

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements
Cole Meador

Song Leader
Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper
Jon Barry Randy Ellis
Bill Rinehart

Prayers
Mark Davis Clay Morris

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements
Mark Davis

Song Leader
Clay Morris

Prayers
Jon Barry Randy Ellis

Invitation
Bill Brittenham

ABOUT US

Elders
Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Clay Morris

Evangelist
Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday
Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.

Monday (Zoom)
Bible Study7:00 P.M

Wednesday
Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

the Lord, like Peter did, that we get ourselves into trouble. And the further we get from the Lord, the easier it is to leave Him altogether. Have you ever noticed that very few people who leave the Lord do so all at once? It is usually the result of a gradual decline in Bible study, prayer and church attendance.

Are you following the Lord or just wandering in His general direction? You need to stick as close to Jesus as possible. He is your only way out of this place! "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh to the Father, but by Me," (John 14:6).



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What Kind of Sermon Did You Want To Hear?
Wayne Goff

“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine,...”

Some people do not like preaching. Period. It is a weariness to them. It is a burden. They are not interested. The apostle Paul warned that the church would one day *apostatize* from the truth because many in it would no longer **endure** sound doctrine, 2 Timothy 4:3.

Endure? Really? **ENDURE?** In our English language, “endure” means to “*suffer (something painful or difficult) patiently.*” What a harsh word to use regarding the teaching of God’s Word. And it tells you something about the person. If you have to endure sound doctrine, then your heart is not with the truth.

The word translated “endure” in 2 Timothy 4:3 is a Greek word which means “to hold up.” It is always in the middle voice in the New Testament and is so translated “endure.” Well, that didn’t help much. The word is also used of persecutions and tribulations! Does

the preaching and teaching of sound doctrine become that burdensome to us? Yes -- if we do not love the truth.

You can’t fool God! Those who do not love the truth wind up perishing because they have given in to “all unrighteous deception” (2 Thess. 2:10). Instead, those same people will wind up believing a lie. Paul told Timothy that such people would “heap up for themselves teachers” who would promote such lies. Now you can see how we wound up with so many denominations today. There are many lies to be promoted to those who do not love the truth.

But can such happen to God’s people? Absolutely. To whom do you think Paul referred in 2 Timothy 4? In the nation of Judah in the Old Testament, shortly before their destruction and Babylonian captivity, God spoke to them through Jeremiah the prophet and warned them of their impending doom. Eleven times God used the phrase that He sent prophets to them “*rising up early*”

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins/sometimes shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Pat Buls, Maxine Burnham, Sonny & Cathy Monaghan, Pete & Beth Rowland, and Francine Davis.**

and “sending them” -- but they would not listen (7:13, 25; 11:7; 25:3-4; 26:5; 29:19; 32:33; 35:14-15; 44:4).

“For I earnestly exhorted your fathers in the day I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, until this day, rising early and exhorting, saying, “Obey My voice”

Jeremiah 11:7. God knows the danger of delay. So quickly He sent His prophets to forewarn the people. If they did not listen, it was not because God was delinquent!

You only have to read the accompanying history in 2 Chronicles to see why God destroyed Judah and sent the survivors away to Babylon. Here is what the Divine Record says:

“But they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, till there was no remedy” (2 Chron. 36:16). God did not leave any stone unturned in trying to get His people to repent. But they would not!

Today, *local congregations* live and die by the same principle. When they hear God’s Word, believe it and obey it, then they are **alive and well**. But when they stubbornly reject God and His Word, then they **die**. The beauty of God’s plan is this: since local congregations have no physical or organizational ties to other churches, they rise or fall on their own. Yes, it is **tragic** when churches die! But it would be

even worse if they took other churches with them.

THE LESSON IS THIS: LEARN TO LOVE THE TRUTH! Not only does your soul depend upon it, but the existence of this local church depends upon it! Do not rebel against it. Do not ignore it. Do not soft peddle it. Hear it, believe it, obey it and be well-pleasing to God.

Hearing Ears?

Wayne Goff

“He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

No less than twenty-eight times in the New Testament do we hear Jesus or one of His messengers proclaim: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear!” You know this is an important point then, and all preachers know that their message will not be productive on ears that are dull of hearing.

This warning from Jesus also tells us, as listeners, that we have a responsibility before God, too. It is not just up to the preacher to speak something that is beautiful, interesting, and uplifting -- it is our job to listen carefully, study God’s Word to verify the truthfulness of the message, and then to make a proper application to our own lives. This is what Jesus means when He says “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Correct hearing is hard work. Think about the time when you were in school and had to listen to the teacher, study the text book, take notes, and spend hours studying for the tests you had to take. All of that was done to assure that you had properly consumed the information given. And if that weren’t enough, you had to do it for every class you took!

Now you also know that you learned based upon the amount of effort you put in. Certainly some teachers or professors were more effective than others. Some were more organized. Some speakers might have kept

you spellbound. But in the end, the results were up to you. So it is with the soul-saving message of the Gospel.

In Romans 10, the writer Paul quotes from the Old Testament to remind us that God has sent His message to us directly from heaven! He says in verses 6-8 that we do not have to ascend up into heaven to get the message, nor do we have to descend into an abyss to find it. It is near you -- in your mouth and heart. How? By the “word of faith which we preach” (Rom. 10:8).

Amazingly, the Creator of the universe has revealed Himself to mankind in the Bible. It contains everything we need to be right and go to heaven, 2 Peter 1:3. But we have to have ears to hear it.

So what is the message we are to hear? Paul tells us:

“If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, ‘Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame’” (Romans 10:9-11).

The Gospel is all about Jesus, God’s Son. He came to earth from heaven and lived a sinless life. He then died on the cross of Calvary for the sins of the world. His blood can wash away our sins both in the mind of God and in our own conscience. Jesus was raised from the dead by God, and is the first to do so and never die again. He will one day raise up our dead bodies from the grave and give us eternal life, if we are true and obedient to His Word. If you believe and obey the Gospel, then you can be saved, Mark 16:16.

The first steps are simple: Hear (Rom.

10:17), Believe (Rom. 10:10), Repent (Acts 2:38), Confess Jesus (Rom. 10:9), be Baptized (Acts 22:16). Then be faithful unto death (Revelation 2:10).

Are you listening?

Following Afar Off

Heath Rogers

In Luke chapter 22 we have the record of Peter denying the Lord. Verse 61 tells us that after the rooster crowed “the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter.” What a look that must have been. The result was that Peter “went out and wept bitterly,” (vs. 62). I doubt Peter ever felt worse in his entire life. His denial of the Lord was contrary to the conviction and support that he had shown in the past. Just hours before he denied the Lord he had boldly said “I am ready to go with Thee, both into prison, and to death,” (Luke 22:33). And when Judas and the officers came to arrest Jesus, Peter began to fight to defend Him (John 18:10). Peter loved the Lord and was willing to die for Him. So why does he deny Him? What led him to this?

This really is no mystery. Luke 22:54 tell us that when they brought Jesus to the house of the high priest “Peter followed afar off.” This is where the trouble started. As long as Peter was close to the Lord he was all right. It was when he followed afar off that he got into trouble and found himself doing the unthinkable -- denying the Lord!

The same thing goes for us. We are to deny ourselves, pick up our cross and follow after Jesus (Matt. 16:24). As long as we stay close to the Lord through prayer, worship, Bible study and application we will do fine. It is when we get away from