

October 8, 2023

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.***

Mark Your Calendars

Bible Exhibit, with Mike Wilson, October 21, 2023

Invite your friends and relatives.

Schedule

New Quarter Begins Today

The Lord's Day

9:30 AM Bible Classes

Auditorium: "Jesus at work in the Gospels."

Young Adult Class (room 12): "Jesus: making the best use of the time." Ephesians 5:15-17

Room 15/16: "Building a Great Marriage"

10:30 AM: Assembly

Preaching Today

David Posey, Hebrews Series: *Jesus: Just Like Us* (Hebrews 2:11-18)

Livestream at 9:30 & 10:30 <https://tinyurl.com/5f2cbm3y>

Bible Class: 5:00 PM @ the Building

"Praying the Psalms" (Auditorium)

HS/College Class, 5 PM Every Sunday @ David & Christie Posey's home (unless notified otherwise)

Middle school class: monthly (contact David Sanderson (david.r.sanderson@intel.com)

or Seth Reagan (sethreagan@gmail.com)

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: 5th grade and lower; 6th grade and up, auditorium: Praising God in Song

2nd Saturday Men's Bible Study: 7 to 8 AM

Bel Air Market on Bidwell in Folsom.

"Iron sharpens iron" (Proverbs 27:17). Mentoring (Titus 2:1-6).

Articles published in the View reflect only the thoughts and opinions of the author alone, not necessarily the editor, the elders or any member of the church at Folsom.

Quotes & Notes

October 6th was the anniversary of the death of William Tyndale. In 1536, at age 42, he was burned at the stake because he fulfilled his dream of getting an English translation of the Bible into the hands of the common man. At the time, the Catholic Church held a monopoly on the Bible and maintained that it should only be read in Latin, which was not accessible to most people. Tyndale believed that the Bible should be translated into English so that ordinary people could read and understand it for themselves.

"I defy the Pope and all his laws. If God spare my life, ere many years, I will cause a boy that driveth the plow shall know more of the Scripture than thou dost."

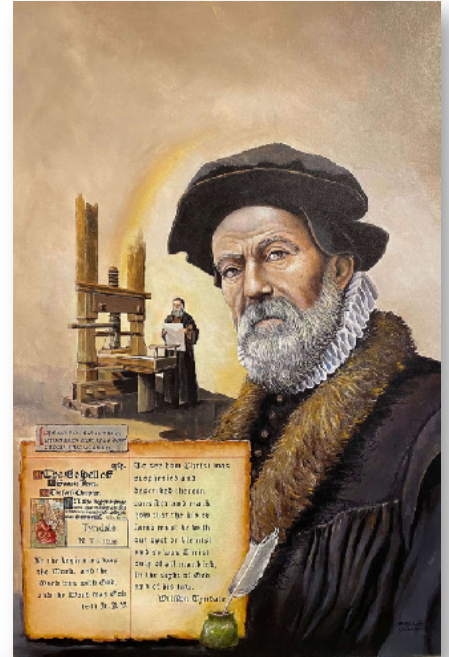
William Tyndale (1494-1536)

being tried and convicted of heresy in 1536. He was sentenced to death by burning at the stake, and his final words were said to be, "Lord, open the king of England's eyes."

Despite his execution, Tyndale's translation of the Bible had a profound impact on English literature and language, and his legacy continues to be celebrated by Christians around the world. His work helped to pave the way for future translations of the Bible into English and contributed to the development of the English language as we know it today.

Join us on October 21st 9 AM to 3 PM for our one day Bible exhibit – and invite your friends!

But Tyndale's translation of the Bible was considered a threat to the authority of the Church, and he was accused of heresy. He was arrested and imprisoned for over a year before



The Meaning of Life

Clarence Darrow was a famous and accomplished criminal lawyer known for his defense of unpopular causes and clients, including the Scopes "Monkey" trial in 1925, in which he defended a teacher who was accused of teaching evolution in violation of Tennessee state law. Among his friends was a young preacher. That is strange because Darrow was also an atheist. The attorney and his minister friend were talking one day, reminiscing about their lives. He spoke to his friend about his career and the famous trials he had won. He spoke of his tremendous success and the comfortable fortune he had made as a result. Darrow then asked his friend, "Would you like to know my favorite Bible verse?" "Certainly," said the minister, surprised that such a man would have a favorite Bible verse. Darrow continued, "You'll find it in Luke 5:5. It says, 'We've toiled all the night and have taken nothing.'" He continued, "In spite of my success, that verse seems to sum up the way I feel about life."



HOW DID WE GET THE BIBLE?

