

BIBLE QUESTIONS

(Answers Next Week)



81. Whose bones were carried out of Egypt by Moses?
82. Who is "our Passover"?
83. Who preferred to fall into the hand of God rather than into the hand of man?
84. Who kissed her mother-in-law?
85. What two Gentile women are mentioned in the genealogy of Christ?
86. Who was ruddy and of a beautiful countenance?
87. Can one mourn too much and too long over the sins of others?
88. Who said: "Here am I; send me"?
89. Distinguish between "Amoz" and "Amos".
90. Who said: "Speak, for thy servant heareth"?

Answers to Last Week's Bible Questions

Did you get them all?

71. **Yes.** Luke 19:1-48.
72. **Elijah.** 1 Kings 19.
73. **Isaiah 53:5.**
74. **Five.** John 19:23-24; Psalms 22:18.
75. **No seams.**
76. **Hebrews 8:8-13; Hebrews 10:16-17.**
77. **A village.** Luke 24:13.
78. **Half brother and sister.** Genesis 20:12.
79. **Isaiah.**
80. **Red Sea. Moses to Israel.** Exodus 14:13.

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	25
Sunday AM Worship	35
Sunday PM Worship	36
Wednesday Bible Study	34
Daily Bible Readers	8
Offering	\$1170
Building Fund	\$83,395

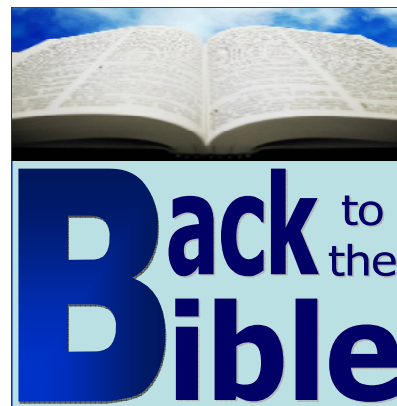
Today's Sermons

Morning: "Worship by Giving"

Evening: Singing Service

For Audio Lessons, Past Bulletins, Bible Studies and More

<http://www.wjchurchofchrist.org>



Minister:

Tim Canup

preacher@wjchurchofchrist.org

Times of Services:

Sunday

Bible Study:..... 10:00am

AM Worship:....11:00am

PM Worship:.....6:00pm

Wednesday

Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program

Sunday:.....7:30am

"Back to the Bible"

AM 580 WSKS

13th Annual Lectureship

Thought Provoking

Questions From the New

Testament

September 24-26, 2010

**We Extend A
Warm & Cordial
Welcome
To All Our Visitors!**

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221 Barnett Street

West Jefferson NC 28694

Phone (336) 846-5615 / Email info@wjchurchofchrist.org

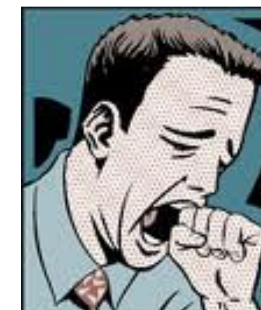
Volume III

August 29, 2010

Number 35

THE "BORING WORSHIP" OF THE CHURCH

Roger D. Campbell
[via, *The Reminder*, 8/13/06]



Let's face it. Some members of the church think that the worship in which we engage on the first day of the week is boring. While there are both younger and older members alike that roll their eyes at the thought of the same acts of worship ("the same old stuff") being repeated week in and week out, it appears that young Christians and their Baby Boomer parents especially struggle with the idea of participating in the identical worship acts time after time.

So much of life in the 21st century is geared to speed, instant satisfaction, fun, and activities that keep us on the go. Fast food restaurants encourage you to buy a specific drink or meal in order to see if you can be "an instant winner." Candy bars are now sold in the "fun size." Getting on the internet allows you to quickly watch a music video, send or receive a message by e-mail, check the latest sports news, look up the price of a new pair of shoes, and see what movies are playing in your area. And, you can do all of this in just a few minutes, with marvelous colors flashing on the screen, accompanied by background music that can keep you rockin'.

Continued Inside

Those Needing Our Prayers:



“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16).

