Today's Sermons

Morning: A Shadow of Good Things to Come Evening: The Pride of Thine Heart

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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 WKSK
93.5 FM

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

WHICH SERVICES OF THE CHURCH WILL WE ATTEND?

Roger D. Campbell

Was the writer of the Book of Psalms a Christian? No. But he had a wonderful attitude about coming to the place where the Jews assembled to worship God. He said, "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD" (Psalm 122:1). What about you and me? How often do we plan to attend the services of the church the rest of this year? I personally want to attend every service of the church for the rest of my life because:

I want to be a good example to others, not a stumblingblock. "But be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith ..." (1 Timothy 4:12).

I want my family and others to see that God is really first in my life. Jesus said, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matt. 6:33).

I want to see and have fellowship with my brothers and sisters at the services. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Psalm 133:1)!

I want to study the Scriptures, like the Bereans did. "These [Bereans, rdc] were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

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I know that spiritual service to God is more important than any earthly affair. "Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth" (Colossians 3:2).

I want to exhort my brothers and sisters who attend the services. "But exhort one another daily . . . and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works" (Hebrews 3:13; 10:24).

I know what our Heavenly Father says about the assemblies of the church. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is" (Hebrews 10:25).

I don't want God and others to think that I am lukewarm in my service to Jesus. "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm. . . I will vomit you out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:14,15).

I know that it will help me grow closer to God and other Christians. "Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you" (James 4:8).

I know that the strongest congregations are those where the members regularly attend services. "Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even haron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion: for there the LORP commanded the blessing, even life for evermore" (Psalm 133).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- April 3-7 Gospel Meeting @ Mountain City Jeff Johnson
- ➤ 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

Which Denomination Is Right For You?

by J.S. Smith

Bumper Stickers and newspaper church directories cannot be wrong: "Attend the church of your choice!"

Still, as one drives through town or peruses the church listings, it can be awfully difficult to choose a church for myself. Which denomination is right for me; which one will reflect my convictions, character and interests?

In days gone by, one could examine the conflicting doctrines of the denominations and make an informed, theological choice. Nowadays the only doctrine anybody talks about concerns homosexuality. A great many members and not a few preachers are unsure what the policy of their denominations is concerning other things.

No, today, denominations distinguish themselves by other means. Some offer gymnasiums, daycare centers, soccer clinics, financial seminars, even elementary schools. They all promise food and fun. Before I decide which denomination is right for me, I will have to decide my criteria for making the choice. Is it going to be doctrinal or recreational?

If it will be recreational, then I will choose my denominational home based upon which group in this community has the best bribes. Biggest building, most amenities, best food. My denominational home may change if I switch communities, since my religious approval will always be based on who will entertain me best. That doesn't seem very stable, though. Maybe my criteria should be weighted toward the doctrines of the denominations.

If I am going to decide doctrinally, however, I am going to have to use my bible to test the teachings of the churches. I will also have to decide what my convictions are about many things that I have never really considered very seriously.

Maybe the reason I am having trouble is that I have this whole thing backward. Attend the church of my choice? What if I let God choose? Not by whispering in my ear, but by using the Bible to direct me to a church that strives to reflect his word and the early churches. But this is hopeless; none of these denominations is even mentioned in the bible!

No, there's one! Romans 16:16 -- the churches of Christ!

Well, I talked to the preacher over there and he said that his group was not even a denomination at all, that they had no creed but the bible and had no involvement in the recreation gospel that had satisfied me so little. When I decided to let God choose, he showed me to Romans 16:16 and all the other matters of doctrine and practice began to fall into place. As it turns out, the right denomination for me was no denomination at all!