

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)

What Do We Choose From A Church? (4)

Gabriel Rodriguez

Inside This Issue:

How Israel Fell From Glory (38)

Shepherd's Corner:
God's Word Will Still Move People!

As we conclude our thoughts from this written series, it is certainly sad when people seek a church for selfish and social reasons, instead of seeking the only reason God gave - the preaching of truth in order to secure souls (Isa. 2:3; 2 Tim. 4:2). As Paul noted, after he proclaimed to “preach the word,”: *“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts, shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables”* (2 Tim. 4:3-4). When a church fulfills the true desire of God, they are often labeled as boring and ineffective, but when a church disregards the preaching of truth for great social works, they are labeled as a fresh, vibrant, and upcoming church.

When people play the numbers game and feel church is about social programs, the Bible reminds us that God isn't a numbers God, nor interested in bolstering us emotionally with social programs. On the contrary, the Bible revealed paucity for His true faithful children: *“Enter in at the narrow gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many there be which go in: Because difficult is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leads unto life, and few there be that find*

it” (Matt. 7:13-14). And second, God wasn't interested in works (per se), rather did His followers actually apply and do His will: *“Not everyone that says unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that does the will of my Father which is in heaven”* (Matt. 7:21).

All that matters to God is whether His church is doing exactly what He requires (cf. Col. 3:17); anything else shouldn't matter. But because will live in a materialistic and entertained filled world, churches are now accommodating selfish desires and emotional stimulation. Hence, rather than seeking a church to make them intellectually capable and superior with God's word/wisdom, many have opted for weak preaching and teaching and program-filled church.

There will be many on the Day of Judgment that will answer for their decisions regarding a church. And much to their chagrin, the church they choose will have sent them to eternal damnation because they didn't teach them the truth of God's word. And at which time many will wail and cry.

Why not seek a church that is Biblical and sound in truth? Why not seek a church that will makes us wise? Why not subjugate emotion for intellect? May God be praised!

How Israel Fell From Glory (38)

A Study in the Book of Isaiah

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

We welcome everyone, especially our visitors, to our Spring Gospel Meeting with brother Foy Forehand. If you have any questions regarding the worship and lessons taught and preached, please talk with brother Forehand or one of our elders and men of the congregation.

The fifth Sunday fellowship is today after evening services. The menu is sandwiches, chips, and dips.

The Sunny Glen children's home will be here June 18-21 to pick up requested supplies: **Pastas/Noodles and Floor Cleaners.** As before, you can either buy these items yourself and place them in the library or give a check to one of our elders so they can purchase these items in bulk at Sams. Thank you.

YOUTH

Our next youth devotional scheduled for the month of May will be hosted by sister Neaves at her residence, May 6, at 6:00 pm. If you need directions please sister Neaves or Gabriel. All youth are invited to attend.

YOUNG ADULT

Sister Harris rescheduled the young adult devotional for the month of May 26th. More details to follow.

AREA NEWS

See the bulletin board in the foyer for events in our area.

Self-deception is the worst kind of deception. This is the focus in chapter 58. God command Isaiah to “cry aloud; do not hold back; lift up your voice like a trumpet” and say to the people of Israel, “Yet you seek me daily and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that did righteousness and did not forsake the judgment of their God; they ask me of righteous judgments; they delight to draw near to God” (vs. 1-2). In their sin, Israel had convinced themselves that they were in good standings with God, but in reality they had turned into anathema unto God.

In their deception, Israel complained about their observance of fasting and humility, that God had not blessed them, nor recognized their efforts. God reminded them that their efforts weren't noticed by Him because their fasting was merely an outward facade, but inwardly, their minds were warped with sinful actions; thus, “*there voices were not heard by God on high*” (vs. 3-4).

While Israel was putting attention on the physical actions, God was concerned about the spiritual man. And this is exactly what God demonstrated, saying that a fast was for a person “*to humble himself, to bow down*

his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him...to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke” (vs. 5-6). A fast was much more than a physical ritual to be observed, God said, it was to help free themselves from sinful conduct by disciplining yourselves. Once in right standing with God, then the next actions, which was to help our fellowman was in view - helping the poor and needy (v. 7). Once they became the people that God desired, and were examples to each other, then God said they would become the light, showing God's glory unto all the world (v.8). Once they satisfied the Lord in these things, God told them: “*The Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be a watered garden, like a strong of water, whose water do not fail*” (v. 11).

