

Shenandoah

church of Christ

TRIUMPH

“Do you know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it” (1 Cor. 9:24)

How Do We Know the Bible is God’s Word? (6)

Gabriel Rodriguez

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Reject the World’s Approval!

If the Bible were interpreted correctly (2 Pet. 1:3,20-21), then all human discord and religious division would simply go away (1 Cor. 1:10). Furthermore, if people treated each other with dignity and respect (Matt. 7:12), life would be enjoyable for all. But the reality is, people possess free moral agency and have a right to choose who they want to be and how they live their lives. And since this is the case, we often see more selfishness and greed. Why? Because it’s easier to think of myself than the plight of others.

Therefore, it is no surprise that the Bible speaks much about relationships. First, it speaks about our relationship with God and secondly, our relationship with our fellowman (Matt. 22:37-40). This is why conduct and character becomes very important because interaction with others depends on our disposition. But if our demeanor isn’t fashioned and molded after our Creator (1 Pet. 1:14-15), then our social skills will be affected in a negative way and we’ll be

responsible for the mental degradation of others.

This is why it’s important to build others up, rather than tearing them down. The Proverb writer said, “*Iron sharpens iron; so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend*” (27:17). We do this by maintaining right conduct and character, coupled with a humble disposition (Jams. 4:10), to make sure that those we come in contact with will be encouraged, not discouraged.

Hence, we know the Bible to be true and from God because it discloses information that makes sense. When people work together and seek each other’s best interests, then success in life is achievable, but when the opposite is practiced, destruction is near. This is why Proverbs 29:2 makes sense: “*When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked bears rule, the people mourn.*” The Bible supports reality and common sense principles of life. So why wouldn’t we listen attentively to the Bible in all matters of life. May God be praised!

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

The Ladies' Bible class and Men's Training class will be at 4:00 pm on June 28th. The ladies will cover lesson 5 in the book, Seasoning Your Words.

YOUTH

There will be no youth devotional for the month of July. Enjoy your summer!

YOUNG ADULT

The young adults will be meeting at *Altitude Trampoline Park* next to Regal Huebner Oaks movie theater on June 26th. You're requested to be there by 7:15, because jump time will be between 7:30-9:30. The cost is \$16 per person (bring cash). Also, those attending need to fill out a wavier online before arriving. Thanks.

AREA NEWS

There are area meetings for adults and youth in the area. Please check bulletin board in foyer for more information.

ISAIAH 55 (2)

God's people are God's voice and example (Deut. 4:5-6). When we empower the word (*i.e., knowledge*) of God through the lives we yield, something phenomenal happens - we bring forth fruit (*spiritual fruit - souls of men*) unto God (cf. Matt. 6:19-21). As was noted last week, God's people were likened unto rain water, which waters the earth and brings forth fruit for God (vss. 6-10. cf. Jas. 5:16-20). Therefore, when we do it God's way, living by His standards and commandments, then we'll bring forth fruit for God. Isaiah said, "*So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it*" (v. 11). The reverse message is, if we don't abide by God's standards of living, then we'll miserably fail and be partly responsible for the destruction of men's souls (cf. 1 Cor. 3:2-15). By abiding in God's word, conforming our will to it, then we'll successfully help others in life, we'll successfully lead people unto God showcasing God's knowledge, understanding, and wisdom, creating a better social environment.

The last two verses of this chapter solidify these thoughts. In verse 12, Isaiah says in figurative language, "*For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.*" The point is, when we follow the righteous path of God, then those that we come in contact

with will be joyful and peaceful. The mountains and hills which signify difficulties of life (Ps. 30:7; Jer. 51:25; Matt. 21:21), and in this context, when we deal with difficult people, our righteous demeanor will change struggles into joyous occasions, because we have overcome good with evil and have brought forth fruit by changing minds and dispositions of the wicked (Rom. 12:19-21). Hence, the trees of the field clap and rejoice because fruit is on their way. So, instead of "*the thorn, shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier, shall come up the myrtle tree*" (v. 13a). Because righteous has stifled the growth of the wicked, instead of thorns and briars coming up, productive trees bearing fruit will blossom. This is why Isaiah says, "*it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off*" (v. 13b). In other words, the righteous reputation of God, promoted by His people, will continue as an everlasting sign, which if we maintain ourselves, will never be cut off, even if we experience hardships, trials, and even death.

If we want righteousness to continue and fruit to bear for God, it is wholly our responsibility to produce it. God has given us everything we need, now it is up to us to reap a crop for the Lord through our demeanor and teaching. The question is: Will we produce for the Lord? May God be praised!

Bro. G. Rodriguez

WHAT SAITH THE LORD?

Nearly two thousand years ago an important question was raised before the Apostles after they had delivered the good news of Jesus's life, death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 2:21-36). The hearer's conscience were pricked of sinful conduct (2 Cor. 7: 10-11) and asked: "*Men and brethren, what shall we do* (in order to be saved)? (Acts 2:37). Without hesitation, Peter elevated his voice and proclaimed: "*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*" (Acts 2:38).

