

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAR 21, 2010 SICK

LIST:

HEALTHCARE CENTERS:

Bertharine Burton, Maudie Jones, Ruby Harrison

HOME: Flora Millwood, Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Paul Mays, H.C. Brown, Frances Vinson, Lois Boshell, Jim Windham, Connor Roden, Lois Boshell, Robin Busby, Bettye Henderson, Carolyn Myers

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Amanda Rutledge, Kimberly Wilcox, Pat Cush, Emmitt Pendley, Fritz Pendley, Jerusha Key, Sonya Parnell, Michelle Howell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Irene Palmer, Vera Fike, Sue Hinds, Virginia Nicholas, Harold Walton, Paul Lockhart, Larry Drummond, Jim Murrell, J.B. Pruitt, Louise Alexander, Robin Busby, Drew Aldridge, Clyde Hall, Eugenia Barker, Alan Waid

AM SERMON - BEN WRIGHT - WHAT IS THAT IN THINE HAND?

PM - SINGING AND FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

GOSPEL MEETING AT SIXTH AVENUE & CURRY, MAR 21-24

GOSPEL MEETINGS AT NAUVOO, MAR 28-31

SEE GENE OR LINDA FOR BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

SEE DAVID FOR TAPES

BIRTHDAYS:

Mar 23: Liz Robbins

28: Paul Mays

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mar 25: Kim & Gary Haynes

26: Jamie & Kristee McDonald

REMEMBER GBN ON DISH NETWORK CH 9407 AT 7:30 AM EVERY SUNDAY

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES
SUNDAY MORNING
BIBLE CLASS 9:30
WORSHIP 10:20
SUNDAY EVENING 5:00
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827
924-2376
Carlton Myers 221-0637
Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213
Randy Wood 221-2508

MINISTER:

Ben Wright

**WHAT IS THAT IN THINE HAND?
(Exodus 4:1-5)**

- I. The rod was for _____.
- A. The rod was going to be for Moses use in order to prove that he was _____ God.
- B. It was necessary because of the _____ that Pharoah had.

1. There is always a need for _____ in today's world.
2. There are and always have been false _____ (2 Peter 2:1-3).

C. God has never sent out His people _____ proof that He was with them.

1. There is too much at stake in the form of people's _____ for proof to not be provided.
2. _____ had the fire of God.
3. The apostles had miraculous powers which they used to _____ the words they spoke (Hebrews 2:3).
4. Today, we have God's inerrant, inspired _____ (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

II. God can make things _____.

- A. This was true of the rod of Moses.
- B. Shamgar had an _____ - _____ and God allowed it to be used to kill 600 Philistines (Judges 3:31).
- C. Samson had a _____ of a donkey and God allowed it to be used to kill 1,000 men (Judges 15:15).
- D. David had a _____ and God allowed it to be used to deliver Israel from the Philistines (1 Samuel 17).
- E. Jacob had a _____ that God allowed to be used to dig a well that gave water for hundreds of years (John 4:6).
- F. A boy had a small lunch but God allowed it to be used to feed thousands (John 6:9-13).
- G. Mary had a pound of _____ and God allowed it to be a memorial for her wherever the gospel is preached (Mark 14:3-9).
- H. A widow had two _____ and God allowed them to be used to teach a lesson we all need - do what you can (Mark (12:41-44)).

III. What do we possess?

- A. Our _____.
- B. _____.
- C. Our _____.
- D. Our _____.
- E. Our _____.
- F. Our _____.

What Worship is **Not**

By Russell M. Kline

Many years ago, I read this insightful poem in a church bulletin: "Some go to church to take a walk. / Some go there to laugh and talk. / Some go there to meet a friend. / Some go there their time to spend. / Some go there to meet a lover. / Some go there a fault to cover. / Some go there

for speculation. / Some go there for observation. / Some go there to doze and nod. / THE WISE GO THERE TO WORSHIP GOD!" While most people would likely *say* that they go to church to worship God, many of them do not even understand what true worship really is. Everyone seems to have their own ideas about the meaning of worship. For what it's worth, here is my personal definition of worship: "Worship is what occurs when an inferior being offers to a superior being an affirmation of His superiority, while acknowledging his own inferiority, in a manner that is acceptable to the superior being." Of course, it must be understood that we are the "inferior" beings and God is the "superior" being (I Cor. 11:3). Bearing these things in mind, let us first observe some things that worship is **not**.

1) **Life is not worship.** There are many people in the modern religious world who subscribe to the view that it is wrong to say, "Christianity is something 'you are,' but worship is something 'you do.'" They decry what they call a "vertical" definition of worship; arguing that it is, in fact, a "horizontal" act, in which we exalt God by serving our fellow men. Some even go so far as to assert the notion that everything one does in life is an act of worship offered to Almighty God!

But, this idea does not stand up to scrutiny. For one thing, how can it be argued that when one sins against God, he is also worshipping God? In Mark 7:8, Jesus declared that the "religious" people of his day rebelled against God with their actions, rather than worshipping Him. Defenders of this theory cite passages like Romans 12:1 and 2, and Colossians 3:17 as proof of their doctrine, but neither of these passages offer any kind of connection between everyday life and worship. Jesus shows us that worship really is "vertical" in its nature (Mat. 4:8-10).

2) **Entertainment is not worship.** Many in the modern church are worried about the problem of attracting and retaining new members. Most Americans have been raised on a steady diet of television, the Internet, and other forms of media, in which a perfect performance is the standard. The world craves more and more entertainment, and any pause in what is considered to be entertainment leaves people bored and uninterested. The accepted solution to this problem is to make worship a more entertaining experience—no matter what compromises are made.

But, there is something seriously wrong with this approach. For one thing, it fails to recognize the purpose of worship, which is to give something back to God in response to what He has given us (I John 4:19). Also, it fails to accurately recognize the problem, which is not the nature of our worship, but rather the attitude of modern worshippers (John 12:32). What good will we accomplish, if we fill up our church buildings with people who are brought no closer to Heaven by what is done there?

3) **Worship is not what we decide it should be.** We are the "inferior" beings. God is the "superior" being. We are in no position to dictate to God how we are going to worship Him (Col. 3:17). Nadab and Abihu learned this lesson the hard way (Lev. 10:1,2). So did King Saul and King Jeroboam (I Sam. 13:8-14; I Kin. 12:25-30). God is the only one who can tell humanity how He must be worshipped, so we had better start listening to Him (II Tim. 3:16,17)!

Before we can begin to properly understand what worship is, we must learn to recognize what it is **not**. In the final analysis, it must be conceded that worship is not what man deems it to be. As the object of our worship, God is also the arbiter of worship (John 4:23,24). He decides what He will accept from us in the worship we offer Him—no matter what we may think of it. That is

why it so important that we all pay very close attention to what the Bible says about worship. It is our only reliable guide.