

said of it.

As I read the above text, I am daunted by the challenge it places before the church and Christians today. How do we change a world so rife with sin? What can we do to respond to the corruption we see in our world? I think there is a good answer to be found in verse 25. There Paul says that these many and grave sins arise in the hearts of men and women and in their actions because they have "exchanged the truth of God for a lie." That is the key to understanding why men and women act in such depraved and ungodly ways. It is because they do not believe the truth of God. They believe a lie of Satan instead. This, of course, is how sin started in the garden. Adam and Eve believed a lie of Satan. And it is always how sin starts today. Every person who chooses to sin believes that the sin they are committing is somehow better for them than would be obedience to the commandment of God.

So, what must we do to change our world, assuming we don't dismiss this question out of hand? It seems to me that if we want to reverse the effect of sin that we see in our world, we must reverse the beliefs of men and women in this world. That is, we must convince men and women in this world to exchange a lie for the truth of God.[1] We must convince them that God's word is true and that anything that contradicts it is not. To say it another way, we must preach the Gospel (Romans 1:14-16). We must preach the gospel using reason as Paul did in Athens (Acts 17). We must preach the gospel using love as Paul enjoins in Ephesians 4:15. Specifically, we should want to show that the truths of God's word are coherent, that is they have internal agreement, that they are pragmatic, that is they tell us the only successful way to live life, and that they are correspondent, that is they agree with reality as it is and as we experience and observe it. This is our job as Christians--to be brave, reasonable, and compassionate in explaining and defending the truth of the word of God and in exposing the lie of this world. May God bless us to do just this.

- <https://thedailyapologist.com/blog/exchanging-a-lie-for-the-truth-of-god>

MINISTERS

Minister
Josh Walker

Campus Minister
Brad Tolbert

ELDERS

Mike Beard
Larry Fisackerly
Joe Moore

Deacons

Marty Baker
Chris Bryant
Ray Linder
Jason Meier
Jeff Newton
Joshua Pettigrew
Kerry Rice
Jeremy Wilson

Assemblies

SUNDAY
Bible Study 9:30 AM
Assembly 10:30 AM
Assembly 5:00 PM
Live on Facebook

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 6:30 PM



MONTICELLO

CHURCH OF CHRIST

"...speaking the truth in love..." Eph. 4:15

January 29, 2023

Exchanging a Lie for the Truth of God

Nathan Liddell (Preacher and Board Member at The Daily Apologist)

I think it's easy for us as we read Romans 1 to imagine the world that Paul describes. It seems a lot like our world today. Surely it was different in many, many ways--government, technology, culture, language, medicine all were different. But, in the most central way, in spiritual matters involving our relationship to God and our fellow man, it was essentially identical to our world today. Men and women were sinners then just as they are today. Every time I read Paul's words in Romans 1:18-32 I am struck by how relevant they are for our modern lives:

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore, God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason, God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also the men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice; they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful; and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

We know these people. We live in this world. We understand its problem. Like Paul, we lament the effects of these sinful choices in our world. And, like Paul, we want to speak against and overturn them. If we could, we would change our world so that something much better could be

Memory Verse

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:30-31 (ESV)

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preacher.montcofc@gmail.com

870-367-3919



HEART-TO-HEART

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sophie Mendez (4 years old) had a tumor on her brain that was surgically removed this past week.. There is a possibility of more surgery and treatments depending on the results of the tests. Remember her and her family during this difficult time.

Andy Boykin is still in the hospital treating a tumor on his brain. Surgery went as well as expected, but he continues on the road to recovery. His family is appreciative of the gifts, cards, and prayers. Please continue to pray for this young man and his family.

Linda Bates has an appointment with a specialist on January 31. Pray for answers and a plan forward. Pray for her and lone.

Shirley Fisackerly will have knee surgery on February 17th.

John & Christine Riddle (Mandy Tolbert's parents) are still dealing with some health issues

Rick Fagan (Karli Walker's Uncle) is in the hospital after having a stroke.

Sue Woodard (Judy Beard's sister) is not doing well.

Benita Forrest is still in need of prayers

Clara Pasley is in the hospital and recovering

Gary Crook is dealing with shingles

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

- *Small Groups Class w/book, "Coping" - Tonight*
- *Elder/Deacon Meeting - Tonight after Small Groups*
- *Ladies' Bible Class - Wednesday @ 10 am*

Heart-To-Heart cont'd...



A Ladies' Day is planned for February 18th, 9 am—2 pm. The speaker is Amanda Scott from Hot Springs, AR. Visitors are welcome.

If you are interested in ordering a shirt, please do so by February 3rd. There is a sign up sheet in the foyer. Sizes small to XL will be \$14. 2XL will be \$16 and 3XL will be \$17.50. Orders and payment can be given to **Karli Walker** or **Lydia Meier**.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MONETARILY CONTRIBUTE TO THE PURCHASE OF DOOR PRIZES, PLEASE SEE TERRY BOYKIN OR KARLI WALKER

NOTE: if your child, grandchild, niece/nephew, etc. has any event (ballgame, play, concert, etc.) please email the details to: preacher.montcofc@gmail.com. These will be added to the bulletin so we can encourage them!

Birthdays & Anniversaries



January	29	Gemma Walker
February	1	Mathew Tannehill
	2	Lucy Pugh
	5	Jessica Meier
	6	Corey Dial
	13	Tom Weaver
	16	Emily Thompson
	17	Chris Bryant
		Kerry & Becky Rice
	18	Ryan Halbert
	21	Dana Hughes
		Samantha Tannehill
	22	Paula Wilson
	25	Anna Koonce
	26	Jimmy & LaVerne Potter

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

29	Genesis 48-20
30	Exodus 1-3
31	Exodus 4-6
01	Exodus 7-9
02	Exodus 10-12
03	Exodus 13-15
04	Exodus 16-18



ANNUAL AREAWIDE

The areawide is scheduled for February 5th, at 2:30 p.m.

There is a sign up sheet in the lobby to bring food for the fellowship after the service.

Please make plans to show up 20 to 30 minutes early so that we can greet the visiting congregations as they arrive.

LADIES' DAY @ Rison Church of Christ

Theme: **Let the Beauty of Jesus Be Seen in You**

February 25th, from 9 am - 11:30 am

Speaker: **Wanda Lindsey**

MEN'S/LADIES DAY @ Walnut St. Church of

Christ

Theme: **I Want to be a Worker for the Lord**

February 25th, from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm.

Speakers: **Jerry and Denise Martin.**

GOSPEL MEETING @ Rison Church of Christ

Theme: **Hungering for Righteousness**

March 10th-12th at 7 pm (Normal Times Sunday)

Speaker: **Phil Sanders**

Attendance

Bible Class	91
Sunday AM Worship...	128
Sunday PM Worship	85
Wed. Evening	69
Contribution	\$5,240

Web: <http://montcofc.org/>
 P.O. Box 485 2078 Hwy. 425 N.
 Monticello, AR 71657 phone: 870-367-3919

MISSIONS

Truth for Today
 In Search of the Lord's Way
 Ghana Radio

NURSERY

Communion Preparation

Jan 29	Stacy Usry
Feb 5	Stacy Usry
Feb 12	Karli Walker
Feb 19	Karli Walker

Ladies' January Duties

Cards:	Shirley Fisackerly
Food:	Anna Koonce
	Rachel Wilson
Pencils/ Cards:	Becky Rice