

Today's Sermons
Morning: TBA
Evening: Singing Service

Welcome!

**YOU ARE OUR HONORED GUEST.
PLEASE KNOW THAT WE
APPRECIATE YOUR PRESENCE.**

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	30
Sunday AM Worship	38
Sunday PM Worship	26
Wednesday Bible Study	21
Daily Bible Readers	9
Offering	\$ 1579
Building Fund	\$94,800

Announcements

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Sunday, January 1, Following Morning Worship

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, January 1, Following Evening Worship

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

Sunday, January 1, Following Evening Worship

SINGING AT MARGATE REHAB

Monday, January 9, 6:30 pm

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

15th Annual Lectureship

Jesus Christ: What He

Called Himself

September 28-30, 2012

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

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Volume IV

December 25, 2011

Number 52

**Services Cancelled
for Holidays???**

Mark N. Posey



QUESTION: What are your thoughts about those Churches that are closing on Christmas and New Years day this year?

ANSWER: This year (2011) Christmas and New Years day each fall on Sunday. Therefore, many in the religious world are canceling their Sunday gatherings to give families the opportunity to be together. There is certainly nothing wrong with the desire for families to be together. However, who has the right to suspend that which God has established? NO ONE! The First Day of the Week Lord's Day gathering should take precedence over everything, even a holiday. We must remind ourselves of the frequency of gathering to worship God and the importance of dedicating our thoughts, words and deeds to Him each Sunday. The Gospel of Christ assigns a specific day for Christians to worship and Sunday that appointed day (Acts 20:6-7). It is not a day from which we rest from labors or work, but a day of worship (1 Cor. 14:26; 16:2). The practices of Christ's Church in the New Testament reveal that they gathered on "the first day of the week" (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2). John said, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day" in Revelation 1:10. Jesus was raised (Lk. 24:1,7) and His Church was established on the first day of the week - Sunday (Lev. 23:15-17; Acts 2:1). The first day of the week (Sunday) is the Lord's Day. It's not my day or your day! The Hebrews writer warned about "forsaking the assembling together, as is the habit of some" (Heb. 10:25). Canceling Sunday assembling would certainly be the same as "forsaking the assembling together." If not, why not? The Hebrews writer also said, "as is the habit of some." If one or two Sunday assemblies are canceled, could not three or four be canceled as well? What about ten or twenty? Where does it stop? It simply becomes "the habit of some." Therefore, you and I do not have the right to cancel that which God has established. Thank God for those who know and appreciate the importance, value and benefit of placing Sunday assembling at the top of their priorities.

Obeying The Gospel

By Ron Boatwright

The word "**gospel**" literally means good news or good tidings. What does the Bible say that the gospel is? 1 Corinthians 15:1-4 says, "Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel....by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received; that Christ **died** for our sins according to the scriptures, and that He was **buried**, and that He **rose** again the third day according to the scriptures." Here we see the good news of the gospel is that Christ **died**, and was **buried**, and was **raised** again on the third day. Also notice, they were saved by the gospel.

In 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9 we read that, "When the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on **those who do not obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.**" Here we see that vengeance will be taken on those who obey not the gospel of Christ.

How do we obey the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord so that vengeance will not be taken on us? Romans 6:3-5 says, "Or do you not know, that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His **death**? Therefore we were **buried** with Him through baptism into death: that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His **resurrection.**" So we see in obeying the gospel we are baptized into His death, we are buried with Him through baptism, and then just as Christ was raised up from the dead, we also are raised **to walk in newness of life** after baptism. Only after baptism are we born again and our new life in Christ begins. Only in baptism does our old sinful person die and our new person rises free from sin

Please Remember in Prayer

Meghan Vannoy

Evelyn Shoemake

Everett & Louise Morefield

Kaleb Davis

Justin Cox

Alice Turnmire

Answered Prayers

Mary Nell Osborne

Sandra (patient of Debbie)

Annie Hamm (breast cancer)

Arnolds, Bares & Cardens (travel)

Savannah Bedenbaugh

Susie Bright

Steven & Jessica Winters

Kiana Miller

Andrew & Nathan Canup

Mable Vannoy

Loucille McVey

Margaret Sullivan

L. Widner's nephew

Betty Arndt

Clayton & Vivian Winters

Ronnie Sturgill

Jim & Amanda Winters

Khela Domanque

Jean Miller

Karen & Tulsa Adams

Junior & Ina Anderson

Nell Shepherd (bronchitis)

Of Dogs, Pigs, and Pearls

Jesus came into this world to reveal and speak the Truth. Often the truth He spoke was painful. One of the more painful truths spoken by Christ is found in the Sermon on the Mount. "Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and rend you" (Matt. 7:6).

Jesus paints a vivid picture of a cornered person confronted by a hungry pack of snarling dogs and vicious boars. In fear and desperation the person throws into the mud in front of the beasts his most valuable possession, a bag full of pearls. The animals lunge forward anticipating food for their bellies only to discover the precious pearls are hard and tasteless. In their anger, the entire pack of animals turn on the person before them and drag him down into the mud where they tear him to pieces.

To the Jews dogs and swine were unholy and unclean animals fit neither for sacrifice nor food. However, Jesus is not warning about animals but people! There are numerous places throughout the Bible where unfit and worthless persons are called dogs or swine (See, 1 Sam. 17:43; 2 Sam. 16:9; 2 Ki. 8:13; 2 Pet. 2:18-22).

Jesus instructs His disciples not to waste the holy and precious instruction and rebuke of God's Word to those who are unfit and unworthy, for not only will they abuse and reject it, but they also abuse and reject you.

It is a sad but painful truth that there are those who lower themselves to the level of vicious snarling junkyard dogs and brutish boars in their rejection of God's wisdom. Get out of their way for if they have no respect for God or His Word they will certainly despise those who try to proclaim God's Truth. Jesus warns about such characters and teaches that we should be discriminating in our teaching and preaching lest we fall victim to them.

Solomon explained why one must be discriminating in whom he entrusts precious pearls of instruction and wisdom. He taught that "fools despise wisdom and instruction" (Prov. 1:7) and a "scuffer does not love one who reproves him" (Prov. 15:12). Therefore, "Do not speak in the hearing of a fool, for he will despise the wisdom of your words" (Prov. 23:9). Like Jesus, Solomon recommended a discriminating attitude toward those one tries to teach: "He who reproves a scuffer gets shame for himself, And he who rebukes a wicked man gets himself a blemish. Do not reprove a scuffer, lest he hate you; Rebuke a wise man, and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser. Teach a just man, and he will increase in learning." (Proverbs 9:7-9).

-SELECTED-