

East Columbus Bulletin

Vol. 2, No. 09 – September 5, 2015



East Columbus church of Christ
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Ps 128:2 When you eat the labor of your hands, You shall be happy, and it shall be well with you.

Pr 14:23 In all labor there is profit, But idle chatter leads only to poverty.

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Worship/10:00 a.m. Bible Study
11:00 a.m. Worship with Lord's Supper

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. Bible classes for all ages

Other Study and Worship Opportunities

- Second Sunday 2:00 p.m., Trinity Care Home Worship Service
- Second Saturday Men's Bible Study Ranch House Restaurant 6:30 A.M.
- Third Sunday Neighborhood Bible Study 6:00 p.m. location (TBA)
- Young Bible Scholars meet each month - Time and Location (TBA)
- Bible Study at the Pines - 5 p.m. Mondays & 8 p.m. Sundays, Cady Hill Thurs. 6 p.m.
- CD's of sermons and Gospel Meetings are available by signing up in the foyer
- Recorded sermons and gospel meetings and other resources are also available at the church website <http://eastcolumbuschurch.com/>. Contact Steve Coburn if you need assistance.
- NEXT GOSPEL MEETING - WILSON ADAMS, SEPTEMBER 20-23, 2015 (SEE INFO ON BACK)

Prayer Requests

Home Bound Members: - Mike Butler, Annie McCrary, Jack Burks, Eula Mae Harless

Others Limited by Health: - Frances Barham, Joyce Manasco, Joyce Ratcliff, Willena Woods

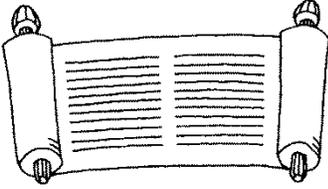
Sick - Burt Wheeler is continuing rehabilitation therapy in North Carolina. Harold Young, Lynette Coburn's father, continues at home under hospice care. Joyce Ratcliff is now home receiving therapy following a recent hospitalization. Frances Barham was hospitalized this past week and has returned home. Melissa Parker is suffering from severe spinal pain but will not need surgery we are glad to report.

Deaths – Aubrey Belue passed away August 8th. Carolyn Roberson's sister, Nancy "Kaye" Jones, passed away September 2nd.

Elders: Jay McCrary and Jerry Paschall

Deacons: Clyde Hollis, Ed Williams, Don Zant

Preacher: Kevin Kay



Lamentations 5:21

"Turn us back to You, O LORD, and we will be restored; Renew our days as of old,"

**Gospel Meeting
September 20-23, 2015**

Meeting Theme: REVIVE US AGAIN!

SUNDAY Sept. 20 Meeting Topics:

- 9:00 a.m. (worship).....*Status Quo or Extra Mile?*
(1Cor. 15:58)
- 10:00 a.m. (Bible study).....*The Verse That Will Change
Your Life (Phil. 4:8)*
- 11:00 a.m. (worship).....*Lord Do You Not Care? (Mk. 35-41)*

Sept. 21-23 Weekday Meeting Topics:

- Mon. 7:00 p.m.*Climbing Mountains with Jesus*
(Matt.17:1-9)
- Tues.10:30 a.m.*Life, the Wonder of It All (Psa.139)*
- Tues. 7:00 p.m.....*Walking by Faith, Not by Sight*
(Matt. 14:22-32)
- Wed. 7:00 p.m.*Pray BIG! (Lk. 11:1-10)*

Meeting Evangelist—Wilson Adams
from Veterans Park Church of Christ
Murfreesboro, TN

Be prayerful for Wilson Adams' and our preparations for a successful gospel meeting series.
Invite your friends and neighbors and plan to be at every service. You will not regret it.

The doctrine of Christ: let's be careful to respect it!