Alice Turnmire
Everette Morefield
Steven & Jessica Winters
Streeter Blowers
Danny Martin
Sherry Rutherford
Jean Miller
Verna Lewis
Nell & Leroy Shepherd

Leroy & Minnie Kennell
Savannah Bedenbaugh
Jim & Amanda Winters
Debbie & Danielle Matkins
Mike & Joy Osborne
Pete Pless
Ladies Day
Keith & Renee Walters
Lottie Adams

Clayton Winters
Leta Bright (cancer)
Eugene Kidder
Kiana Miller
Adriane Osborne
Meghan & Heidi Vannoy
Lectureship
Nikki Lewis

WORSHIP AND EMOTIONAL HIGHS

Jimmy Stegall

There is a trend that has developed over the past few years in the church that is rather alarming. It is the idea that the assemblies of the church are to be some sort of staged production that produces an “emotional high” in the people who participate and even in those who observe. We have convinced ourselves that if I leave the building with any feeling other than ecstasy, the assembly has been a failure. Though I do wholeheartedly agree that the assembly needs to be a place where emotions can surface and sincere praise be offered, I do not believe that the purpose of the assembly is **solely to make me “feel good.”**

Sometimes, I need to feel **sad**—sad because MY sins caused Christ so much pain and suffering. Sad because my heart sometimes gets a little hard. Sad because there are millions of people who don’t even know who Jesus Christ is, and what He has done for them. Sometimes I need to feel **guilty**—guilty to the point of repentance and confession. Guilty of failing to obey God as I should. Guilty of failing to share the good news with others who need to know it just as desperately as I do.

There is a way to condemn sin strongly, and at the same time offer a positive challenge to change. There is a way to be convicted of sin and at the same time rather than be insulted or angry, to feel compelled and challenged to change and grow. But, this compulsion and challenge does not come from a “pat on the back,” but a serious, positive confrontation with God and His word. I, as you, pray for more meaningful and spirited assemblies of the church, but in pursuit of this goal, let’s not mistake “emotional highs” with true worship to God. We’re assembled to worship God and to stimulate and admonish one another to new heights—**not to watch an actor on the stage or to be emotionally manipulated by theatrics.** Our emotions need to be stirred by conviction and challenge from God’s word.

Who cannot see that what goes on within a worship assembly is far different from the above scenario? Because scriptural worship does not offer the type of thrills, excitement, eye-catching or ear-catching entertainment that goes on in the world, some disciples of Jesus consider worship about as exciting and attention-retaining as watching paint dry. To them, worship is b-o-r-i-n-g. *Webster’s 9th New Collegiate Dictionary* defines “bore” or “boring” as “to make weary and restless by being uninteresting.” That’s it. That is exactly how some members of the Lord’s body look at worship: it makes them weary and restless because it is so uninteresting.

When I hear grumblings about “our worship” being “so boring,” I always wonder, “What part of worship makes it so boring?” Could the culprit be our prayers? Is it really the case that when we pour out our hearts in prayer to our heavenly Father, giving Him thanks and making our requests known to Him (Philippians 4:6), is *that* what is so boring? Surely not. Could it be that the fault lies with the Lord’s Supper? When we read Scriptures about the death of Jesus, then go back to the cross in our minds as we remember His sacrifice for us (1 Corinthians 11:24,25), is that really a boring activity? Surely not.

Maybe the culprit is the preaching/study of God’s word. To preach “*the word of reconciliation*” (2 Corinthians 5:19), the message that sinners can be reconciled to God through Jesus and have an eternal inheritance awaiting them in heaven (1 Peter 1:3,4), is that really boring? Surely not. Perhaps the contribution is what is so uninteresting. But, if I understand that the contributed funds will help preach the gospel to lost souls, strengthen the church, and assist those that stand in need (1 Corinthians 16:1,2), then surely I will look at giving as an act of cheer, not drudgery (2 Corinthians 9:7).

If it is not boring to pray, study the word, partake of the Lord’s Supper, or give, then what does that leave? It must be the singing that bores some out of their minds. Yet, when we sing spiritual songs, what are we doing? Are we not offering a praise of joy to the Almighty? (Ephesians 5:19; James 5:13). How can it be “a drag” to praise the Creator?!

Who prescribed the worship of the New Testament church? Was it not God Himself? Does He not know what is best for us? If I am bored by *scriptural worship* of the Almighty, it is not God’s fault. It is also not the fault of the worship leaders, the elders, or preacher. My boredom is not because the worship is lacking something. Hmmm. What could it be? If I count scriptural worship as boring, then what needs to be changed is not the acts of worship or the order in which we engage in them, but rather my attitude.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September 5 – Preach and Eat – Fellowship Meal Following Morning Worship

September 5 – Men’s Business Meeting – Following Evening Worship

September 5 – Ladies’ Bible Class – Following Evening Worship

September 24-26 – 13th Annual Back To The Bible Lectures

October 2 – Ladies’ Day