Today's Sermons

Morning: The Conversion of the Chief of Sinners Evening: Song Service

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Two Theoretical Systems for Justification before God WORKS **FAITH** · Do all the deeds Believe in Jesus. If you fail ONE that the Law Meeting any of His time you will demands. conditions for need forgiveness Don't sin. Which system Results: Results: is for you? You can boast, Enjoy grace, Those who forgiveness, · God will owe you a reject Jesus only have this unmerited favor reward



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130 Robert Street West Jefferson NC 28694

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

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Minister:

Tim Canup tim@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 WKSK
93.5 FM

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

A Time To Remember

Carl Garner

There are lots of things for us to remember. Like our Social Security number, Drivers license, all of our passwords, birthdays and our wedding anniversary. It can get pretty easy to forget some of them, usually at the worst times. There are some occasions that are more easily remembered because the news media help us by reminding us.

There are some events and deeds that deserve our efforts to remember. As a nation, we need to remember those who died or were injured in wars, both foreign and domestic. Many of us alive today can remember June 6, 1944, the date of the D-Day Invasion on the beaches of Normandy, France. According to official sources:

"Over 425,000 Allied and German troops were killed, wounded or missing during the Battle of Normandy. This figure includes over 209,000 Allied casualties, with nearly 37,000 dead amongst the ground forces and a further 16,714 deaths amongst the Allied air forces."

Those numbers represent many people from different walks of life. As a nation, we understand the importance of remembering them and why those battles were fought. It is something we know we ought to remember.

Continued Inside

We celebrate Memorial Day in our nation, not to promote war, but to remember those who died for a just cause. We remember great deeds done unselfishly by ordinary people. We are a people who remember what must never be forgotten. We display the flag. We wear lapel pins. We call out the names of the dead we honor. We offer prayers. We don't want to forget – we must not forget the things we really must remember.

Being a part of this nation, even if there are no laws that require our "remembering", we know we are indebted to those who did that which is worthy of our memory, our gratitude. What or who is worthy of our gratitude and our honor today? In addition to men and women whose lives declare their love for our country, our history, and our heroes, we can all recall matters in the Bible that should be a part of our memory.

Psalms 119, the longest chapter in the Bible (176 verses), reminds us of our need to keep things in our memory: "Thy word have I hid in my heart, that I might not sin against thee...I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways...Thy testimonies are my delight and my counselors...I will meditate in thy statutes...O how love I thy law! It is my meditation all the day...Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path" (all quotes from Psalm 119).

This wonderful passage from the heart of God extols the bliss of being God's people and the need to seek Him with our whole heart. We can never be the people who please God until we recall and live in harmony with the precepts of His will.

A very memorable passage in Acts 20:35 also tells us: "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." These words are not found in the gospel accounts, but Luke, in the book of Acts, gives us their source – Jesus Himself! We would all be better people if we remembered to have the proper attitude of giving and receiving.

The Lord's Supper is a means by which we may benefit from the use of our memory. Jesus said in Luke 22:19: "This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." Yes, we must "remember" Who Jesus is and what He did for us. Only then can we be motivated to live as He lived, and worship Him "in spirit and in truth," John 4:24. As wonderful as a good memory can be, there are times in which to forget is even better. Those who have gone through hard times know how good it is to put bad memories aside for a time. Those unkind words or deeds that we often seem to hold in our memory, would really best be forgotten. "Forgive and Forget" is a motto that can relieve you from memories that are painful and also prevent us from holding a grudge over something that is better forgotten. We all need to carry memories that are valuable, but as one sage has written, "Don't forget to remember to forget!" That's worth thinking about.

THE "PRICE TAG" OF SIN

Many times while shopping, I see an item that I would really like to purchase, and the first thing I always do is look for the price tag. When I know how much it costs, I then decide whether I can afford the item or not. Occasionally I find an article that I would really like to have, but there is no price tag on it. Usually I don't even take it to the checkout counter because it may cost more than I am willing to pay, and I don't want to go through the hassle.

And then there is the matter of buying something on the credit, and paying for it over an extended period. Many people want an item, consider the price to be reasonable, and are willing to pay it, provided they can make the payments. There is little or no consideration as to what the item will eventually cost them. If it carried that price tag at the outset, they probably wouldn't buy it.

My friends, sin is the highest priced item in the world. "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6;23). My friends, that "death" is the second death, the eternal loss of your most valuable commodity, your soul. That's the ultimate price you will pay for those things which can only bring you temporary pleasure.

But wait, there are "hidden charges" also, things not openly shown on a price tag. Before you commit some sin, take the time to consider ALL the costs. For example, you may conclude, "I can afford to spend a few bucks each week for lottery tickets," but do you consider the addiction to gambling you are likely to acquire that will lead to the commission of other crimes to finance your losses, the loss of your home and family and resulting heartache, as well as the loss of your soul? Before you give in to your intense desire to commit adultery with that other woman or man, do you look at the price tag? Do you search for the hidden costs? If so, you would find the dissolution of your marriage, the forfeiture of your right to ever remarry, the alienation from your children (at the best, you will get only limited visitation), and unhappiness that will "dog" you all of your earthly days, coupled with the fear of dying because you know you are lost.

My friends, don't forget to look carefully for the "price tag" for any and all sin. [*The Coldwater Courier*, 4-28-02; author unknown]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Nov 1 Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Class
- Nov 8 Preach & Eat 1:30 Worship
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell
- Wireless Internet Password: 94615548