

October 9, 2022

The View

“Sirs, we wish to see Jesus.” — John 12:21

Welcome Visitors

Our goal at the Folsom church of Christ is to do everything according to God’s word, including respecting its silence.

We are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church; we have no earthly “headquarters.”

The five elders oversee this church and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily for the benefit of our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don’t understand something, please do not hesitate to ask the preacher or one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not correspond to God’s word. We are here to serve; please help us do that.

**Please fill out a visitor’s card and put it in the collection plate when is passed.
We do not solicit donations from visitors. See page 4 for more information.**

Schedule

The Lord’s Day

9:30 AM Bible Classes

Auditorium: “Timothy & Titus”

Room 15/16: Relationships: Love (agape)

Room 12: Young Adult Class: “Be ready to give an answer” (1 Peter 3:15)

10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today: David Posey

“The First Degree Murder of Jesus”

Livestream at 10:30 <https://tinyurl.com/5f2cbm3y>

Bible Class @ 5 PM — Praying the Psalms (Auditorium)

High School Class, 5 PM @ David & Christie Posey’s home

Middle school class: monthly (contact Dan Stegall at 818-209-9810)

There are several on-going Bible classes in the homes of members. Check with David Posey or one of the other elders if you would like to join one of those classes.

Wednesday 7 PM @ Building

Bible classes for all ages

Auditorium: Letters to Timothy & Titus

Room 15/16: Relationships: Love

Room 12: Young Adults Class: “Be ready to give an answer” (1 Peter 3:15)

November 13-16

How We Got Our Bible (Mike Wilson, Santa Clara)

See page 4 for the schedule

A “Let’s Not Go There” Sin

BY DAVID POSEY

There are common activities that we engage in that can be sinful but we avoid talking about them because they are so common. Gluttony, which is “habitual greed expressed in overeating” is one of those sins.

Some time ago, I read an article about a young woman who ate a 72 oz. steak in under 3 minutes, half the time of the previous record. *4½ pounds of steak in less than 3 minutes.* The article and accompanying video was posted by a group called “The Big Eaters Club.” Since gluttony is defined as “excessive eating and drinking,” the club could be called, “The Glutton’s Club,” but gluttony is a sin; “big eaters” sounds more acceptable.

Then I thought: “how often have I preached or written anything about gluttony?” Answer: *not much.*

Why do we avoid talking about it? I suppose it’s because we are afraid of offending overweight people who cannot seem to control their eating habits. No one wants to hurt anyone’s feelings. And we realize that becoming overweight is not *all* about eating. Genetics, metabolism, upbringing — lots of things come into play. Up until about age 40, I could eat anything and not gain a pound. In fact, when I was in high school and wanted to play football, I

drank a concoction called “Weight-On” to try to gain weight. Even that didn’t work. I had “good metabolism,” but many others are not so lucky. So I’m not singling out overweight Christians here. A skinny man or woman can

be a glutton, too; in fact, a thin man with high metabolism naturally has less incentive to stop overeating.

The Bible doesn’t mention gluttony very often but, when it does, there is no way we can miss the Holy Spirit’s view of it: it’s a sin, right up there with drunkenness. The Greek word is *gaster*, “belly” — as in our English word *gastronomy*. The word is derived from the Latin *gluttire* meaning to gulp down or swallow.

Gluttony was punished severely under the Mosaic Law. In Deuteronomy 21:18-21, gluttony is named among the sins of the rebellious son who was subject to stoning. The writer of Proverbs warns, “drunkards and gluttons become impoverished, and drowsiness clothes them with rags” (23:21). One should not even be friends with gluttons — “The one who keeps the law is a son with understanding, but a companion of gluttons shames his father” (Pr. 28:7); and the Cretans were vilified by Paul (quoting one of their own poets): “Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons” (Titus 1:12).

But what does this have to do with us? If you’re like me, as you read these texts, you picture in your mind a bawdy, rowdy medieval feast with huge men clothed in animal skins taking huge bites out of huge drumsticks and

gulping down brew from huge mugs. But gluttony is not limited to such obvious excess. It is “excessive eating,” but that’s relative; what’s “excessive” for you may not be excessive for me. So, the sin is not in the eating itself, but in the *attitude* toward eating and drinking.

In Matthew 6, Jesus is talking about anxiety over things that we should be trusting God to provide. So gluttony is not just about overeating, but about *idolizing* food and drink, allowing it to dominate our thoughts and our time. Look at our popular culture: how much advertising is about food?

Gluttony is sinful because it denies God’s care and concern for us. Focus on food and drink takes our focus away from God. Some don’t eat to live; they live to eat. In Matthew 6:32, Jesus says God knows what you need, so why “seek after them,” like the pagans do? It makes sense that pagans would think inordinately about necessities, and even worry about them. But Christians seek the kingdom and God’s righteousness first and He promises to add all of these things to them (Matthew 6:33).

