

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: David Key

Opening Prayer: Josh Berryhill

On the Table: Head - Billy Box
Servers - Bradley Box
Ralph Burleson
Greg Lowery

Closing Prayer: Charles Berryhill

Preparing the Lord's Supper Katie Berryhill

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am

Morning Worship 10:45 am

Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Leonard Key / David Key

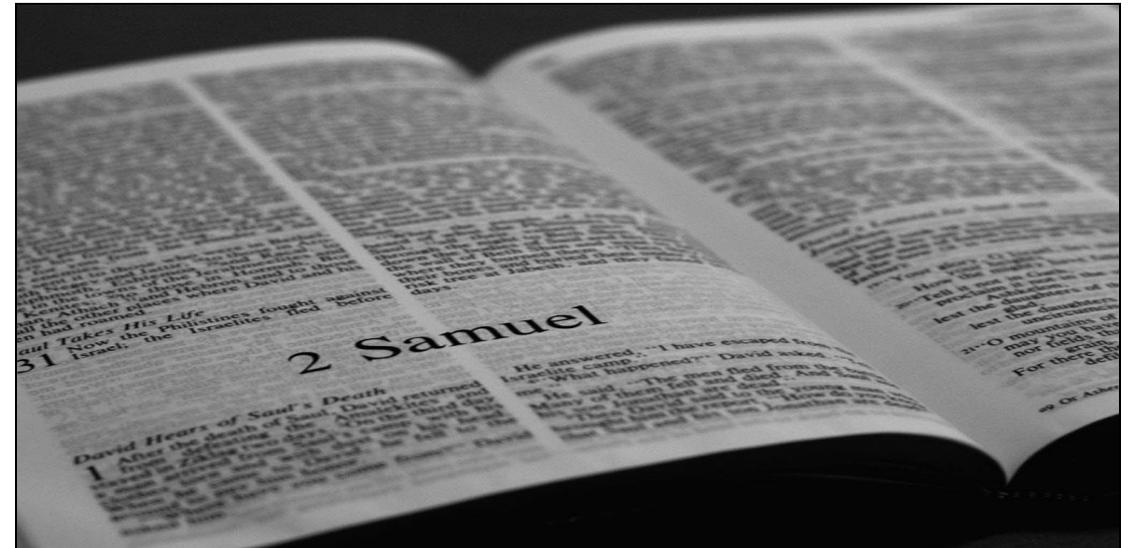
Billy Box / Eddie Dickinson Minister: Greg Lowery

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Oh What Great Kindness We Have Been Shown



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



God’s Love (John 3:16)

By Winfred Clark

We are not left in doubt as to the matter of God’s love. Such is declared time and again by the writers of the Bible. One of the most noted being John and the beloved (John 3:16). “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” Here we see a UNIVERSAL love. Just suppose that this were not a fact. Just suppose God did not love all men. But thank God, he does. In this passage one is able to see divine love, universal love and redeeming love. Now wonder so many songs have been written about it.

But again, God’s love is UNCOMPROMISING. The fact that God’s love is universal does not mean his love will endorse everything and demand nothing. One can see this fact illustrated in a number of ways. One of the most noted would be in the case of a young man who came to the Lord wanting to know what to do to inherit eternal life (Mark 10:17). Notice what the Lord would tell him to do.

Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me (Mark 10:21).

There can be no question about his being responsible to do some things. The Lord had the authority to tell him what to do. But one needs to note the response of this man. How did he react? Note, “And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions” (Mark 10:22). Note the fact that he went away, and we are told why he went away. He would not do what the Lord had told him to do. We need to go back to the fact that Jesus loved him. Would the fact of the Lord’s love now excuse him from not doing what he had been told to do? Were there limits as to what his love would allow? Surely one can see this. How very sad that some among us today can not learn this lesson concerning his grace. The fact that Jesus loved him is evident, but there were limits to which that love would go in saving him. This man could turn aside from the things the Lord told him to do. But the love that Jesus had for him would not save him in opposition to his commandments. It would not do it in his case, and it will not do so in our day.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

April Tidwell Dawson: she has recently been diagnosed with stomach cancer; please be praying that this cancer will be defeated with successful treatments

Angie Ganey Gardner: fighting against breast cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Tommy Housh: diagnosed with bladder cancer, please pray that they will be able to successfully defeat this cancer

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

Ruth Addison: ongoing health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Glynda Long: she is fighting stage 4 colon cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Don Lawrence: is recovering from a recent stroke, please be praying that there will be no long term complications or any further problems

Eddie Dickinson: recovering from recent colon surgery, let’s be praying that he makes a full recovery with no complications

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Celia Grace Hamlett, daughter of Gary and Kassie Hamlett, was diagnosed with MLD(Metachromatic Leukodystrophy); planning on gene replacement treatment; please pray that these treatments will be successful.

Karen Chaffin: has had fainting spells, please pray that the doctors can determine what is wrong and that she will have no serious problems

Pray for all those dealing with COVID especially those of the household of faith.

Pam Braden: she is dealing with some ongoing health problems, please pray that those working with her can help her

But again, God’s love is a PATTERN for us to follow. He shows us how to love. This is one of the many lessons Jesus taught in the great “Sermon on the Mount.” Note, “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect” (Matt. 5:48). This admonition follows a discussion concerning one’s love for his neighbor (Matt. 5:43). Jesus points out the fact that some are given to hating an enemy. He would then show them what they needed to do.

That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust (Matt. 5:45).

He shows how God’s love will show itself to all men. He sends the rain to those who are good people, and he also sends the rain to those who are not. He is not partial in his love.

But again, His love is UNDESERVED love. We cannot doubt for a moment that God loves us when we certainly did not deserve such from him. This is a marvelous thing that Paul could speak of to the church at Rome. “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8). Christ died for men who were enemies. He died for those who were opposed to him. Note what Paul had to say, “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life” (Rom. 5:10). Now stop to think of the one who wrote those very words. Do you think Paul would remember his former position to the Son of God as he wrote these lines? Did he not say on one occasion “I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 26:9)? He was at that time an avowed enemy of Jesus. He was opposed to him and his church and would do all within his power to destroy it. He stated this fact time and again. Paul could now look back, as can we, and see that he did not deserve the great love that had been shown for him in the death of Jesus.

But again, His love was PERSONAL. We are sure that his love was universal in nature, but we need to understand that it was also very personal. We have seen this in the case of the young man where it is said, “Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him...” (Mark 10:21). The love in this case is very personal. Here is a single individual that is singled out as an object of the Lord’s love. This was true in the case of John. Note,

Be What God Wants Yout to Be

GOD WANTS HIS CHILDREN TO BE DIFFERENT



ARE YOU TRYING TO BE ALL THAT GOD WANTS YOU TO BE?

When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son (John 19:26).

There were many people present, but here is one who is singled out as one whom he loved. That surely gives encouragement to us for we are individuals in a crowd and many times we can feel that we are lost in the masses and really do not matter. We can see from this that we mean something to the Lord. He loves each of us individually.

But again, His love is MARVELOUS. One cannot find words to adequately describe the matchless love of God. John, the beloved apostle would struggle with that very thing. Listen to what he had to say about it.

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not (1 John 3:1).

Notice the term, “what manner.” This means of what country. That is just another way of saying “you have never seen anything like this in the world.” We have a way of saying, “that beats all I have ever seen.” Yes, his love does beat all we have ever seen. That is the reason John would say, “Behold.” That word means stop and look. It means we ought not rush by without stopping to see the love that God has for us. He would have us stop and look as one would look at a masterpiece or great work of art. Remember that John stood at the foot of the cross and watched as Jesus died for His sins and ours. He knew why He was dying. He knew He was not dying to sins He had committed, and he knew He was not dying for just those who would love Him. John knew He was dying for that crowd that would dare hang Him on a cross. He knew this love was above anything that he had ever seen in this world. He knew he was looking at the great heart of God through the telescope of Calvary. That is the reason he would be what he was and would want all men to be the same. Surely that is our desire.

Expositions Of “The Expositor”, vol. 2, p. 210-212

Itching Ears

By Kevin Cauley

Second Timothy 4:3-4 states “For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.” Sometimes, what we need to hear is not necessarily what we want to hear. God has addressed this issue by giving us the Bible. It is the revelation of His truth to mankind. In it is contained everything that we need for life and godliness (1 Peter 1:3) and everything to equip us to every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17). The Bible often discusses subjects that challenge our choices! What ought we to do about that?

We must be open to the preaching of any Bible topic at any given time, especially, when we don’t want to hear it. I have wrestled with sin and heard the preaching of the truth on that subject from God’s word. It was not comfortable; I didn’t like the fact that I had to wrestle with my conscience, but it was good for me to do so. It is more uncomfortable when we want to do the sins that the Bible condemns. God wants us to fight the sin that is in our lives even when it isn’t comfortable, and that is why He exhorts preachers to preach without compromise. Many choose to simply listen to preachers who tell them what they want to hear. However, when the Bible contradicts our desires, we need to be corrected to bring our desires in line with the Bible’s teaching. Jesus said, “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent” (Revelation 3:19).

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