

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Bill Brittenham

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Jon Barry Bryan Garlock
Joseph Barry Cole Meador

Prayers

Melvin Potts Pete Rowland

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Bill Brittenham

Scripture Reading

Clay Morris

Song Leader

Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper

Cole Meador Clay Morris

Prayers

Danny Davis Gerald Eaton

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Mark Davis

Song Leader

Clay Morris

Prayers

Bill Brittenham Jon Barry

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

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Issue 32

Are You a Bitter Person?

Bryan Garlock

A bitter attitude is the fruit of a corrupted heart full of hatred and envy, among other ungodly qualities. Bitterness affects our view of people and causes us to mistreat our loved ones — spouse, children and even our brothers and sisters in Christ. It is the opposite of compassion, contentment, patience and forgiveness and manifests itself in rash and harsh words and vindictive and unruly conduct, motivated solely by selfish ambition.

Bitterness rears its ugly head when one does not get their way or feels that someone has mistreated them, or when they are envious of another's good fortune. It is the cause of murder, road rage, fistfights, verbal abuse, spousal and child abuse, church divisions, and the like.

Let us listen to God's word: "Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them." (Col. 3.19, NKJV) "Fathers,

do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." (Eph. 6.4, ESV) Brethren, "if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another" (Gal. 5.15, see context 5.1-26) and "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice." (Eph. 4.31) "When Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, saying, 'Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.' But Peter said to him, 'May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. For I see that you are in the

FAMILY TALK

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

Please remember **Gerald Eaton** as he continues his treatments.

The next **Ladies Bible** Class will be Tuesday, **August 13th**, 12:00 P.M. at **Jean Cronce's** and at 6:00 PM.

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

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gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.' And Simon answered, 'Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me.'" (Acts 8.18-24)

The way we defeat and eradicate bitterness from our hearts is to "strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no 'root of bitterness' springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled...." (Heb. 12.14-15) In other words, bear the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5.22-23) and maintain the unity God has given us in Christ by practicing right attitudes and right doctrines (Eph. 4.1-6). In love, BG

Who Is Jehovah?

Bill Brittenham

Ex. 5:1-2 And afterward Moses and Aaron came, and said unto Pharaoh, Thus saith Jehovah, the God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. And Pharaoh said, **Who is Jehovah, that I should hearken unto his voice** to let Israel go? I know not Jehovah, and moreover I will not let Israel go. (ASV)

Pharaoh, the King of Egypt, was familiar with gods. His nation recognized many. But when Moses and Aaron came to him with an order from Jehovah, the God of Israel, Pharaoh defiantly replied that he did not know this god and would not recognize His authority. We are familiar with how Jehovah made Himself known to Pharaoh and clearly showed Who He was and that His power and authority were clearly superior to Pharaoh's. Pharaoh continued to deny and resist the miracles and plagues until Jehovah killed his first-born child.

Today, if you were to ask people who Jehovah, the Lord, the One True God is, you would receive many different answers. Many would claim that Allah is that god. Even those who recognize Jehovah and profess a belief in the Bible and its author actually believe in a different deity than is shown in the Bible. (Their idea of Jehovah may not allow for eternal punishment of the sinful or require baptism for the forgiveness of sins. The god of their beliefs is really quite different from the true Jehovah revealed in the Bible.)

And there are still many people in this world who would express Pharaoh's statement, "**Who is**

Jehovah, that I should hearken unto his voice?" They either, through ignorance, do not know who Jehovah is or are rebellious as Pharaoh and refuse to recognize any authority He has to tell them what to do. What can we do to help these people learn who Jehovah is?

1. The Unlearned. Those who simply have never been introduced to Jehovah need a proper introduction. Almost all people either accept that some higher power is responsible for all that exists or have been deceived into thinking that all exists because of chance. Either way, Paul explains in Rom. 1:18-21 that the things that exist should be sufficient for people to understand that a God exists. Paul's introduction to God naturally leads to the beginning of Genesis where Jehovah is introduced as that God and the creator of all things. And this in turn provides the beginning or a lifelong study from the Bible of who Jehovah is.

2. The Misinformed. Sadly, the teachings of men have corroded the plain simple teachings of the Bible and many who think they know Jehovah do not really know Jehovah of the Bible. These people need to be led back to the Bible. Their faith needs to be redirected from the men (or churches) they follow to Jehovah, His Son Jesus and the Holy Spirit. The Bible is the only true and reliable source for information about Jehovah. The misinformed need to be taught that they can understand the Bible for themselves. Helping them find passages about misunderstood beliefs and allowing them to read and study and understand for themselves is what is needed.

3. The Rebellious. While we cannot turn a shepherd's staff into a snake and back or turn water into blood, we can show examples of Jehovah's power and strength and might in His Bible. Jehovah's love and mercy and grace are seen throughout the pages of the Bible, but His wrath and vengeance and judgment are also understood. The defiant need to learn the consequences of their rejection of Jehovah and that the only solution to their rebellion and their only hope is complete surrender to Him and total obedience to Jesus, His Son.

Just as Pharaoh needed to learn who Jehovah was and why he needed to obey Him, many people today need to understand their place in relation to the One True God. And just as Pharaoh, and all of Egypt, suffered at Jehovah's hands because of their unbelief and rebellion, people today who continue to reject Jehovah and His authority of them will suffer eternally.

We, as those who know Jehovah, need to look around us at the unlearned, the misinformed and the rebellious. They are everywhere. And like Moses, we must obey Jehovah and take His message to them. Moses was reluctant to face Pharaoh, and even his own people because he feared rejection. (Ex. 4:1) We may have those same fears. Jehovah provided Moses with the ability to perform mighty miracles. But He has given us His complete revelation in the Bible. Let us use that Bible to His glory and the salvation of those who do not know Jehovah.