. 5:9-10) And much of what we hear in our daily lives amounts to "the counsel of the wicked". It is often difficult for us to remain unaffected by our exposure to this type of counsel. A sad example of the consequences of hearing sinful things around us is children who pick up "bad" language from their parents. We must constantly be on guard against the sin around us that can so easily stain us. (Heb. 12:1)

Standing In The Way of Sinners. If we walk with sinners, it is too easy to stop, listen and give our attention to those with whom we are walking. Many things sound

interesting and appeal to our sinful desires. But instead of stopping to listen, and perhaps participate in these discussions and actions, we should flee. (1 Tim. 6:11)

Sitting In The Seat of Scoffers. And if we walk with the wicked and then stop and stand with sinners, our next step is to take a seat among them and begin to join in their actions and adopt their attitudes. We should heed the example of God's response to those who scoffed at Him and His message. (**2 Chon 36:15-16** *The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against His people, until there was no remedy.*)

David's opening words to his psalms characterize the separation God required of the Israelite. They were His chosen people to be kept pure and provide an untainted lineage to the Messiah and He insisted on a physical separation from the idolatrous nations among whom they lived. They were not to intermarry with any outside the tribes of Israel. They were not allowed to make covenants with outsiders. They were to remain separate and holy to God. If someone desired to join themselves to the Israelites as a proselyte, God allowed it, but issued special requirements for the association. And because of this physical separation, God's people were not tasked with the job of evangelizing the nations.

However, from Jesus' time forward, and with God's change from the Old Covenant

to the New, God no longer required a physical division, but emphasized a spiritual separation of His people, Christians, from sinners. And because the promises concerning the lineage of the Messiah had been fulfilled, God now commissioned His people with the task of evangelizing the world.

So how do we reconcile God's demand to keep ourselves unspotted from the world (James 1:27) with Jesus' command to go into all the world and preach the gospel? (Mt. 28:19) Our Father provides the answer in Ephesian 6:10-20 where Paul discussed "The Christian's Armor". The armor God gives us not only protects us and keeps us separate from the sins around us, but also equips us to spread the gospel to the lost with "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God". And while wearing and using God's armor, He tells us to resist the devil so that he will flee from us. (James 4:7)

And incidentally, as with so many other scriptures in the Bible, we should "read the next verse" from Psalms 1. **But his delight is in the law of Jehovah; And on his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the streams of water, That bringeth forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also doth not wither; And whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. Psalm 1:2-3 (ASV)**

Proverbs 26:20 For lack of wood the fire goes out, And where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down.

Titus 3:2 to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.