

THE BULLETIN—VOL 45, NUMBER 29, July 28, 2019

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ed Kelleher, Grow in Christ

PM: Ed Kelleher, Grow in Christ, follow-up

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

REMEMBER!

Who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? - 1 Peter 3:13

For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come. - Hebrews 13:14

Test all things; hold fast that which is good. - 1 Thess 5:21

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
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www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
COME SEE!**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

On Request
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time man wanted

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WEST COLUMBIA
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“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

HALF TRUTHS

Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth? So help you God. You've probably heard this recited on TV or from a movie, but this does happen in court for several participants not just witnesses. The entire truth is necessary in order to reach a proper ruling in a court case. Violation of this oath is punishable by a variety of formats. Punishment is necessary in order to dissuade some from lying in court. The reasons as to why someone would lie in court or in any other situation are numerous. Whether it be a court setting, an office or other place of work, or in any kind of relationship the temptation to conceal the truth is often present. A “total” lie, however, is not the only means of keeping one in the dark. Another means of concealing truth is to present “half truths.” A man may exercise once a month. When he goes to the doctor the doctor will ask, “Do you exercise?” The patient may very well answer “yes” wanting to avoid a lecture about why he should exercise. Its not a lie because he does exercise. But 12 times a year is hardly any sort of exercise routine. It answers the question but not the intent of the question.

For the most part, the danger of half truths for the followers of Christ are not generating them, but rather believing them. “I go to church, so I am a Christian.” Is that the full truth of living the Christian life? No it is not. That is only part of the Christian life but seems to be enough for far too many. “After things settle down I'll have more time to study my Bible.” This could be true; but when does life really ever settle down and leave several hours open in our days? Even if it does, don't we usually find something else to take up that time? This song and dance of examples could go on. What we need to ask and answer truthfully is: do we please God by living for Him halfway; does halfway get someone all the way into Heaven? You probably already know the real answer to those questions. Will you live the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

- **T.J. Bolen**, Formerly Gospel preacher at West Columbia South Carolina

“And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said unto him, Blessed *be* thou of the LORD: I have performed the commandment of the LORD. And Samuel said, What *meaneth* then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?” - 1 Samuel 15:13-14 [read chapters 14 and 15—interesting and instructive]

“Test all things; hold fast that which is good.” - 1 Thess 5:21

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Don Blackwell, Merrie Christmus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.

- **Spencer Gilmore**, husband of **Paula's** friend **Lisa**, has been found to have extensive cancer and is only expected to last another month or two.
- **Barbara Reeder**, wife of **Melvin**, is suffering from renal failure.
- **Hailey Johnson**, one of those who care for **Barbara Reeder**, suffered a house fire and burns several weeks ago, in Cayce. She is unable to work. Remember her.
- **Lauren Beard** requests continued prayer for her family.
- **Traveling: Ryan Sheppard** at Guard Advanced Training;
- Also, continue to remember: **Laura Nichols, Pat Joyner, and Steve Rigney.**
- **Keep ALL these in your prayers**, that the Lord be merciful and pray also that we **all** grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge.**

“Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” - Romans 13:9

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Pray earnestly that our search for a sound preacher bears fruit!**
- **What does God Require of us?** Check the bulletin board for member's responses to this question, and add your own.

“That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God” - Colossians 1:10

“Test all things; hold fast that which is good.” - 1 Thess 5:21

Christian's Obligations To God And Man

The Christian's life is regulated by everything they think, say, and do. We have a two-fold obligation – one to God and one to our fellowman (Luke 10:27).

A Christian wife must submit to her husband as unto the Lord. A Christian husband must love his wife (Ephesians 5:22-25). Christian fathers are to bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). Children are to be obedient to their parents as long as they are under their authority, and when they become Christians and are grown up, they are to honor their parents as long as they live (Ephesians 6:1-2). Christian employers are to be fair and just to their employees, remembering they also have a master in Heaven with Whom there is no respect of person (Colossians 4:1; Ephesians 6:9). Christian employees also are to do their best at all times, not just when the boss is watching.

We also have a duty to help our fellow man, whether a neighbor or stranger who is in need (Luke 10:29-37). When we fulfill our obligation to man, we go a long way toward fulfilling our obligation to God.

— **Bud Butcher**, elder East End church of Christ, McMinnville, TN

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.” - Luke 10:27

THE BIBLE IN SATAN'S HANDS

The Bible in the hands of *sectarians* is being made to "teach" every imaginable contradiction known to religion. In *their* hands, it "teaches" Christian Science, Mormonism, Catholicism, Episcopalianism, Universalism, Trinitarianism, Spiritualism, Baptistism, Methodism, Presbyterianism, Premillennialism, Adventism, and a hundred more like "isms", all contradictory and agnostic. No two of them can be reconciled. Each claims God as its author. Each asserts that it is carried on by the "work of the Holy Spirit." Each believes that *it* is right and all the others wrong.

Now, who can believe that anyone but the devil endorses and "blesses" such contradictions and religious confusion? The Spirit of God *hates* and *condemns* all such divisions and emphatically says that "**they who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.**" (Gal. 5:19-22). But the Spirit of Satan says, "they who practice such things *shall* inherit the kingdom of God."

Denominational divisions are *not* the servants of Christ, though they *think* they are. They are deceived and Satan is deceiving them. They say they are not being deceived, but they are liars and Satan is behind it.

They may shout "intolerance" at me, but that only intensifies their sin, for all I say, I quote from the Holy Spirit's teaching in the Bible. To accuse *me* of anything is dodging the force of the Spirit's indictment -- an effort to get me in the same boat with them. What if they succeed? Will that remove their guilt? Why not *repent* and *renounce* the divisions of denominationalism and become Christians instead of servants of Satan? Thousands living today have done this.

The Lord's church today is largely filled with persons who were once in denominationalism but who, seeing they were lost, fled from it and became disciples of Christ -- *Christians only*. They simply obeyed the Spirit and came out of Babylon. What about you?

Those who want you to *remain* in denominational confusion and continue to practice division in spite of the Spirit of God will tell you anything to hold you in sin and away from Christ.

They will tell you that if you quit the practice of denominational division and become a disciple of Christ or Christian, you will become a "Campbellite." They tell you that to hold you in sin. They are moved by no other motive. They will hate you if you become a Christian, and will love you if you remain in sin with them.

Such is the universal spirit of sectarianism, though they simply do not know that themselves. When they ask you to become a Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian, etc., they do not realize they are asking you to *commit sin against Christ*. And if they should find you determined to obey Christ alone -- as the people did on the day of Pentecost -- they will actually get mad at you because they cannot lead you to do something else.

Denominations are hostile to Christ, though they, like Saul, *think* they are "doing God service." But as Saul persecuted Christ in ignorance (**Acts 23:1; 1 Tim. 1:13**), so are they. That means they, like Saul, must turn from their sinful course and become obedient to the faith of Jesus Christ and leave denominations. May God help us in aiding them to see their duty and turn before they are eternally lost.

- **E. C. Fuqua**, Gospel preacher ~ 1910

“**Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.**” - 1 Corinthians 1:10