

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Clay Morris

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Bill Rinehart Rodney Ellis

Pete Rowland Bryan Garlock

Prayers

Rodney Ellis Mark Davis

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Clay Morris

Scripture Reading

Daniel Allgor

Song Leader

Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper

Bill Rinehart Pete Rowland

Prayers

Gerald Eaton Joseph Barry

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Rodney Ellis

Song Leader

Bryan Garlock

Prayers

Bill Rinehart Peter Rowland

Invitation

Bill Brittenham

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

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Issue 6

Let Us Be Consistent

Bryan Garlock

By now you have probably heard about the Super Bowl halftime show presented by Pepsi that aired on February 2nd, 2020. While I did not view the show, the outrage all over social media is enough to give me an idea of what these women flaunted in front of millions of people.

In reality, the opinions are mixed — some are venting their anger over half-naked women who sexually danced around on stage, or as some have called it, “a strip show”, while others are praising it as the greatest half-time show ever — saying it was electrifying. Some are making this about politics while others are making this about how to treat women and how the show made them out to be nothing more than sex objects with their provocative dance moves and revealing clothing. Some are going as far as boycotting Pepsi asking, “How could Pepsi support something so nasty?” “I can’t believe they were wearing that.” “I can’t

believe they acted like that in front of little kids.” “This show was disgusting.” Comments like these have been endless.

Why do we act so shocked? It is as if we have forgotten that “the whole world is under the control of the evil one” (1 John 5.19, NIV). This is what we ought to expect from a world that has exchanged their Creator for a lie (Rom. 1.18-32) and loves the darkness rather than the light (John 3.19-21). Thus, “...lawlessness will be increased....” (Matt. 24.12) This is a principle that applies across all times because many are lovers of self and pleasure rather than lovers of God (2 Tim. 3.2, 4). Do not expect it to get better; *it will only get worse.*

However, there is something else that needs to be addressed around this whole conversation that many are

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Maxine Burnham, Ann Thomas and Francine Davis.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

Joey Avance has been in the hospital with serious blood pressure issues. The doctors are trying to arrange for his transfer to the Cleveland Heart Clinic for specializes treatment.

Ladies Bible Class: The next class is Tuesday, **Feb. 11, 2020.** Noon at **Vera Ellis'** and 6:00 PM at **Karen Calvert's.**

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, April 3: Annual Singing
April 5-8 (Sun. – Wed.): Gospel Meeting with **Jonathan Glaesemann** from Stonewall. LA.

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

*Is your knowledge and faith of the Bible first or second hand? Is everything you know and believe based on what you have heard in sermons or classes. Or do you, as those in Berea “examine the Scriptures daily, whether these things were so”? We have confidence in our preachers and teachers, but even with **the apostle Paul** teaching them, the Bereans still went to the source to confirm what was taught. **DO WE?***

having. There is a famous saying that has taken many forms: “Consistency is a jewel”. It means that what is said about one thing should be said about another and that words and actions should match. However, what is striking is that those — mainly “Christians” — who are condemning the halftime show and who are so surprised by the production are not condemning their favorite television shows or the movies they have watched that are often filled with inappropriate words and inappropriate scenes — similar things as seen on the halftime show, *if not worse*. There is no outrage; there are no social media posts about it; there is no boycotting. Oh, consistency, thou art a jewel! Note: I am aware of some outrage about the Game of Throne series that was apparently filled with pornographic scenes. Let it not be said that those who condemn the halftime show enjoyed Game of Thrones!

Why is it that we approve of some inappropriate things while disapproving of other inappropriate things? It is because we have become desensitized to some immorality — and even enjoy watching or listening or reading it — while still finding ourselves disgusted by the immorality that has yet to callous our minds. When this happens, we feel righteous when we condemn something that is in fact inappropriate leading us to believe that we are safe to continue to engage in something inappropriate but that we have learned to tolerate. Remember, God says that whether we physically engage in immorality or by proxy engage by approving or enjoying the immorality, we are guilty of death (Rom. 1.32).

Furthermore, what about the cheerleaders on the sideline? Where is the outrage? Where are the social media posts? Where is the boycotting? Have we been so desensitized that we are fine with girls and women showing skin and dancing around — many times in a provocative way — because, well, they have colorful pompoms and they are “innocently” cheering on the players? “I had to turn off the halftime show, I just could not watch it!” What about when the camera zooms in on the cheerleaders? Oh, consistency, thou art a jewel!

All immorality influences us — not just halftime shows. Thus, turn it off. Don’t pay to watch it. Don’t watch it. Don’t read it. Don’t listen to it. Let us be like David who said, “I will not set before my eyes anything that is worthless...” (Psalm 101.3) “O you who love the Lord, hate evil!” (Psalm 97.10) “Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.” (Psalm 119.104) Let us have the faith to put these things to death (Col. 3.5) and listen to God who says that things will corrupt our hearts and are harmful to our souls.

Let us apply the same standards to all that we watch and listen to. Let us be offended by everything we see on television that is contrary to God’s will. Let us hate and expose all sin! If we are not doing that, how is our outrage about the halftime show genuine? “The reason Hollywood keeps increasing the things in movies which violate your Christian

morality is because you keep spending money to see it.” (Unknown) In love for your soul, BG

*Simply “Reading” the Bible without studying or looking below the surface is like reading the instructions for your medicines without actually **TAKING** them.*

Attending Bible Class without studying ahead robs you (and others in the class) of some of the most valuable insights you will never have.

*Don’t just listen to the words in a sermon. There is **ALWAYS** more to a sermon than is actually said. A word or phrase or person can often lead you on a longer journey.*

*Don’t be a lazy reader or lazy listener. **THINK!***

***Faith** without **response** or **love** without **actions** profit little. It may make you **feel good**, but does nothing to really **benefit** you or others or God.*

Dan. 3:14-18 *Nebuchadnezzar answered and said unto them, Is it of purpose, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, that ye serve not my god, nor worship the golden image which I have set up? ... Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we **have no need to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace; and he will deliver us out of thy hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.***