



Today's Sermons

Morning: Looking Unto Jesus

Evening: TBA

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	38
Sunday AM Worship	51
Sunday PM Worship	n/a
Wed. Bible Study	36
Offering	\$1646



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 130 Robert Street
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Minister:

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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!**

In The Lord's Army

Rodney Nulph

The church of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is not for the faint of heart. Religion, especially in today's world, is viewed as a passive way of life. However, God's Book, the Bible, paints a far different picture of what Christians are to be. One of my favorite analogies that God uses for His people is the parallel to a soldier. Throughout the New Testament Scriptures, God placed serious emphasis on **the militancy of His church**. Someone has correctly said that the only thing necessary for evil to flourish is for good men to do nothing. Surely, that is why God placed such emphasis on His people to be **militant and not passive**. Therefore, each Christian is enrolled in the Lord's army and, as such, has certain responsibilities. Let us scripturally consider some of the responsibilities that each Christian has in the Lord's army.

Firstly, the Lord's Army is a **choice**. Nearing the end of his life, Joshua spoke of the individual choice in serving God, "...choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). Jesus closed the Revelation with

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You Are Cordially Invited to Our 10th Annual
Old-Fashioned Gospel Tent Meeting
 With Guest Speaker:
John Brown
July 14-19, 2019



WEST JEFFERSON CHURCH OF CHRIST
 130 Robert Street, West Jefferson, NC 28694

SUNDAY: 10:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 1:30 PM
 AT OUR BUILDING

MONDAY-FRIDAY: 7:00 PM
 GREENFIELD CAMPGROUND, MOUNT JEFFERSON ROAD, JUST BEHIND WALMART

NOTE: No Collection Will Be Taken Monday-Friday!
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emphasizing this choice, "...And whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely" (Revelation 22:17b). In the Lord's army, there is no "drafting." There are no soldiers in the Lord's army that are there by accident! **It is a personal, conscious choice to enlist in the Lord's army.** While God would prefer all men to enlist, each person has a choice!

Secondly, the Lord's Army has a *captain*. Sadly, some enlist in the Lord's army and believe that they still have some control. **In the Lord's army, Jesus Christ is the only captain!** He directs and the soldiers follow (Matthew 16:24). The writer of Hebrews made it quite clear who is in charge (Hebrews 2:10; cf. 2 Chronicles 13:12). As the Captain, Jesus is the only Lord and King (1 Timothy 6:15) and the only Head (Colossians 1:18). **Soldiers in the Lord's army faithfully and willingly submit to Him** (James 4:7).

Thirdly, the Lord's Army follows *commands*. In the same way that a physical army must follow commands, the spiritual army of God has commands to obey as well. Those commands are clearly outlined in the *soldier's handbook* (2 Timothy 3:15-17). **When a soldier fails to obey the commands of the Captain, he is in serious trouble!** Soldiers in the Lord's army do not seek wisdom and commands from anyone other than their Captain by His authority (Matthew 28:18-20). "I think so's," "my opinions" and "if I were the captain" do not have any place in the Lord's army. **We must faithfully and willingly trust, obey and serve the commands we have been given!**

Lastly, the Lord's Army does not *consort* with the enemy. **We are in a serious battle!** There is a real enemy who is working daily to win this war (1 Peter 5:8). As such, **there is no room for compromise.** We must stand firm and not consort or fraternize with the enemy in any way (2 John 9-11). While there are other soldiers who have deserted the ranks (2 Thessalonians 3:6), we must not follow in their desertion! The battle belongs to those who do not conform to this ungodly world (Romans 12:1-2).

Dear Friends, the battle rages on. Each person who has enlisted in the Lord's army has the responsibility to continue in the fight. If necessary, we must be willing to die for this wonderful cause (Revelation 2:10). As soldiers, while we are engaged in this battle upon the earth, we never get a *leave of absence* (Acts 2:42). However, to those who make the right *choice* to serve the one true *Captain*, daily following His

commands and determined not to *consort* with the enemy, there is a great, eternal victory prepared (John 14:1-4). Little wonder why Paul was so confident at the end of his enlistment to write, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give to me in that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:7-8). Therefore, the inspired admonition sounds forth today as loud as ever, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, 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). Thank God!

"Paul called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both their's and our's: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall also confirm you unto the end, that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:1-9).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- July 7 – Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Class
- July 14 – Tent Meeting w/ John Brown – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Worship
- July 28 – Song Service
- Aug 1-3 – Tent Meeting in Lansing
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell