

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: David Key

Opening Prayer: Al Corkren

On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery
Servers - Eddie Dickinson
Bradley Box
Josh Berryhill

Closing Prayer: Ralph Burleson

Preparing the Lord's Supper Mary Eddy

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 / Eddy Dickinson Minister: Greg Lowery

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Why Then Is All This Befallen Us?



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



Truth Is The Truth

By J. C. Choate

What is truth? There are those who would ask this question to suggest that there is no such thing as truth, that there is no absolute, that the answer depends on the values of the one who is giving it, and that "Truth" varies from culture to culture and from country to country. Is it really left up to each individual to decide what the truth is, what is right and what is wrong, what he will accept and what he will reject, what is good for him and what is bad for him?

Surely if we believe there is a God in heaven, that there is a Creator, that he is all-powerful, knows all, sees all, hears all, and loves all, then we would have to conclude that He knows the facts, He knows our needs, and He knows what to tell us so that we may be saved and have the hope of eternal life. He would, therefore, not lie to us, deceive us, or mislead us. Neither would He tell one to do one thing and another to do something else. He would not have one message for one culture and another message for another culture. He created all of us, and He knows we are all in sin. Because of that, He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for the sins of the whole world. Jesus Himself said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6).

There is one God, one Lord, one Spirit, one faith, one baptism, one church, and one hope (Ephesians 4:4-6). We are also told that there is one way, one door, one gospel, one foundation, one name, one worship, one day of worship, one heaven, and one hell. In all these things, and others which could be added, there is ONLY ONE and all of us know that ONE means ONE, not TWO or THREE or MORE. Someone can explain truth away, misinterpret it, or reject it, but it remains, in spite of all, ONLY ONE. Fact is fact and truth is truth, and it does not change.

The Lord has revealed His will to us through the pages of the Bible. It is inspired of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17), it is Spirit and life (John 6:63), and is therefore from God and is God's word. It should not be added to, subtracted from, or changed, but left as it is (Revelation 22:18-19). God knew man's needs and, in response to those needs, He told man what he must do. With all people having the same disease - the disease of sin - God prescribed the same remedy for all (Mark 16:15-16).

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: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, 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

Ren Garrison (Donna Martin's Nephew): is still dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that this issue will be dealt with successfully

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: recovering from knee replacement, please be praying that he has a successful recovery

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.

Virgie McMillan (mother of Ann Box: dealing with complications from a recent stroke, please keep her in your prayers

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

Bill Berryhill: scans revealed cancer top of his hip; please be praying that treatments will be successful in defeating this cancer

Patty Berryhill: recovering from recent intestinal blockages being removed, please pray that she has no further problems

Larry Alexander: recovering from recent heart attack, please pray that he can make a complete recovery without any complications

Upcoming Events

December 31st New Year’s Eve - Game Night (Beginning @ 5:00 pm)

The Lord knows what He wants us to do. He has told all of us to do the same thing, and when we do that, He saves all of us the same way, and adds all of us to His one church (Acts 2:38,47). God has spoken (Hebrews 1:1-2). He has spoken the truth (John 8:32). We are then to live by it, preach it, and take it to every creature under heaven.

Christ tells us that God is a Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth (John 4:24). As the Lord's people, we are to direct our worship to God, in all sincerity and humility, and to worship Him as he has directed or commanded. Anything less than that, or more than that, will not be accepted.

The Lord's word, the truth, is said to be the perfect law of liberty (James 1:25). We are exhorted to be doers of the word, not hearers only, deceiving ourselves (James 1:22). Christ says, "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city" (Revelation 22:14). His word will never pass away (Matthew 24:35) and in the last day all will be judged by His word (John 12:48).

God does not lie; He cannot lie (Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18). He has always spoken the truth and will always speak the truth through His word. The gospel preached by the apostles in the first century is the same gospel that is to be preached today. It saved sinners then, and it saves sinner now. It is just as modern and up-to-date as the times. Why should man change it? Woe be to those who would attempt to do so. We can see in the inspired record what has happened with those of the past who have departed from God's truth. To change truth turns it into a lie, and a lie will damn all who follow it.

The truth, then, is the truth, consisting of facts, true information, and commands directly from the mind of God. Whether we like it or we don't like it, whether we accept it or we reject it, it remains the same. May God help us to believe the truth, to obey it, to live by it, to preach it, and never to depart from it or to be ashamed of it, so that in the last day we will be judged by the word to be faithful to God, and to be worthy of eternal life.

The Voice Of Truth International, vol. 3, p. 2-3.

The Weakest Link

By Lewis G. Hale

There is a proverb that says, “A chain is no stronger than its weakest link”. This cannot be successfully contradicted.

This is true of our character. Sometimes an otherwise great man has a fatal flaw. We say, “He has a chink in his armor”. We spend so much time trying to improve on our strengths that we may overlook a very critical weakness.

Churches are not immune to this problem. We may have a multiplicity of problems, but one surpasses all others.

It is a matter of judgment, but it seems to me that our greatest weakness is a failure to evangelize. Perhaps there was a time when we did most of our preaching in the area of what it takes to become a child of God. We may have neglected sermons on true worship, spiritually, generosity as manifested in contributions on the first day of the week, fervent prayer, helping the helpless, and a host of other important matters. But could it be that, realizing our failures, we turned almost exclusively to these areas, and that we are now neglecting preaching about salvation?

Several years ago a major denomination announced it would abandon evangelism in favor of serving man’s needs for the here and now. About five years ago, they announced that this was a mistake. It was a death warrant.

How long will it be before our brethren realize that without evangelism the church dies? It reminds me of the Essenes who preached celibacy. If believed and practiced by all, the human race would become extinct! God forbid that we as the church become extinct.

The Voice Of Truth International, vol. 3, p. 95.

Practical Suggestions Concerning Prayer

By Ronald D. Reeves

Several years ago, I read and appreciated some practical suggestions as penned by an unidentified author. Mixing his commentary with mine, here are some suggestions worth considering.

Pray immediately upon rising. There’s no better way to begin the day.

Pray before every meal. It is good to acknowledge the bounty from God’s hand.

Pray at set times. Let not the busy world crowd out our communion with God.

Pray at odd times – whenever you feel the desire. When the desire comes, pray.

Pray immediately before retiring. Address the cares and toils of the day.

Pray when you feel discouraged. Great comfort comes from knowing that God listens to our prayers in times of crisis.

Pray when you are happy. Thank the Lord for the good times in life.

Pray aloud. It makes prayer more real.

Pray silently. God has ears with which to hear anyway.

Pray simply and naturally. Make prayer a heart-felt petition.

Pray fervently. Prayer thus becomes more powerful.

Pray until prayer becomes a habit. It’s a habit that the Lord promotes and blesses.

Yes, as another said, prayer is indeed our personal barometer that measures our personal relationship with the Lord. Use it readily and often.

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