

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Lancelot Watson- Evangelist

Worship Opportunities

Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes 9:30 noon

Mid-Week

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Patchogue Church of Christ Patchogue, NY 11772

A multi-racial community of believers with a purpose and vision to live holy lives, fulfill the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ by serving each other and our community with compassion, love and the powerful gospel of Jesus Christ.

Records you Made:	9/28	9/21
Bible Classes	48	35
Morning Worship	88	80
Contribution	\$2135	\$2093
Mid Week Bible Class—Wed.	32	37

Youth Corner By Jamal Colson



Be on your guard!

The Bible says to be on guard and take our stand against the devil for he is like a roaring lion looking to devour. (1 Peter 5:8)

Sometimes I look at that scripture and think like just as a lion destroys its prey in the physical realm, the devil seeks to destroy; as he destroyed Eve. This spiritual destruction is not necessarily a growling or a showing of large teeth. Instead it is by use of a cunning, crafty deceit and a 3 letter word.

You see, in Genesis 3 Eve quotes scripture to the devil, and the devil quotes scripture back to Eve AND adds a 3 letter word : “not.”

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’”

2 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’” 4 “You will NOT certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. 5 “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Once she accepted that as truth then came the spiritual devouring of Eve.

The devil desired to devour Eve and desires to devour us as well. He uses his same sneaky, tricky ways today. If we are not careful, the end result may very well be that of a roaring, snarling, spiritual lion showing his teeth and seeking to destroy our souls! Therefore, we as young disciples need to be reading and taking in the scriptures daily. That way we will be able to stand guard, remain alert against the devil and recognize his attempts to deceive us today.

Continue to pray for each other. If you have articles for The Youth Corner please see Bro. Jamal Colson for additional details. New articles are always welcomed.

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ

1 N. Sunrise
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Humility

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:6-7).

Many of us can identify with the country and western singer who declares, “Lord, it's so hard to be humble.” Humility is one of the many graces that set the children of God apart from the people of the world. Its importance is highlighted by the fact that it is integral to God's character. This motivated the psalmist to declare in reverential wonder that God Almighty is incomparably high and great and yet humbles himself to take note of the things He created. (Psa. 113:5-6; cf. Matt. 6:26, 28)

Throughout the Old Testament humility is held in high regard (Prov. 15:33) and God pours out his blessings on those who possess it. Moses is vindicated because of his humility (Num. 12:3) while King Belshazzar is reprovved for the lack of it (Dan. 5:22-23). The Prophets list humility among the things that are good and it is required to walk with God (Micah 6:8).

Humility was integral to the life of Christ. His washing of the disciples feet, is one of the most powerful lessons taught, “Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.” (John 13:14-15).

The humility of Jesus is seen also in His willingness to leave heaven, come to earth in the form and likeness of a human and then to endure the taunts, jeers, and insults of sinful men. “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a

servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death - even death on a cross!” (Phil 2:5-8).

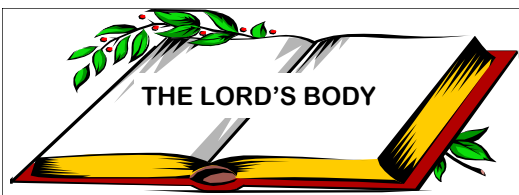
Jesus left the splendors of heaven, His glory of divinity, clothed himself with the form of a servant, came to earth and “...made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14). That is humility in action. In calling us to Himself Jesus says “come.” He promises us “rest” and encourages us to learn of Him, because He is “meek and lowly in heart” (Matt 11:28-30).

Our Father in heaven desires all christians to humble themselves. The first beatitude is to the “poor in spirit” and it is “the meek” who will inherit the earth, (Matt. 5:3,5). Greatness in discipleship is to the one who “humbles himself like this child (Matt 18:4) while “whoever exalts himself will be humbled” (Matt 23:12).

Christians are to be reminded that it is “the cast down” (humble or lowly) that are comforted by God. A humble spirit will prevent strife, make us more considerate of others, not think of ourselves too highly, and enable us to elevate others above ourselves, (Rom. 12:3). We must treat seriously the apostle's command, “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” (Philippians 2:3)

Beloved, let us walk humbly with God, serve Him with humility, being mindful that those who humble themselves under the mighty hand of God, will be exalted by Him in due time.

Lancelot W.



