



Today's Sermons
 Morning: What Is Truth?
 Evening: God's Purpose for the Bible

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	25
Sunday AM Worship	36
Sunday PM Worship	25
Wed. Bible Study	27
Offering	\$1556



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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!**

AFFECTIONS
 James E. Rogers
 (Continued)

SET YOUR AFFECTIONS ON:

1. God. Let us love him "with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" (Matt. 22:37). When one considers all the things made manifest by the love of God for us, we should be motivated to love God supremely. It is sad that Jesus had to say of some, "ye have not the love of God in yourselves" (John 5:42). We cannot, with ink, write the love of God and we cannot, with our feeble minds, fathom the depth of the love of God, but we can with all our whole being love God in return. May Calvary motivate us to love God above all else.

2. The Christ. Paul's statement is forceful: "If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha" (1 Cor. 16:22). Some might wonder how they can know if they truly love the Christ. Jesus made it easy to know if we love him. "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments" (John 14:15). Take a look at the commands of the Lord and then take a look at your lifestyle. How do they compare? Are we willing to take this simple test to determine our love for the Christ? May we work hard to bring our lifestyles into compliance with the wishes of the Christ. We shall never regret a single act of obedience to him and to his will.

Continued Inside

Unconditional Love

What it means:

- God already loves the sinner – **John 3:16; Rom.5:8**
- Nothing can make God START loving us; He already does
- Because He already loves us, He wants to have fellowship if you are willing
- Because He already loves us, He has provided a conditional means of acceptance and reconciliation

What it does not mean:

- God's love does not mean He already accepts us no matter how we live or behave – **1 Cor.6:9-10; Rom.5:1ff**
- God's love does not mean He automatically fellowships us unconditionally – **1 John 1:1-9**
- God's love has automatically reconciled us to God - **2 Cor.5:20**
- That there are no conditions we must meet such as faith, repentance, baptism in order to be accepted by God – **Acts 2:36-41**

Conditional Fellowship

3. The Bible. “O how love I thy law! it [is] my meditation all the day” (Psa. 119:97). This should be the sentiment of every Christian. Paul dealt with some “who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (1 Thess. 2:12). Paul was certainly blessed in that he could be assured that “from a babe thou hast known the holy scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation” (2 Tim. 3:15). Every child who has been taught to love the Bible can be thankful for such teaching. I appreciate those teachers who teach our young people to love and obey the Word of God. We must have more who believe unwaveringly that “All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God, and [is] profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works” (2 Tim. 3:16,17). May the Bible always be the book we love best.

4. The Church. The value of the church is seen in the fact that “...Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish” (Eph. 5:25-27). Certainly, as we love the Christ, we will love his church. When I think that the church is that “which he purchased with his own blood” (Acts 20:28) and that it is that to which the saved are added (Acts 2:41,47), I am moved to want to do all I can to promote His church to the world. What attitude do I portray to my family concerning the church? Does my wife and my children know that I love the church of the Lord with all my being? Do those with whom I work know of my love for the church? I trust we all can tell the truth when we sing, “I Love Thy Kingdom Lord.”

5. Brethren. One of the characteristics of saved folks is that they exhibit “unfeigned love of the brethren” (1 Peter 1:22). It is the desire, yea, the effort of every faithful child of God to “let love of the brethren continue” (Heb. 13:1). As we mingle among those for whom the Lord died, we want to “be tenderly affectioned one to another” (Rom. 12:10). What assurance to know that “he that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is no occasion of stumbling in him” (1 John 2:10) and that “if we love one another, God abideth in us and his love is perfected in us” (1 John 4:12). I know that some brethren have earned graduate degrees in aggravation and seem to practice their trade well, but I also know that the best people on the face of the earth are my brethren. May God help me to love them more!

6. The Lost. Jesus “came to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10). “God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son” (John 3:16). If heaven loved the lost this much, how can I not love them enough to make an effort to help them learn how to be

saved? Why is it so hard to get Christians to talk about salvation on a daily basis with those whom they know? Why must we always have some kind of special effort to do “personal work?” Should not the knowledge of how much God loved us and how much someone else loved us when they taught us the Gospel motivate us to pass this knowledge on to others? May we see people as lost people and be moved to talk with them about salvation.

Affections are powerful things. Where we have placed our affections may very well determine where we live in eternity. It is so easy today to become distracted and set our affections where they should not be. The temptation is great, but the assurances from God are sufficient to help us make the proper decisions. May we Remember the Bible boundaries.

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A NATIONAL PRAYER
by Thomas Jefferson

“Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage, we humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion: from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endow with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in Thy name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth. In time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.”

“Righteousness exalts a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people.” Proverbs 14: 34.
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“Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen” (Jude 24-25).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dec 11 – Preach & Eat; 1:30 pm worship
- Dec 25 – Song Service
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell