

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)

The Holy Spirit (10)

Gabriel Rodriguez

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The Bible teaches, “*There is a way that seems right unto a man, but the end thereof is death*” (Pr. 14:12). The use of feelings to confirm a belief is what many people do. When it comes to a discussion of the Holy Spirit, feelings becomes paramount. Therefore, instead of logically and reasonably looking at passages which speak about the work and role of the HS (past, present, and future), many disregard common sense principles, and rewrite and misinterpret HS passages. Once such passage is Romans 8:14: “*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*” Many assume that this passage refers to a “direct” leading of the HS in the lives of men, and therefore, when we make decisions in life, the HS will direct me in the right decision. But the logical and rational questions would be: (1) How does this not impinge upon the free moral agency of man? and (2) If the decision I make does not bring me the spiritual success I desired, did that mean that the HS failed me? You see, instead of contemplating common sense principles, many assume things and create doctrines not mentioned in God’s word.

The process of hermeneutics is rarely used in identifying what a passage actually says. And many fail to make

sure of is, that the conclusion they’ve come to **must correspond** with the reality we are a part of. Sadly, for many people, this is simply not done, rather feelings and superstitions take precedence. As we mentioned before, the *natural process of man* must always be the key in understanding passages in how God, Jesus, and the HS work in the lives of men (past, present, and future).

Let’s begin our analysis of Romans 8. But before we get there we’ll do a remote and immediate context review, along with defining some important key terms. Once we do this, we must ask ourselves, is the way we are interpreting the passages conform to what we know is logically and rationally consistent with life? One must continue to ask himself this, because once we begin to stray away from common sense principles, we fall into the danger of adding to the text things God didn’t intend. We must be willing to leave feelings out of this discussion and embrace what we know is practical and rational. This is why we began with a discussion of how men are influenced today - through communication. Once we’ve established this and we know the true role of the HS, then it should be easy to figure out the work of the HS and His role in the lives of men. May God be praised!

An Analysis of 1 Corinthians 12-14 (10)

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

We are still collecting cream of chicken soups for the Children's Home of Lubbock.

Please continue to bring these cans and place them in the box in the foyer. They will be picking up the box on April 18th.

The Ladies' Bible class and Men's training class is scheduled for April 24 at 4:00 pm. The ladies will be studying lesson 12 and the men will continue their study in the book of Zephaniah.

YOUTH

Our next youth devotional will be tied in with our young adult devotional on April 16th at 11 am at the Del View Park. All families are invited to attend.

YOUNG ADULT

Young Adult and youth group picnic scheduled for April 16th at 11 am at the Del View Park. All families are invited to attend.

AREA NEWS

See bulletin board in the foyer for many area wide meetings and youth events.

The discussion of the Lord's Supper (LS) in chapter 11 had nothing to do with establishing an act of worship (per se), rather in context, the Lord's Supper was used as an example of humility, love, and selflessness that the brethren had failed to demonstrate toward each other (v. 20). If you recall from last week's discussion, there was a problem that ensued from the love feast (Jude 12), where wealthy brethren did not think about the poor, and thus when they met together to eat and fellowship, the upper social class didn't bring food for others to share in, rather they ate at home before they came (vss. 21-22). Paul was disturbed over their attitude and thus used an act of worship, the LS, which brethren engaged in after the love feast, to show how their conduct did not mimic the symbolism of the LS - that Christ willingly and selflessly gave himself for the sake of others (2 Cor. 5:18-21). Therefore, the focus was on mimicking *the life of Christ*, as seen in emblems of the LS - the unleavened bread (body = actions) (1 Cor 5:7-8) and the fruit of the vine (blood = life (actions) (Lev. 17:11; Matt. 26:27-28; Rom. 5:9-10). Paul then said, "*For as often as ye eat the (unleavened) bread, and drink this cup (fruit of the vine), you do show the Lord's death till he come*" (v. 26). Automatically, people assume this verse teaches that the LS was about honoring the "death" of Christ, but in context it doesn't support this. In the context of selfish Christians, Paul reminded brethren, namely the wealthy, that when they partook of the LS, the emblems pointing to *life*, was to be remembered and "shown". The word for "show" is the Greek word *kataggello*, which comes from the root word *ago* and is defined as "to lead, guide, direct, through conduct and character." Hence, Christians were to demonstrate the life of Christ within their own life, and in the context of