Gluttony is sinful because it takes away our focus from things that are above and puts them on things that are on

earth. We finish breakfast and begin thinking about lunch; we finish lunch and soon begin wondering what we’ll have for dinner. “Eat, drink for tomorrow we die,” said those of the Epicurean “faith.” See I Corinthians 15:32-33. You can

get an app on your phone entitled, “Epicurious” and others to help manage your hedonistic (“engaged in the pursuit of pleasure”) lifestyle, should you choose to live that way.

Gluttony is sinful because it’s a form of idolatry, like covetousness (Colossians 3:5). In fact, coveting and gluttony are cousins in that they both deal with craving; we crave food and drink and clothing and then we fulfill that craving by “pigging out” or “stuffing” ourselves. We may say of someone, “he can really put it away.” Food becomes an idol. Jesus said, “you cannot serve God and Mammon” (Mt. 6:24). In the place of “Mammon,” put whatever you serve — that’s your god.

Gluttony is a sin and I find it ironic that some will rail against social drinking, for example, and then go to lunch and stuff themselves until they can eat no more. Gluttony is just as sinful as any other fleshly indulgence. Don’t let it become the “ignored sin” that keeps you out of heaven.

Originally appeared in *Biblical Insights*, January, 2014

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NOTES & QUOTES

Things people have said, to ponder and critique.

I'm not the boss of anybody but if I was I would command parents to ban their kids from watching TikTok. Here's why:

Investigation: How TikTok's Algorithm Figures Out Your Deepest Desires

A Wall Street Journal investigation found that TikTok only needs one important piece of information to figure out what you want: the amount of time you linger over a piece of content. Every second you hesitate or rewatch, the app is tracking you.

— From *Wall Street Journal*, July 21, 2021

Quotes

On Criticism

A fly, Sir, may sting a stately horse and make him wince; but one is but an insect, and the other is a horse still. ~ Samuel Johnson

Criticism is an indirect form of self-boasting. – Emmet Fox

"Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain and most fools do."

–Ben Franklin

The following quotes are from Vance Havner who was never at a loss for words and never minced a word]

"I'm tired of hearing sin called sickness and alcoholism a disease. It is the only disease I know of that we're spending hundreds of millions of dollars a year to spread."

"If they had a social gospel in the days of the prodigal son, somebody would have given him a bed and a sandwich and he never would have gone home."

A church can be straight as a gun barrel doctrinally and just as empty spiritually.

"Sometimes your medicine bottle has on it, 'Shake well before using.' That is what God has to do with some of His people. He has to shake them well before they are ever usable."

"The vision must be followed by the venture. It is not enough to stare up the steps - we must step up the stairs."

"You can't tell it like it is, if you don't believe it like it was."

"If God dealt with people today as He did in the days of Ananias and Sapphira, every church would need a morgue in the basement."

SYNTHESIS OF THE DAY OF CRUCIFIXION

TIME	EVENT	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
12:00 AM - 6:15 AM Dawn (estimate)	<i>Midnight finds Christ somewhere in His illegal night trials. At the end, Jesus was held till daylight.</i>	26:57-68	14:53-65	22:54-65	18:12-27
6:15 AM - 9:00 AM	<i>Last of religious trials before Sanhedrin.</i>			22:66-71	
	Begins Civil Trial: Part 1 <i>Before Pilate</i>	27:2, 11-14	15:1-5	23:1-5	18:28-38
	Civil Trial: Part 2 <i>Before Herod</i>			23:6-12	
	Civil Trial: Part 3 <i>Before Pilate again.</i>	27:15-30	15:6-20	23:13-25	18:39-19:16
	<i>Scourged and mocked with crown of thorns and purple robe during this trial.</i>				
	<i>Christ is led to Calvary (Golgotha). He bears His cross till Simon the Cyrenian is forced to bear it for Him to Golgotha. Tells women to "weep not".</i>	27:31-34	15:21-22	23:26-32	19:17
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	CRUCIFIXION <i>Begins as He is joined by two thieves and offered vinegar mingled with gall (a narcotic to deaden pain). He refuses to take it so He can drink all the bitter cup for us. (Nailed to the cross, sign over head and gambling for His garment)</i>	27:35-38	15:23-28	23:33-38	19:18-24
	<i>During this time He gives 1st cry - "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do".</i>			23:34	
	<i>Intense mocking and insults by crowd and even the two thieves.</i>	27:39-44	15:29-32		
	<i>One thief turns to Christ and is saved</i>			23:39-43	
	<i>2nd cry - "Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise".</i>				
	<i>Jesus commits the care of Mary his mother to John</i>				19:25-27
	<i>3rd cry - "Woman, behold thy son! Behold thy mother!"</i>				
12:00 PM - 2:55 PM (estimate)	DARKNESS COMES (silence)	27:45	15:33	23:44-45	
2:55 PM - 3:00 PM (estimate)	LAST MOMENTS	27:46-47	15:34-35		
	<i>1. Out of the darkness Christ gives 4th cry - "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"</i>				
	<i>2. Christ gives 5th cry - "I thirst" and one runs over and puts vinegar to His lips which briefly strengthens Him.</i>	27:48-49	15:36		19:28-29
	<i>3. With strength to speak, Christ gives 6th cry - "It is finished."</i>				19:30a
	<i>4. Followed by 7th cry - "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit."</i>			23:46a	