Upon hearing the words of Peter, the people obeyed. This demonstrated their belief in Christ (Jn. 8:24). Hence, they repented of sin and confessed allegiance to the name of Christ (Matt. 10:32-33). Afterwards, the people were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:41, cf. Mrk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).

The people's submission to the words of salvation granted them a relationship with God the Father by accessing citizenship into the church of Christ (Acts 2:47, cf. Matt. 16:18; Mrk. 9:1; Acts. 2:1-4). As a member of Christ's body (Acts 8:4) the people were then encouraged to live faithful unto death by conquering sin in their lives (Rev. 2:10; Rom. 6: 4-12; 2 Tim. 4: 6-8). We then await for the coming day in which all men shall be judged the word of God (Jn 12:48; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Cor. 5:10). Will we be ready?

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Reject The World's Approval

One of the most unfortunate faults is found in allowing others to "wind us up" in the affairs of this world! How sad that saints of God seek to copy the world, and copy the pattern of so much of worldly, immoral behavior! The apostle of love wrote: "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. and the world passeth away, and the lusts thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever" (1 Jn. 2:15-17). Paul had to tell the saints, "the fashion of this world passeth away" (1 Cor. 7:31). Various fads make news every day, but come tomorrow they are forgotten. The vain desire to be like the world only produces great harm! It separates people from the love of God, and brings down His displeasure upon them!

We often sing an old hymn that says, "This world is not my home I'm just a passing through My treasures are laid up Somewhere beyond the Blue. The angels beckon me From heaven's open door and I can't feel at home in this world anymore" (Mary Reeves Davis).

Where will you spend eternity, in the light of God's glory, or in the darkness of eternal punishment?

Bro. W. Holmes

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

BISHOPS/SHEPHERDS/ELDERS

(1 Tim. 3: 1-6)

Brother Elwyn Hipp (830) 510-6311,
Brother Wayne Holmes (210) 696-8597

DEACON

(Acts 6: 1-5; 1
Tim. 3: 7-12)

Brother Raul Baltierra
(210) 843-9730

GOSPEL PREACHER

(1 Cor. 9:1-16; 1 Tim.
4:6; 2 Tim. 4: 2-5)

Brother Gabriel Rodriguez
(210)315-4453



June 21

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *T. Mayces*
 Opening Prayer: *A. Maldonado*
 Song Leader: *R. Trevino*
 Lord's Supper: *J. Cardenas; J. Guillen; B. Dorries; M. Gibson*

Scripture: *Mark 15:33-39*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *R. Baltierra Jr.*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *T. Mayces*
 Opening Prayer: *R. Trevino*
 Song Leader: *A. Maldonado*
 Lord's Supper: *R. Baltierra; G. Rodriguez*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *J. Guillen*

After Greeter: *E. Creek*
 Greeter/Usher: *S. Hernandez*
 AV Duty: *M. de la Garza*
 Elder in charge: *W. Holmes*

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)

Wayne Holmes
 Juanita Mahan
 Richard Rodriguez
 Rina White
 Argelia (Janie's mother)
 Joe Guillen
 Sarah Cannon
 Olga (Joe's mother-in-law)
 Anthony Harris Sr
 Ina Dial
 David Sudhoff
 Elijah Sudhoff
 Roy Guajardo (battling Parkinsons)
 Gerri Mayces (medical issues)
 Rose Scott (grandmother of Clay and Wes Bond)

BATTLING CANCER:

Barbara Oakes	Johna Dorries
Edna Wilks	Abigail Reyes
Lydia Cowan	George Jackson
Briana Nieves	Sonny Cary
Mary Purkey	Elwyn Hipp
Graciola Anderson	Zeke Watkins

SHUT-INS:

Dorothy Harper
 Mary Louese Hughes
 Dazel Ball
 Mildred Geest

TRAVELING:

A. Jacob; Courtney Cobb (Japan); Dorries; B. Garcia

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES JUNE

Organizing Monthly Luncheon: *P. White*
 Preparing Lord's Supper: *Holmes*
 Auditorium Service Duties: *Mora*
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry room
NA
 Brother in charge of services: *E. Hipp*

AM Theme:
"Praising God" - A Study in the book of Psalms
 PM Theme:
Setting the Church in Order - A Study in the books of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus

AM Sermon:
Psalm 7

PM Sermon:
"Making Merchandise of You"

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

June 24: *T. Mayces*
 July 1: *A. Maldonado*
 July 8: *R. Baltierra*

FOR THE RECORD

June 14

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study 48
 Sunday AM Worship 88
 Sunday PM Worship 41
 Wednesday Bible Study 28
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,450.00/ \$2,283.00**

Weekly Bible Readers:
 10/28 (Adult Bible class)

SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

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 Church email Address:

shenandoah@shenandoahcofc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday: Bible Study at 9:30 am; Worship at 10:30 am;
 Worship at 5:00 pm.
 Wednesday: Bible Study at 7:00 pm