

Today's Sermons

Morning: I See Men As Trees
Evening: Places for the Bible

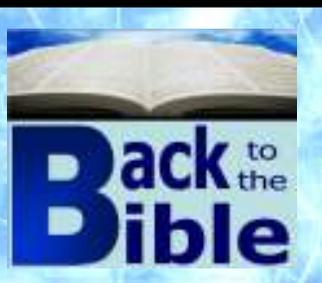
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Offering	\$1617



"A man is not saved and then baptized. A woman doesn't wash clothes because they are already clean. I've seen a lot of smart women, but not that smart. She washes the clothes because they're dirty. Man is baptized because he's dirty and needs to be cleaned." - - - Marshall Keeble

ACTS 22:16 And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.



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Times of Services:
Sunday
Bible Study:... 10:00am
AM Worship...11:00am
PM Worship:...6:00pm
2nd Sunday:.....1:30pm

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

Radio Program
Sunday:.....7:30am
"Back to the Bible"
AM 580 WSKS
93.5 FM

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

Just a Minute
By David Bragg

Moses witnessed many sights in his time. We see him standing beside the burning bush talking to God. We see him speak the Red Sea open. This special leader held the single honor of personal consultation with the Almighty. But to see this sunset may have been the most spectacular moment of all.

Over the one hundred and twenty years of Moses' life he had often heard talk of the Promised Land. His people longed for the fulfillment of that promise even while they languished in the oppression of Egypt. Moses had seen many sunsets. This one was special not because it would be his last but because of the land he saw dusk settle over. A special land he could not enter.

The wilderness journey took its toll on the wavering faith of Israel. A new generation had emerged to occupy the land. Moses patiently endured the criticism of his peers during this transition. Yet in a moment's anger he sinned and the Promised Land became the Forbidden Land (Numbers 20:1-13). His actions, in just a minute, made such a difference. Moses stood on the heights of Pisgah where he had to content himself with looking. Never could he feel its soil beneath his feet. That night Moses went to his eternal rest. He left behind a nation Joshua would take into a land flowing with milk and honey. He left behind, all for a moment's unguarded action, the dream of a lifetime.

Just a minute, it seems harmless and unimportant yet it can make a world of difference. Just a minute can make an eternity of difference. Make the most of as many of them as you can.

Just a Member?

David Bragg

The last chapter of Romans is special. Although Paul had never visited that city, and his long anticipated arrival would not occur for many years, his affection for the brethren was strong. He had many friends in the capital city with long-standing ties in Christian service.

Priscilla and Aquilla lived and worshipped in Rome (v. 3). Together they shared memories of Corinth and Ephesus (Acts 18). Andronicus and Junia apparently had connections with the apostles preceding Paul's career (v. 7). Then there was Rufus (v. 13). He was dear to Paul, not just for what he had accomplished as a member but for the mutual affection they shared for his mother.

Others are listed in this beautiful chapter: Epaenetus, Tryphena, Asyncritus, Philolus. Today we stumble over their names. Back then Paul memorialized their lives of dedication to Christ. None of them were "just members."

Every member of the body of Christ is special in the eyes of God. They have been set in the body with a purpose to fulfill that, when discharged, will please the Father (1 Cor. 12:18). None are "just members." We are either faithful or unfaithful members. We are either committed or uncommitted members. What kind of member are you?

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**“O LORD, THOU HAST SEARCHED ME, AND KNOWN ME. THOU KNOWEST MY DOWNSITTING AND MINE UPRISING, THOU UNDERSTANDEST MY THOUGHT AFAR OFF. THOU COMPASSEST MY PATH AND MY LYING DOWN, AND ART ACQUAINTED WITH ALL MY WAYS” (PSALM 139:1-3).**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- April 3 – Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Class
- April 10-14 – Spring Gospel Meeting with Tracy Dugger
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell
- Wireless Internet Password: 94615548

## Boring Worship

Jonnie Hutchison

Several years ago I heard some members of the church complaining that the worship services they were attending were boring. They declared that they were not getting anything out of the worship and that it needed to be made more exciting. They concluded that just because worship was boring to them then it must be so with all the rest of the members too. My answer to them was, "Do you have it within your ability to read the minds of your fellow worshipers? How do you know that they do not find the simple worship prescribed by God as exciting and beneficial to them?"

God has authorized what He desires in worship. No man or woman has the authority to change the avenues of worship which God has specified. If we add to it or take from it or substituted something other than God has commanded we err and place our souls in jeopardy just like Nadab and Abihu did (Leviticus 10:1-2). These two priests, the sons of Aaron, offered to God "strange fire which He had not commanded" and were destroyed by fire sent from the Lord for their error. Perhaps they thought that offering a different kind of fire would make their worship more exciting. But they were dead wrong!

Genuine worship must be offered to God in "spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). This means with the right attitude of mind and in the exact way that God has revealed in His word. Yes, our emotions are certainly involved in acceptable worship. However, our emotions must always be governed by truth. To introduce into our worship that which excites the emotions but is unauthorized by divine truth makes worship vain and unacceptable to God. Jesus spoke of this very activity when He said, "These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips. But their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men" (Matthew 15:8-9)., Perhaps some forget that God is the object of our worship. We are to worship God in spirit and in truth. Our minds should be centered in worship, not on self and what pleases us, but on God and what pleases Him! Each avenue of worship has been designed specifically by God so that we might be reminded of God's love for us, His mercy toward us, and our dependence upon Him. As we worship in spirit and in truth our faith is strengthened. Now that's exciting!

Worship as God has prescribed is never boring to one who recognizes his or her unworthiness before God and who expresses thanksgiving and love to the one who makes forgiveness possible through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Let us "Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" (Psa. 29:2).