The apostle Paul commanded Timothy to "Give diligence to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). "Diligence" was necessary in "handling aright the word of truth" so that Timothy would be "approved unto God." To fail to handle aright the word of truth was to be as Hymenaeus and Philetus: "men who concerning the truth have erred ..." (2 Timothy 2:17-18). If one would handle aright the word of truth, men would come to a "knowledge of the truth, and they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil" (2 Timothy 2:25b-26a). Those who use the word of truth and speak it must do so properly, as God intended. The most careful and diligent effort is required to keep oneself from condemnation resulting from gospel perversion (Galatians 1:6-10).

Faithful men are made ONLY by very diligent effort on their part. No "slip-shod" manner will prevail. As Timothy, men must "Take heed to thyself, and to thy teaching. Continue in these things; for in doing this thou shalt save both thyself and them that hear thee" (1 Timothy 4:16). But too many have no desire for such extensive efforts to "abide in the doctrine of Christ" (2 John 9-11). Some will not live righteous lives. Some will not harmonize their teaching with the Bible.

In our religious world countless artificial doctrines abound. Did Christ come to earth and die on the cross so that men might have a right to believe and practice doctrines of their own invention? "But in vain do they worship me, Teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men" (Matthew 15:9). Did the Lord die on the cross to open the pathway to eternal life to all those who would be merely "religious"? Those condemned in the previous passage for "teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men" were people that "worshiped" Christ! Yes, they were religious! In Matthew 7:21-23 Jesus referred to people who called upon him as "Lord," by His name prophesied, cast out demons, did many mighty works, and yet He described them as workers of iniquity that would not enter the kingdom of heaven! Why? They did not obey God! It will not avail on the day of Judgment for individuals to say, "The preacher never told us we had to do that!" (False teachers don't require what God does!) "... And if the blind guide the blind, both shall fall into a pit" (Matthew 15:14b).

Falling into a pit or any similar fate descriptive of the condemnation of false teachers are destructions that are not limited to teachers alone. They should also be of chief concern to those instructed by such teachers.

One who desires to please God seeks to abide in a teaching that is different from all fake teachings because it comes from a higher source; it is of divine origin. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith Jehovah.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8-9). Paul reminds us of the fact that God's teachings did not originate in the human mind, nor are they made complete by the interjection of human ideas and inaccurate interpretations: "For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been his counselor?" (Romans 11:34) Constantly, Jesus bore testimony to the fact that His teaching was God's teaching! "For I spake not from myself; but the Father that sent me, he hath given me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that his commandment is life eternal: the things therefore which I speak, even as the Father hath said unto me, so I speak" (John 12:49-50). Friend, which doctrine is life eternal? See also John 4:34; 5:30; 7:16; 8:26-28; 14:10, 24; 17:7-8.

Jesus made it absolutely clear that He taught exactly what God had given! When we adhere to Christ's doctrine, it is equivalent to adhering to God's doctrine. Some actually do not realize this. We need to be very careful about our attitude toward the teaching of Christ.

The prevalent breakdown in respect for what the Bible teaches is obvious. A lady once asked me to state my position on the subject of divorce and remarriage. I simply opened my Bible and read Matthew 19:9: "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and he that marrieth her when she is put away committeth adultery." I also read 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, which teaches that those in adultery cannot inherit the kingdom of God. She replied, "Well, I just don't see it that way. I have a friend that has remarried because she and her first husband did not get along. She is such a sweet person and I like her. God would certainly want her to be happy. I just cannot accept what you say." (The only words that came out of my mouth were these two passages from the Bible.)

It is clear that this lady's concept of God's will is not accurate. Her concept has been developed on the basis of something other than Bible doctrine. If God says "NO" and I say "YES", I AM WRONG, regardless of how many emotional appeals I make or how comfortable or justified I feel in my present position (e.g. she's such a sweet girl, she goes to church every Sunday, her husband was mean to her, I love her dearly, etc., etc.). All of these circumstances in relationships between people, regardless of how often they are stated or how sincerely they are believed, will not change what God has said!

Friend, what is your attitude toward Christ and His doctrine? Do you respect the doctrine of Christ? Will heaven be yours if you do not? Please think on these things.

Gary F. Smalley, *The Old Hickory Bulletin*, 3-14-10