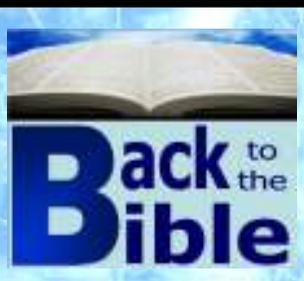


Today's Sermons
 Morning: Nothing But Leaves
 Evening: Lessons from Lot's Wife

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FOR THE RECORD

| | |
|--------------------|--------|
| Sunday Bible Study | 32 |
| Sunday AM Worship | 42 |
| Sunday PM Worship | 28 |
| Wed. Bible Study | 25 |
| Offering | \$1650 |



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**Seven Reason We'll Be In Worship
 on Christmas Day**
 Adam Faughn

It happens every few years. Christmas day falls on a Sunday.

Amazingly (and tragically) there are churches that cancel all services on that day or move services to a weeknight. Other congregations decide to only have one worship service or to move the time of services, but they are still meeting on the Lord's Day to worship the Lord.

Still, a lot of families decide that "since it's Christmas" they do not have to attend services on that day. After all, it's a day for family and traditions and it only comes once each year. So, many people will stay at home while the church meets.

However, barring illness or some other unforeseen event, our little family will be in worship on Sunday, December 25. And here are 7 reasons why.

Continued Inside

Minister:
Tim Canup
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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!**

After Baptism, What Then?

(3) **REMEMBER**
 You are a babe in Christ
 1 Peter 2:2

(6) **REMEMBER**
 You are a representative of Christ
 2 Corinthians 3:2 • 1 Timothy 4:12

(1) **REMEMBER**
 You are saved from your past sins
 Acts 2:38

(4) **REMEMBER**
 This is a critical period in your life
 Matthew 4:11

(7) **REMEMBER**
 You are to love Christ first
 Matthew 23:27 • Matthew 10:37

(2) **REMEMBER**
 You are a new creature
 2 Corinthians 5:17

(5) **REMEMBER**
 it is possible for you to fall
 1 John 1:1-2 • Acts 8:17-24

(8) **REMEMBER**
 You are to help save others
 Matthew 28:19-20 • John 15:1-8

"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ" 2 Peter 3:18

In A Manner Worthy...

Guy Orbison, Jr.

1. Worship is Commanded by the Almighty. Our Lord does not make worship something to be chosen by His followers. Hebrews 10:25 makes it clear that we are not to willfully forsake being together for worship. This is not a suggestion, and it does not have caveats for special holidays.

2. God is More Important than any Holiday. If I am going to say that “God is first in my life,” then there is no holiday that can take His place. There is no holiday that should be able to keep me away from worshipping my Lord.

3. Our Family *Will* be Together. I am amazed at how many people stay home from worship on Christmas so their family will be together. Our little family will still be together, just dressed up and in a church pew; not in pajamas in front of a fireplace.

4. Our Children Need to Learn Priorities. “Well, since it’s Christmas, we’ll stay home.” In the mind of children, that translates to, “What you want to do is more important than the commands of God.” He is first, and this is a glorious opportunity to teach that.

5. I Want to Encourage Every Christian Who Attends. How discouraging would it be to go to worship and see that a large percentage of your Christian family did not think enough of you to come and encourage you? We are uplifted and encouraged when we attend worship together, and I want to encourage those who make the effort.

6. We are to Obey Our Elders. Elders have no right to cancel Lord’s Day worship altogether, or to move it to another day of the week (that’s another article for another time). Many are making the decision to only have one service or to move the time to best accommodate family traditions. They are not making an ungodly decision, so I am commanded to obey them and to let them rule with joy (Hebrews 13:7; 13:17).

7. There’s Nowhere Else I Want My Family to Be Every Sunday! Whatever date is on the calendar, I want my little family loading in our car and going together to worship God. There are times when one or more of us has been sick and we have not gotten to worship together. I can’t stand it! Each and every Lord’s Day, I want my family to know the joy and the high privilege it is to join hands and hearts together as we worship.

Christmas is special. Each year, we enjoy all kinds of movies, snacks, get-togethers, and gifts. Having kids makes it even more special, as they get so excited for the holiday. The Grinch is not welcome at our house!

That said, no holiday—Christmas included—can ever top the joy and excitement that should fill our soul as we are allowed into the very presence of God to express our adoration and praise to Him. Every Lord’s Day, we should do that with all our enthusiasm...including December 25.

Six times, our New Testaments speak of Christians doing something “in a manner worthy.” Two of these occasions consist of specific instructions: The church in Rome was to receive Phoebe “in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and that you help her in whatever matter she may have need of you” (Rom. 16:2). Then, in reference to the treatment of brothers who were strangers to Gaius, the apostle John commends him for caring for them “in a manner worthy of God” (3 Jn. 6).

On four other occasions, we find the same expression exhorting disciples to live in a certain way: “to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called” (Eph. 4:1); to “conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ” (Phil. 1:27); to “walk in a manner worthy of the Lord” (Col. 1:10); and “to walk in a manner worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory” (1 Thess. 2:12).

I once read where Alexander the Great was inspecting his troops and came upon a soldier who was unkempt in appearance. The emperor asked the soldier his name and the trooper proudly said that it was “Alexander,” like his leader. Yet the emperor was not pleased and replied to the effect, “Either improve yourself or change your name.” As disciples of the Lord, we wear the name of Christ, but if He inspected us would He be pleased? If we are not walking in a manner worthy of that name, we should make the necessary adjustments. Our final inspection is coming... let’s be prepared by walking in a manner worthy of His name.

.....

“For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God” (Isaiah 62:1-3).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dec 25 – Song Service
- Jan 1 – Men’s Business Meeting & Ladies’ Class
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell