

Today's Sermons

Morning: Steve Clevenger
 Evening: Steve Clevenger

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	36
Sunday AM Worship	47
Sunday PM Worship	n/a
Wed. Bible Study	26
Offering	\$1847



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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 WSKK
 93.5 FM

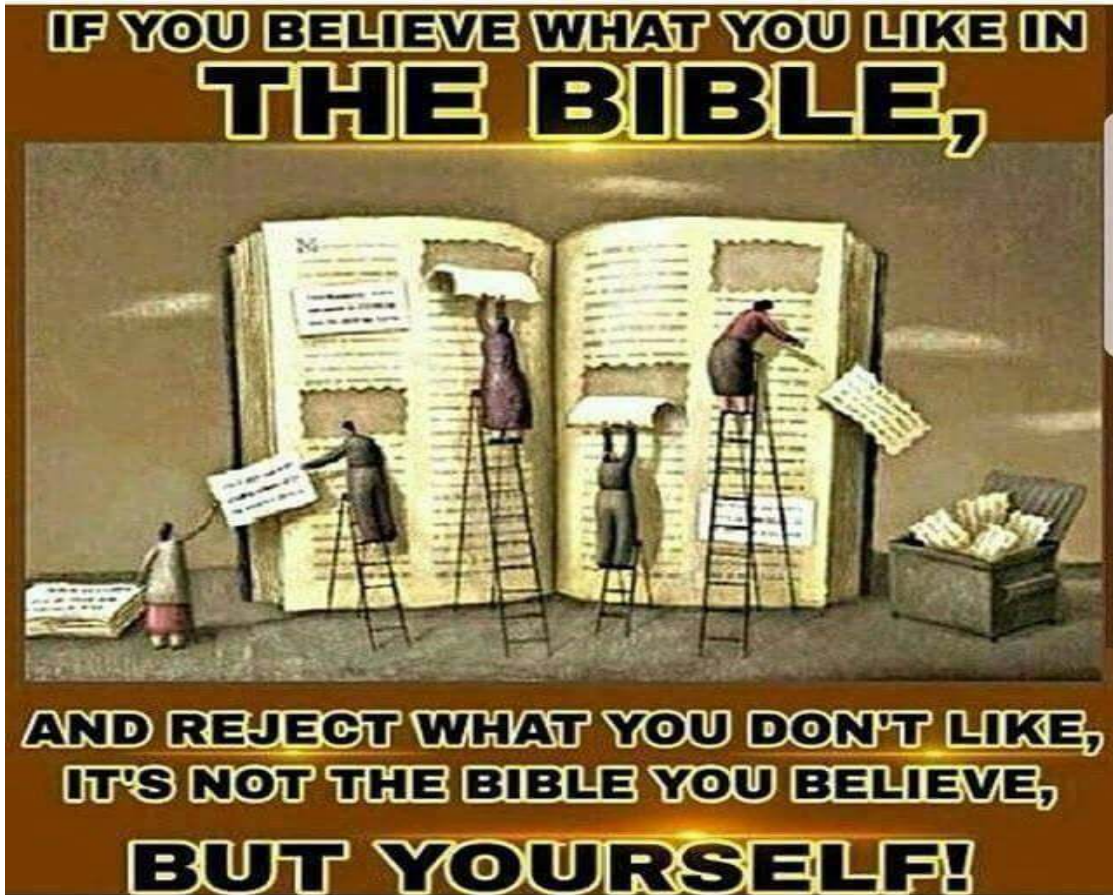
**We Extend A
 Warm & Cordial
 Welcome
 To All Our
 Visitors!**

**WHAT KIND OF THINGS WILL PEOPLE DO
 FOR THE SAKE OF MONEY?**
 Roger D. Campbell

An experienced observer just might say, "You name it, and somebody will do it for the right price." Another might chime in and suggest, "Every person has a price. You offer him the right amount of money, and he will do anything that you want him to." I do not believe that such an assessment is accurate. I am confident that many of God's children, even when tempted with huge sums of money, would not bow before the altar of money or material possessions. Though they may not make the news or receive the accolades of men, there *are* still people of principle in this world.