The family by John Stallworth

Privileged to Serve 10/05/14
Morning Service
Song Leader Greg Watkins
Welcome/Prayer Derek Peterson
Song # 869
Scripture reading Bailey Holfman
Song # 555
Song # 895
Second Prayer Jason Holfman
Song # 902
Lord's table and Collection:
Lead John Guiffre
Assistant J. Sicignano
Assistant Jamal Colson
Assistant Ryan Coltello
Song # - kids to class
Song # 853
Scripture James Guiffre
Sermon Lancelot Watson
Invitation Song # 924
Responses & prayer: Jason Harper
John Sicignano
Announcements & Closing Prayer Derek Peterson

The Gospel Truth
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Spirit and Truth: church of Christ?

Are we the church of Christ because of our doctrine or because of our life?
 Jn. 4:24 - "God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."
 1 Tim. 4:16 - "Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers."
 Jer. 17:10 - "I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."

Consider the above verses:
 * If you understand and believe a particular doctrine, does that make you right before God?
 * What pairs do you notice in the above verses?
 * How does the Lord decide who to reward?

Some thoughts:
 Our dad does not set aside a reward for us just because we have good/accurate doctrine. These and other verses highlight how God expects us to sustain truth. However, that is NOT enough to secure our reward. James will add:
 Jam. 1:22 - "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."
 Notice: we can deceive ourselves into an empty promise if our lives do NOT match.
 For years, I listened to accurate doctrine and thought I heard my righteousness, because of the accuracy of the doctrine. There is a good saying: "Listen for transformation, not just information!"
 Prayer: "Dear God; give me ears to hear."



LIVING IT OUT— PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY BY BENJAMIN FIELD

Call to Arms – PII

The world is moving against God and the restraint of evil is being lifted as God predicted. Last week we discussed "awareness." Ecclesiastes 7:16
 In light of this, I see it as more important for the Christian to serve and engage with God than to be seen as perfect by people. Though doctrine is critical, it is more critical to be a genuine servant of God than to try to attain to a theology and practice free from error. Otherwise our "religion" can be rendered down to mere habit... behaviors lacking depth that do little more than to sooth us.
 You will never understand, as you should, the fullness of God in this lifetime, no matter how much time you spend in the Word. At some point the reading has to stop and the action must begin. Judgmental and critical Christians exist, and can impede your service...there are times you must ignore them peaceably in order to cooperatively serve God. You cannot be encumbered by a fear of perception. Serve God to the best of your ability... imperfectly... regardless of what anyone thinks about you or your doctrinal quirks (We all have them).
 David understood this. Matthew 12:4 says David did what "was not lawful for them to do, but only for the priests." I believe David **was** a priest. *I suggest he was regarded as higher than that by God.* We read David's writings in scripture, not those of the priests of that day. David had no faith **in** the Law, **his own** righteousness, or think God was **within** the Law. David's intent mattered more than the behavior.
 Genuine acts based on a small truths are better than endless studying for "awareness." Look at the world...we join the army by a mere commitment but must be loyal and serve. How much more for God? Judgment Day descriptions do not say "Well done, to the degree you knew and memorized the rules, and did everything right, you did to me." Don't wait until people *think* you are worthy, or until you "are ready" before serving God... otherwise one day you will hear "depart from me, I NEVER knew you."
 Matthew 7:24 speaks of the importance of hearing and doing.
 Next week – suggestions anyone can act on...



Ladies' Corner By Paulette Watron

Honest hearts

Have you ever shared the gospel with someone who understands it very well, yet refuses to acknowledge its truth and continues on with her way of life as if she never heard the truth? Jesus speaks in Luke 8:15 of the person with "*an honest and good heart.*" If as Christian women we want to grow faithful and mature in Christ, honesty to self is a crucial requirement.
 Have you ever done something you know is wrong, like lying, or saying something nasty about someone, or harboring resentment towards a person and/or their family, or neglecting to worship God? We have probably all done or thought something we know is wrong. John tells us that if we say we have not sinned we lie. But when we fail to acknowledge that action as sinful and repent, and just act as if all is well and continue on with our lives as if nothing is wrong, or as if we haven't done anything, we are developing what might be called a "dishonest heart." Paul writes in Romans 12:3 "*Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.*"
 God has given us the scriptures for "teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness," so we can use his word to evaluate ourselves. By failing to practice what we know is right, ignoring the fact that we are doing wrong and pretending that we are okay, we are acting like the person who looks in a mirror, sees lipstick on her teeth, ignores it, then smiles broadly as she talks to those around her. Funny or pitiful? Every day, let us pray David's prayer in Psalm 139:23-24, "*Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*"
 Ladies, please feel free to send me your articles for this column, thanks.
 E-mail: pauletwat@hotmail.com