Join us for a
1-DAY POP-UP EXHIBITION



WHEN
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21*
9:00am-3:00pm

WHERE
FOLSOM CHURCH OF CHRIST
900 E. NATOMA
FOLSOM, CA 95672

MORE INFORMATION
www.folsombiblemuseum.com
www.folsomchurch.com



This is a unique opportunity to meet Mike Wilson, author of *Inspiration to Ink: The Big Picture of How We Got the Bible*. He will be here, with a collection of his ancient Bibles and other artifacts, and available to answer any questions you may have about how we got the Bible. Don't miss it!

FREE ADMISSION

The “Beatitudes”: A Huge Challenge for Our Time

In our relationships class in room 15/16, we are studying the Sermon on the Mount with an application to various types of relationships. As most of you know, the sermon begins in *Matthew 5:3-12* with what we call “the beatitudes” — a word coined to cover Jesus’ pronouncing of blessings on his disciples. Here are some things to keep in mind as you read this text:

1. We should be impressed with how at odds these statements are with culture. By any definition, they are “counter cultural” principles but even some religious people ignore that. For example, Robert Schuller, of Crystal Cathedral fame, wrote a book entitled, “*The BE-Happy Attitudes*” ... as if becoming poor, mourning and getting the tar beat out of you would make you HAPPY! He missed the point entirely..

2. The Sermon on the Mount is from God down to man but many Bible teachers tend to preach/teach from man’s needs up to God. I heard a preacher (from a church of Christ) preach a sermon where each letter of the word

F-R-U-S-T-R-A-T-I-O-N was one point of his sermon (yes, it was a looonnnnggg sermon).

Each point of the sermon described a “felt need” of a person and then he turned to the Bible to support his point. It went like this: 1) Man has this physical/psychological need. 2) He analyzed it from a human, psychological perspective. 3) He proposed a human solution and then 4) used scripture to support his human-based conclusion. Instead of God designs and man decides it was man decides and God endorses what man decides.

3. The The Sermon on the Mount, if taken seriously, forces us to look at life from God’s perspective, not a man’s. It is the most concisely-worded example of that perspective. Jesus pronounces blessings on people the world would never call “blessed.” The sermon challenges the status quo in almost every word. It’s so challenging that some denominations teach that the sermon is not applicable to us today and will only apply when Jesus comes back “to set up his kingdom on earth and we live in a perfect world.” Of course, the kingdom is here (*Colossians 1:13*) and this teaching has been in effect for the last 2,000 years. We have to deal with that not come up with a theology that eliminates its effect on us.

5. What is the problem? Why won’t people listen to Jesus? Someone said that people today are “Soaked with Secularity.” Swiss poet/philosopher Max Picard described our civilization as in the advanced stages of its “flight from God.” *He said that in 1934!!*

The idea of an all-knowing, ever-present, all-powerful God is lost on a generation that is caught up like never before in the worship of self. God’s word predicted it. See *II Timothy 3:1-4*; *Matthew 24:12*; *II Peter 3:3-4*.

When souls are soaked with secularity what God says will have little bearing on “real life.” If we are getting all our “blessings” from the secular world, what do we need God for? That’s why the Beatitudes can become the *Odditudes*: they sound very odd to ears that have been soaked in secularity. The rich, the full, the happy-go-lucky, and the popular people can’t hear God because they don’t rely on God for their good things. See *Luke 6:24-26*. They are too well-off to ever find out who is really well-off! We cannot overstate the degree to which the crushing weight of the secular outlook has affected the way we hear Jesus today. “Therefore, let

anyone who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall” (*I Corinthians 10:12*).

6. So...to hear Jesus, we must shut out all the “white noise” that is in our culture because there is really nothing in this world that will help us hear Jesus like we should. We have to cultivate the “mind of Christ.”

7. If we *do* hear Jesus, **the benefits are almost incomprehensible; it will change our life from the inside-out.**

(1) We will learn where we are in our relation to God; (2) we will find out what we must do to improve our relationship with God (and that often involves improving our relationship with others); and (3) it will enhance our desire for heaven because we will realize that, no matter how great things here on earth, we are not getting all our blessing here and we long for the full realization of those blessings. As Paul said in *Philippians 1:23*, “My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.”

It is only in this context that we can come back to the Sermon on the Mount and hear Jesus’ words about who truly has the good life and about who is truly blessed. They will cease to be odd, and truly become “beautiful sayings” because they trumpet the grand truth that we can all enter into the glory of the Lord.

As Jesus said many times, “*He who has ears to hear, let him hear!*”

DAVID POSEY

“When souls are ‘soaked with secularity’ what God says will have little bearing on our “real life.” If we are getting all our “blessings” from the secular world, what do we need God for?”