We are not talking in this setting about doing lawful things in order to make a living to provide for oneself or his/her family. For the sake of putting food on the table or providing other necessities of life, some have worked at jobs that they do not consider enjoyable, fulfilling, or even beneficial to mankind. A laborer "*is worthy of his hire*" (Luke 10:7). That is true for one that slaps burgers just as much as it is for one that teaches school or performs open-heart surgery. Scripturally speaking, there is nothing wrong with working to make money, nothing wrong with possessing money, and nothing wrong with making an effort to save money for future needs.

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All of that being said, folks have been known to make a wide variety of sinful choices in order to obtain money. For instance, for money, some will lie. Do you recall how the chief priest and elders of the Jews paid off the soldiers that guarded Jesus' tomb? The Bible says "*they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers*" (Matthew 28:12, NKJV). Why pay soldiers a large amount of money? So they would lie by telling that Jesus' disciples stole His body from the grave. The outcome? "*So they took the money, and did as they were taught*" (Matthew 28:15) – lying for money.

For money, some will betray another person. It may be a co-worker that one dislikes, but it could be a family member or close friend. Which Bible character comes to mind on this one? Would it not be Judas Iscariot, the betrayer of our Lord? For thirty pieces of silver (Zechariah 9:9), Judas betrayed his "*own familiar friend*" (Psalm 41:9). When the Jewish leaders "*promised to give him money*" (Mark 14:11), Judas was more than ready to accept their offer.

For money, some will prostitute their body. We know of situations where parents have actually sold their daughters into prostitution. Can you think of anything more repulsive? Other young women, down on life, foolish and inexperienced, have run away from home and found themselves in need of money, so they "took a job" selling themselves as sex objects. There are also hardcore harlots and men who have no shame in prostituting themselves. God wants bodies presented as a holy sacrifice (Romans 12:1) and sexual activities restricted to those who are married to one another (Hebrews 13:4).

For money, some will marry, having no love for the marriage partner and no commitment to the wedding vows. Earlier this year, in some Wednesday night teenage Bible classes we discussed various aspects of marriage and divorce. As the young people gave their thoughts on why marriages fail, one solid answer that was suggested is the fact that some marry "only for money." Unfortunately, it happens. Remember, the two key factors in a marriage having a solid foundation are (1) commitment to God and what His word says, plus (2) love for one another (Ephesians 5:25; Titus 2:4,5).

For money, some will choose work over worship. A key word here is "choose." I have in mind a scenario when a Christian is not scheduled to work, but volunteers to do so, even if that means he/she will not be able to worship with the saints. Or, a situation when a Christian-business owner *could* come to services and take care of his/her business interests at non-assembly hours, but he/she chooses work over worship because it will put more money in their pocket. Brothers and sisters, the Lord Jesus still expects His followers to seek spiritual things above the material ones! (Matthew 6:33).

For money, some will keep their mouths shut. In cases in which someone is witness to a crime, this is called "hush money." It is proper for gospel preachers to be financially compensated for their labors (1 Corinthians 9:14), but we have heard of some preachers who, in order to keep their job and the wages that come with it, would not preach on certain subjects. If an evangelist refuses to preach on adultery because an elder's grandchild is living in an adulterous union, refuses to ever preach against dancing because a deacon's child goes to the dances, or refuses to preach on the use of tobacco because the song leader smokes, then such a preacher just may be holding back because of money. God's preachers need to preach the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27) and whatever happens, happens!

For money, some will lay aside their commitment to moral principles. They will cast aside any sense of right and wrong, perhaps even openly confessing as they shrug their shoulders that they know that what they are doing goes against the Bible's teaching, but, oh well, they are going to do it anyway. Let us be on guard lest we succumb to "*the deceitfulness of riches*" (Mark 4:19).

"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows"
(1 Timothy 6:6-10).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Oct 1 – Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Bible Class
- Oct 1 – Guest Speaker – Steve Clevenger (from TCSOP&CD)
- Oct 7 – Ladies' Day
- Oct 8 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Worship
- Oct 15 – Guest Speaker – Caleb Rutherford (from Warners Chapel)
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell