



THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

Brooksville church of Christ
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

July 4, 2021

The Danger Of Erosion: Where Are We Headed? (Dee Bowman)

Erosion is a dangerous and very subtle process. “Erosion” is from a Latin word which meant “to eat away or gnaw off.” (A rat is called a “rodent” because it gnaws). Erosion describes a process where something is gradually diminished in size or quality. In many instances, erosion is not detected until it has already done its harm.

Where is our nation headed? Changes have come gradually. They are changes that, in my opinion, are leading slowly in the wrong direction. Mis-statements are made by men in power, cover-ups are tolerated, and religious freedom is being gradually taken away, I fear. Government is not what it once was in this country.

Where is the family headed? The family unit is not any longer a unit at all but a group of individuals doing whatever they want. Fathers

have gradually surrendered the spiritual headship of the home. No rules are made, no regulations imposed—just be happy, whatever it takes. (Read 1 Corinthians 11:1-3) Wives have abdicated their role as “keepers at home.” (Read 1 Peter 3:1-7).

Kids regulate nearly everything in many homes today. They determine how time is used, instigate, and dictate what is to be watched, what is

listened to – in many instances, even how we dress. Modesty has taken a holiday. The teenagers’ room is a private teen cave, where parents are not allowed admission. Far too many young people—parents as well, for that matter—are addicted to social media. Family conversation has taken an extended vacation. And, sadly, sexual experimentation is far too common among young people today. (Read Ephesians 6:1-4; Romans 8:5-9; Romans 6:16; 2 Timothy 2:22).

Where is religion headed? Again, erosion has taken its toll.





Religion has taken on a new meaning in our generation. Even the once rather stern and somewhat biblically committed denominations are now succumbing to what the public wants. It has happened gradually, almost without notice. I read recently about what is called “The Bar Church.” It meets in a bar – and while it restricts participants from drinking during the services, it does not restrict it afterward. So-called “Cowboy Churches” now dot the landscape. Their participants ride where they want to go and claim to give new meaning to “casual.”

The religious world, in general, has submitted to the public insistence for more and more entertainment. Their messengers, called “televangelists,” are little more than skilled actors – religious show people – who have become experts at promoting a feel-good religion, one which requires little and makes little or no mention of sin and its consequences. After all, that’s unsettling to people.

Churches that once were considered and considered themselves biblical proponents are

now accepting gay people into fellowship, and their “pastors” are allowed to perform same-sex marriages.

Even Catholicism, with all its rules and regulations, has recently severely bent those rules and turned its head from viewing things among its clergy which would not have been tolerated only a little while ago. (Read Galatians 6:10)

Where is the church headed? The Lord’s people in many places seem to be playing a “follow the leader” tactic to gain public acceptance. The church of Christ in many places is not very different from the Community Church down the block. Their worship is meant

An Observation About Pride (C. S. Lewis)

Do not imagine that if you meet a really humble man he will be what most people call “humble” nowadays: he will not be a sort of greasy, smarmy person, who is always telling you that, of course, he is nobody. Probably all you will think about him is that he seemed a cheerful, intelligent chap who took a real interest in what you said to him. If you do dislike him it will be because you feel a little envious of anyone who seems to enjoy life so easily. He will not be thinking about humility: he will not be thinking about himself at all.

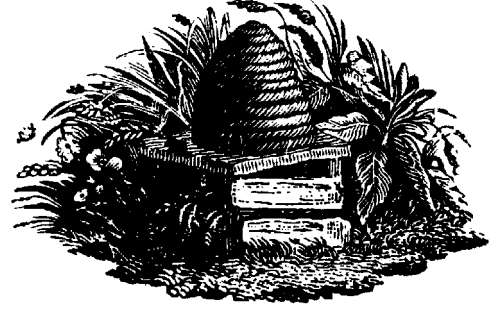
to appeal to the members. Some—far too many, actually — now feature a “non-traditional service” (Read Ephesians 5:19-21). Some even allow women to participate in public worship.

The Lord’s people have gradually stopped demanding book, chapter, and verse for all they do. In the 1950s, when the institutional fight was raging, there were only slight differences between the “liberals” and the “conservatives.” Gradually the call for apostolic approval slipped away, and now, many liberal churches of Christ have all but done away with the call for the ancient order and scriptural precedent. Erosion, gradually moving away from Scripture, just a little at a time over the past 60 or so years, has taken some churches away—far away. (Read Ephesians 4:11-16; 2 Peter 4:11; 2 John 9-11; Hebrews 2:1-3)

Where are we headed? It can happen to us. Erosion is not easy to detect. We can begin to give in to a few things and, in too short a time, be far away from truth and scriptural order. Let us never cease to call for Bible authority for all we do. Let us keep our determination to enforce individual growth among our people. Let us make sure that our young people are not gradually moving toward their peers or being unduly influenced by the wrong people. Let us continue to not only recommend but demand regular

attendance at the services. Erosion can happen — to us.

Bees
cannot make honey
and sting
at the same time.



The Meaning Of Worship (William Temple)

To worship is:

To quicken the conscience
by the holiness of God.

To feed the mind
with the truth of God.

To purge the imagination
with the beauty of God.

To open the heart
to the love of God.

To devote the will
to the purpose of God.

A Seventy-Year Life (Selected)

Suppose God granted you a life of seventy years. How would you spend it? An average person would spend it like this:

- ✓ Three years getting an education.
- ✓ Eight years recreating and relaxing.
- ✓ Six years eating.

- ✓ Five years riding in a car.
- ✓ Four years talking.
- ✓ Fourteen years working.
- ✓ Three years reading.
- ✓ Twenty-four years sleeping.

How much time do you give to God? If you went to church every week and prayed for five minutes every morning and evening, you would give five months to God – five months out of seventy years.

Some Strange People I Know

People who talk about prayer but never pray.

People who want to belong to the church but never attend.

People who say the Bible is God's word but never read it.

People who criticize others for things they do themselves.

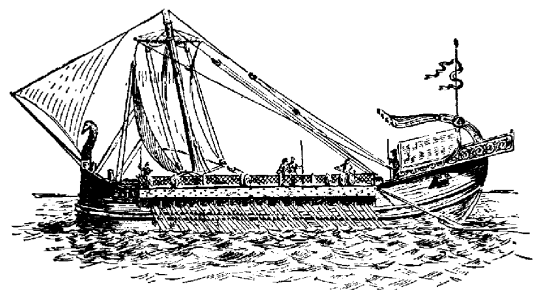
People who stay away from church for trivial reasons and then sing, "Oh, How I Love Jesus."

**WHAT MUST I DO
TO BE
SAVED?**



HEAR THE GOSPEL
ROMANS 10:17
BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST
ACTS 8:37
REPENT OF YOUR SINS
LUKE 13:3
CONFESS THE LORD JESUS
ROMANS 10:8-9
BE BAPTIZED
ACTS 2:28; MARK 16:16
BE FAITHFUL
2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8

THE DEVIL is quite willing for a person to profess Christianity – as long as he doesn't put it into practice.



Ancient Ship

Brooksville Church of Christ

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Times of Services

Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)

Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)

Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:

↪ Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida

↪ Saints in Nicaragua

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