In all, God wanted Israel to return from being selfish to being selfless, by honoring God in their fast and observance of the Sabbath Day. Then God would bless them and feed them with the heritage of Jacob their father. 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) and given the hope of eternal life (Acts 2:38).

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

God's Word Will Still Move People

We are told to take up "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17). That sword is able to pierce "as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). The word of God is not only powerful today, but it can still move people to respond to God.

Jesus came preaching the good news of the kingdom (Matt. 9:35). This good news attracted people to Jesus in huge numbers. That good news will still motivate people to come to God, just as it did 2000 years ago. When churches or individuals proclaim the good news of salvation through grace in Jesus Christ, the world, confused and uncertain will be able to get its bearings and return to God.

Too often today we act as if the power to move people is in our methodology or our professionalism. Using good methods is wise and is endorsed by God. Using professional skills to further God's work is good and is also endorsed by God. But the power to change people is in the word, not in the methods.

More churches and individuals would be better off if they spent more time studying the fullness of God's revelation than spending more money on newer techniques. A clear, full proclamation of the truth will still cause people to respond. No doubt, God's word will still save souls.

"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. The saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest" (Matt. 9:35-38).

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

DEACONS

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

Brother Raul Baltierra

(210) 843-9730

Brother Bill Dorries

(210) 253-0173

GOSPEL PREACHER

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

Brother Gabriel Rodriguez

(210) 315-4453



APRIL 30

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *E. Hipp*
 Opening Prayer: *R. Baltierra, Jr.*
 Song Leader: *A. Maldonado*
 Communion Leader: *Open*
 Lord's Supper Servers: *N. Esenowo; R. Baltierra; G. Rodriguez; M. Garza*
 Scripture: *Matt. 26:26-29*
 Sermon: *F. Forehand*
 Benediction: *J. Guillen*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *E. Hipp*
 Opening Prayer: *B. Dorries*
 Song Leader: *E. Castillo*
 Lord's Supper: *A. Jacob; T. Mayces*
 Sermon: *F. Forehand*
 Benediction: *A. Maldonado*

After Greeter: *W & K Holmes*
 Greeter/Usher: *T. Mayces*
 AV Duty: *J. Guillen*
 In Charge of Invitation: *E. Hipp*

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)
 Wayne Holmes
 Joe Guillen
 Ina Dial
 David and Elijah Sudhoff
 Josh White (accidently cut himself)
 Caral O'Banon
 Sam Amos (awaiting surgery)
 Parents of David Lyssy
 Sandra Welch
 Lavender Nelson
 Tita Cortez (sister of Sam Ramirez)
 Dolly Gribble
 Elwyn Hipp (recovering from knee surg.)
 S. Schandua (loss of her aunt, H. Gross).

BATTLING CANCER:

Johna Dorries Abigail Reyes
 Graciola Anderson Sonny Cary
 Arturo Hernandez
 Renalto (brother-in-law of Joe Guillen)

SHUT-INS:

Dazel Ball
 Mildred Geest
 Sarah Cannon

TRAVELING:

A. Jacob

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES MAY

Organizing Monthly Luncheon:
The Men
 Preparing Lord's Supper:
Neaves
 Auditorium Service Duties:
Open
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry
 room
Open
 Brother in charge of services:
R. Baltierra

AM Theme:

The Hall of Fame:

Crown of Glory: The King of My Life

PM Theme:

God's Love For His Church:

A Study of the Song of Solomon

AM Sermon:

Gospel Meeting with F. Forehand

PM Sermon:

Gospel Meeting with F. Forehand

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

May 3: *R. Baltierra Jr.*

May 10: *T. Mayces*

May 17: *E. Castillo*

FOR THE RECORD

APRIL 16/19

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study 43
 Sunday AM Worship 62
 Sunday PM Worship 39
 Wednesday Bible Study 37
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,140.02/ \$1,810.00**

Weekly Bible Readers: NA (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