

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Randy Ellis

Song Leader

Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper

Clay Morris Jerry Schnelle

Mark Davis

Prayers

Willie Standokes Joseph Barry

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements

Daniel Allgor

Song Leader

Bryan Garlock

Prayers

Rodney Ellis Cole Meador

Invitation

Bill Brittenham

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham

Mike Davis Clay Morris

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.

Worship10:15 A.M.

Monday (Zoom)

Bible Study7:00 P.M

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

WWW.TXKCHURCH.COM



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Issue 27

Respect

Mark Pape

The respect of others is coveted by all. Unfortunately, some folks receive little if any of it. It is defined by Webster as "regard" or "expression of esteem". He further states that the respectable individual is "he that is deserving". In most cases the respect we receive of others is but a barometer of our character and our treatment of them. To some folk's dismay, they receive what they "deserve". Respect is an invisible object of value, which cannot be bought, sold or bartered, only earned and forfeited.

Respect Must Have a Basis

The only hope of having an understanding of and possessing respectability is by a careful study of the Divine character, as exhibited by the Godhead. In fact, no one can rightly refuse to respect God for any of the reasons we may find ourselves undeserving. God is to be respected because the basis in which He always deals with man is according to love and truth. Oh what peace and contentment this offers! God's unwavering commitment to man by the truth enables us to trust Him

as the Psalmist did, *"Into Your hand I commit my spirit: you have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth."* (Psa 31:5) Paul told Titus that he was involved in "... the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;" (Titus 1:1b-2) The bedrock this Apostle stood upon was the truth or verity of God, and is the basis for which the promise of salvation is to be expected, and will not be withheld from any obedient subject.

The respect lost by many could be regained if only they would pattern their affairs based on truth. However, trusting relationships can never be nurtured where dishonesty and deceit prevail. Brethren who refuse to keep their word are not trustworthy, and refuse to live *"by the truth which is after godliness"* (Tit. 1:1), destroy their reputation and deserve no esteem from others. Not to mention the reflection they have on the local church's influence. Paul reminded the Ephesians that one of the many results of having been taught the

revealed directions for us to get where we should be. The Hebrew writer admonished the early Christians to, "hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful" (Heb. 10:23). We must stay concerned about where we are headed on our life's journey. Where are we headed? We should be headed in the way that Jesus and his apostles teach us - the way of salvation. "Come to Jesus," as our one-year plan encourages. If we are focused on Christ, living according to his righteous example, and making an effort to follow his directions we will be headed to heaven!

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 ...

Matthew10:32-33; 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

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins/sometimes shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Maxine Burnham, Ann Thomas, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan, Pete & Beth Rowland, and Francine Davis.**

Dee Minter is recuperating at home.

Bible Study: 9:30 AM (and Zoom)

Services: 10:15 AM (and Zoom)

Monday Class: 7:00 PM (Zoom)

Wednesday: 7:00 PM (and Zoom)

While **Bryan** is out of town, **Jon Barry** will teach the adult class and **Clay Morris** will preach July 11th. And **Jack Calvert** will teach the adult class July 14th.

*We are trying to update our Directory. If you have updated information or would like a new picture, please get with **Bill Brittenham** by the end of July.*

truth was, "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another." (Eph. 4:21-25). Why do Christians throw themselves into the slime-pit of gossip, lying, slander, and backbiting? Those who do can be sure that if they hurt others and are less than honest and truthful, they will find themselves lonely and without the respect of any "respectable" people.

Self-Sacrificing Treatment With Love Commands Respect

All right-thinking individuals will respect God for the kind and undeserving treatment He has extended to mankind. The human race

was deserving of death, not the gift of God's Son. But the Almighty intervened with a plan that would meet the demands of Divine justice. Jesus died to commute our death sentence. *"But God commends his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us". (Rom 5:8) "For the love of Christ constrains us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:" (2 Cor 5:14)* God gave His only begotten Son, paying the immeasurable price of redemption. While possessing all power, He forces no one to accept His offer of love. What an example to follow and be respected for.

Brethren would do well to imitate this Divine example and command by offering undeserving, sacrificial love as Paul states, *"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."* (Phil 2:3-4) Try to comprehend the extent to which this principle, as it was applied by the Father and the Son has affected the world, IT MADE SALVATION POSSIBLE! If we will apply these Divine character traits in our live, we'll not only be respected, but make a positive difference in the eternal welfare of those we associate with. Without implementing this attitude, all hope of doing any lasting good is forfeited. The congregation as well as the individual will gain no more respect or regard from others or the community than a rogue.

Why do some brethren refuse to learn from these and other divine examples? While Satan is making great gains through worldliness and the pleasures of sin, we can hold him at bay by refusing to participate in unbecoming behavior that causes ourselves and the Church to lose the respect of others.

Where Are We Headed?

Dub Simpson

I'm sure we all agree it would be unusual for any one of us to awake tomorrow, hop in the car and drive off with no destination in mind. It might even be a stranger occurrence for us to drop by the ticket counter at the airport and purchase a ticket for a flight to nowhere in particular, or climb aboard a ship headed to an unknown land, sailing along an unknown route. We want to know where we are headed and how we are going to get there. And in this age we have all sorts of electronic information to find our direction and keep us on track.

But what about planning our eternal destination and being certain about our spiritual priorities? Where are you headed in this journey through life?

Are we choosing the correct route and how we plan to travel?

You can't be two places at once. You can't drive to England if you take the scenic route you may miss your meeting. In Matt. 6:33, Jesus told His followers to "seek first the kingdom of God," which leaves no doubt about our priorities and our direction.

We must be careful about distractions that will divert us from our destination or take us in the wrong direction. It is easy to lose our focus, as Jesus warns in Matt. 6:24, "No man can serve two masters...he will be devoted to one and despise the other." Don't let worldly distractions make you miss the most important destination. Being distracted behind the wheel can be deadly and spiritual distraction can affect the eternal destination of our soul. We need to appreciate the words of Paul in Col. 3:1, "...set your mind on things above where Christ is seated at the right hand of God."

We have to make Jesus a priority to get where we should go.

Are we demonstrating and teaching others how to navigate on this journey?

Can those around us, family, friends, and coworkers. see where we are headed? Or do they think we are just traveling with the crowd on that broad path that leads to destruction? Jesus admonishes us in Matt. 5:16 to "let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Our actions and words need to be such that we not only save ourselves, but also bring others to Christ. And this concern about our spiritual direction should begin at a young age - 1 Tim. 4:12 - "let no one look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity."

What do others think about your path through life? Are we striving to show others what is right and paying close attention to our effect on others? We must be a proper example to others. "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...discerning the will of God" (Rom. 12:2). *Being a good example and striving to teach others keeps us on the right path.*

Are we seriously concerned about the direction we are going?

If we don't pay attention to directions and road signs we generally end up in the wrong place. Heb. 2:1 - "Therefore we must give the most earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away." A pilot must direct his plane and a captain must steer his ship. As the prophet Jeremiah stated, "... O Lord, the way of man is not in himself, it is not in man who walks to direct his steps" (Jer. 10:23).

It takes planning and purpose to get where we should be headed -it will not happen by accident. We cannot carelessly go through life, but must follow God's