selfishness, Paul encouraged brethren to live a life of selflessness. But some will rebut and say, "Paul said to show the Lord's death, not life, till he come!" But here is where interpreters are not thinking this through. The word "death" comes from the Greek word *thanatos* and it is used in some cases (metaphorically) to mean "the loss of that life which alone is worthy of the name" (e.g., Matt. 4:16; Jn. 5:24). In other words, death in this context didn't refer to the pain and suffering of Christ, rather it referred to his legacy in death, which afforded him the right and privilege of the resurrection of eternal life! Therefore, Paul's encouragement to the brethren was, *live your life* in such a way that will afford you the honor and privilege of the resurrection of eternal life. We know the life of Christ is what Paul concerned himself with, because the next verse says: "*Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord*" (v. 27). The word "unworthily" comes from the root Greek word *axios* and is defined as "having weight, the weight of another thing of like value; befitting, congruous." So in other words, Paul said that if their lives did not match the life of Christ, then their consumption of the emblems, representing life, holds them liable and in danger of receiving punishment from the Lord. Why? These were guilty of hypocrisy, which means saying one thing, but doing another. So this is why Paul said next: "*Let a man examine himself....*" (v. 28). The word "examine" means to test someone to see if they are genuine or not. In other words, be honest with oneself to see whether they are truly legitimate in following the true will of God. To be continued...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

Entering In To An Exclusive Church

As was stated at the first of this witting, many people are in error in handling Isa. 35:8; for it does not teach that all religious folks will be saved! Remember the words of our Lord, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Mt. 7:13-14). Does this paint the picture of the many being saved? that honesty of heart assures salvation? that any church is as good as that for which Jesus died?

Now listen to Jesus again: "Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Mt. 7:21). Isn't it the part of reason to obey the Lord, and allow Him to add you to His church? We urge each and everyone, who hasn't put on Christ in baptism, in the words of Saul of Tarsus: "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22-16). You will then be added to that same church you read about in your Bible, and anticipate making haven your home, after remaining faithful unto death

"Wherefore we receive a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire" (Heb. 12:28-29).

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



April 17

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *B. Dorries*
 Opening Prayer: *J. Guillen*
 Song Leader: *E. Castillo*
 Lord's Supper: *S. Hernandez; R. Baltierra; J. Mora; A. Maldonado*

Scripture: *Lk. 23:44-49*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *G. Rodriguez*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *B. Dorries*
 Opening Prayer: *M. de la Garza*
 Song Leader: *G. Rodriguez*
 Lord's Supper: *T. Mayces; Z. Watkins*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *E. Lerma*

After Greeter: *W & K Holmes*
 Greeter/Usher: *G. Gribble*
 AV Duty: *T. Mayces*
 Elder in charge: *W. Holmes*

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)

Wayne Holmes
 Rina White
 Joe Guillen
 Sarah Cannon
 Ina Dial
 David and Elijah Sudhoff
 Roy Guajardo (battling Parkinsons)
 Rose Scott (grandmother of Clay and Wes Bond)
 Caral O'Banon
 Glenn Gribble
 Torres' family
 Rose's aunt (Mary Hardiman)
 Cowan family

BATTLING CANCER:

Barbara Oakes Johna Dorries
 Abigail Reyes Graciola Anderson
 George Jackson Briana Nieves
 Sonny Cary Elwyn Hipp
 Gwen Parker Lori Main's father
 Tomas Guillen

SHUT-INS:

Dorothy Harper
 Dazel Ball (rehab, following surgery)
 Mildred Geest

TRAVELING:

A. Jacob; Courtney Cobb (Japan)

DEPLOYED: Jimmie Cardenas

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES APRIL

Organizing Monthly Luncheon:
Dorries
 Preparing Lord's Supper:
Neaves
 Auditorium Service Duties:
Mora
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry
 room
NA
 Brother in charge of services:
T. Mayces

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 48

PM Sermon:

"Out of the mouth of lions"

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

April 6: *W. Holmes*

April 13: *G. Rodriguez*

April 20: *M. de la Garza*

FOR THE RECORD

April 10

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study 50
 Sunday AM Worship 71
 Sunday PM Worship 44
 Wednesday Bible Study 43
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,140.02/ \$1,778.00**

Weekly Bible Readers: 7/26 (Adult Bible class)

SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

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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