

NEWS

Paul and Belinda Coffman's granddaughter was exposed to the virus, but had the test and it was negative—Richard Tapparo's Niece has been diagnosed with ALS and he is requesting prayers—Judy Hinson had a chemo treatment over a week ago and the side effects were severe, but she is feeling better now—Lavelle Lovell, Mike's dad, was brought back to the hospital in Mt. Pleasant Wednesday for rehab, and is doing much better (continued on page 3)

ELDERS
Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Richard Montgomery—
936-577-4819

DEACONS:
Ricky Davis 572-9428
Ken Ferguson 572-4135
Pat Marshall 572-9347

SERVICES:
Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 5:00 PM

Wednesday
Ladies Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

PREACHERS:
Drew Nelson 254-541-3815
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:
September 6, 2020
Serving The Lord's Supper
Sunday Morning
Scripture:

Sunday Evening

PRAYERS
Sun. AM— (Opening)
— (Closing)
PM— (Opening)
— (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS
A.M.—
P.M.—
(call Pat Marshall if unable to serve)

Think It Over—If you were to die today...Where would you spend eternity? To all who love God, and to those who do not, but should, to all who are weary and heavy laden; to all who are lonely and sad; to all who sin and need a Savior, and to whosoever will come a hearty welcome is extended.

Southside
Church of Christ
P.O. Box 242
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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Facts We Can Know About God

By Mark W. White

God! The very thought is overwhelming. How does a mortal know the immortal? We are in trouble here before we even get started. We are stepping into deep water. Yet, God wants us to know Him. In fact, He affirms in Scripture that He is not very far away from us and can be found, if we will but listen to His words (Acts 17:27).

It is a fact that men have worshiped many gods, but not always Jehovah God. Joshua acknowledged that the patriarchs worshiped and served other gods on the other side of the Euphrates river (Josh. 24:2,15). Egypt was filled with the worship of various gods. We are told that when Jehovah instituted the Passover, He said, "*For I will go through the land of Egypt that night, and will strike all the firstborn of the land of Egypt, both of man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments; I am Jehovah*" (Exo. 12:12, ASV). Egyptians worshiped the Nile river, frogs, calves, beetles— almost all living creatures. Jehovah demonstrated there was no god in all of Egypt like the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Israelites became so familiar with Egyptian gods that when Moses ascended the mountain to receive the Law, they took off their gold earrings and made a calf, saying, "*These are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt. And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar for it*" (Exo. 32:4).

The Philistines, constant enemies of Israel, worshiped many gods as well. Goliath, their champion, "*cursed David by his gods*" (1 Sam. 17:43). Their national god, Dagon, had a fishlike form. This god was praised by the

Philistines when they took Samson captive (Judg. 16:23-24). Because the Israelites failed to completely drive out the inhabitants of the land God gave them, Judges 2:3 says, “*their gods shall be a snare to you.*” Indeed, they were! The record says, “*And the children of Israel again did that which was evil in the sight of Jehovah and served the Baals and the Ashtoreths, the gods of Syria, the gods of Sidon, the gods of Moab, the gods of the peoples of Ammon, and the gods of the Philistines; and they forsook the Lord and did not serve Him.*” (Judg. 10:6). They repeated these errors throughout their history, ultimately resulting in captivity and punishment by foreign adversaries.

Ancient Greeks served a plurality of gods. When Paul visited Athens, he saw they were very religious (Acts 17:22). They worshiped Zeus as their chief god, whom they regarded as the father of men and of their other gods. Aphrodite was their goddess of fertility and sensuality. They worshiped Apollo as the god of wealth, light and inspiration. Hermes was their god of wealth, the patron of both merchants and thieves. Poseidon was their god of the sea. Each Greek city had its own special god who was responsible for their safety. Each had its own altars, temples and celebrations. All of this (and even more) is contrasted with the Bible statement, “*The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men’s hands. They have mouths but they do not speak; Eyes they have but they do not see. They have ears but they do not hear; Nor is there any*

breath in their mouths. Those who make them are like time; So is everyone who trusts in them.” (Psa. 135:15-18). Now, before we think we are more sophisticated, less superstitious and better at faith than ancient peoples, let’s be reminded that men today worship money, pleasure and even human wisdom and learning. Add to these the fact that many today who claim to be worshiping Jehovah do not have any real, scriptural understanding of God. This being so, how are we really any better than the ancients who also misconceived deity, and therefore worshiped wrongly? We need to know the fact about God. Wrong notions of God always lead to and inappropriate worship of Him. Christ’s apostle, Paul, came to ancient Athens to inform them of “*the unknown God*” (Acts 17:23). In coming articles, we will explore facts we can know about Jehovah. —*Midweek Messenger*

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What Is Worldliness?

(By Rob Harbison)

When worldly concerns, riches, pleasures, and earthly goods stir our desires and seduce us away from God, they become obstacles to the cause of Christ. We could identify such things as **worldliness**—because their concern is ONLY for this life.

When those things become more important to us than spiritual things, then they threaten our very souls. Therefore, we must cut ourselves off from them, “*But God forbid that I should glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*” (Gal. 6:14). How

can we identify such worldliness?

Worldliness includes immorality and those things of a baser nature which gratify the carnal side of man at the expense of his spiritual side—things like fornication, adultery, homosexuality, pornography, drinking, drugs filthy language, etc. These are identified as “*works of the flesh*” (Gal. 5:19-21).

Worldliness is also an overemphasis on things of this world—the sin of being too concerned about possessions and position. Christians must develop a different world-view than we once had (Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Peter 4:1-3).

Worldliness may be respectable, yet still be worldly. Many things are morally neutral within themselves—work, pleasure, recreation, entertainment, television. But when they occupy more of our time and interest than serving God does, then they become part of this worldliness that threatens our spiritual life (Matthew 6:33).

Worldliness is deceptive. It promises much but gives little. There is passing pleasure in sin but it is fleeting (Hebrews 11:25).

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This Week’s Report from Paul Coffman

On Saturday we went to Karatina church of Christ. Karatina still has much starvation. We have been able to help many Christians with food. Sadly their need and others are greater than current funds allow. We are seeing corn that is standing 9 to 10 feet tall but it’s harvest will be in October. Thus still one month of food aid to raise. Then last Sunday we were at Matura church of Christ one of two new congregations. We also had

classes on Monday.

We traveled to Olkarau church of Christ for classes. On Thursday we went to Kiwanja church of Christ and Air Strip church of Christ. The last preacher’s meeting is moved to Sept 2 due to funerals. We had a great Bible study where the now sister learned the denomination was started by man. She desired to obey the Gospel but with night soon approaching dusk. We had to delay, in the evening due to hippos and crocodiles. It’s always best to avoid these. After baptism I learned she was very influential and is planning to share the truth to her friends and neighbors and help them to know the truth. Currently we still have 2 new congregations adding with last year to 9 congregations in this area. Currently we are now at 57 baptisms. Finally Friday and Saturday are my first days of rest since arriving. Sunday will preach at Kiriita church of Christ. I feel so blessed to be able to share the Word of God here in Kenya.

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News (continued from back page)

—Remember **Charles Davis, Rance Hockaday, Kenneth Amerson, Kenny Ferguson, June Johnson, Randy Blackmon, Teresa Tate, Betty Rust, Frank White, William and Yvonne White, Willie Don Davis, Judy Hinson, Catherine Moss, Deborah Brown**—Remember our **Shut-ins: James Johnson, Betty Rust, and Marion Shurtleff.**