

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Lancelot Watson- Evangelist

Worship Opportunities

Sundays

Worship 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.

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:	7/19/15	7/12/15
Bible Classes	43	39
Worship Service	106	101
General Contribution 2nd Sunday - Bldg	\$2024.00	\$1575.00 \$345.00
Wed Bible Class	25	22
Baptisms/	1	-

Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. Ro 16:16

Youth Corner

By
Jamal Colson



F-faith; E-Encourage; A-Attitude; R-Repent

R - Repent

Young people sometime we hear or see the word "repent" and we might get offended. I can relate. At times my parents use to get on case and say I have a bad attitude and that I should really repent (or change). Instead, would try to find fault with them and focus on that. As I got older an wiser, I learned that they were right and I really needed to repent. I look back and realize, I was a stubborn young person.

Luke 13:3

"I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

Repentance is an important piece to getting right with God. It is part of His salvation plan described in Acts 2:38 when Peter preached to the first century Christians. It was what they were instructed to do before getting baptized. We should always be mindful about the things that we do that hurt God and turn away from those things. He can. Help us to do that if we ask Him. What do you need to repent of today?

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Patchogue Church of Christ
295 Sunrise Service Road N.
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Jesus Christ – Our Righteousness

"It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus who has become for us wisdom from God -- that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption." (1 Cor 1:30)

From the most ancient of times, sinful man has wrestled with the idea of becoming right with God. By nature man is a worshipping being. He was created to worship. If he does not worship the true and living God, he will worship gods of his own making. The prudent mind will always reject gods formed by the mind of and in the image of man. Throughout the ages therefore, men have been seeking to find their maker. The heart of man cries out to His Maker, the Almighty God. Man's cries with all his might however, encounter an obstacle that seemed insurmountable. We are guilty sinners. We know and we understand that God by nature and of necessity, has to be sinless and must possess an attitude of utter repugnance towards sin. God cannot tolerate or live with sin; the sinner has to be banished from his presence. Yet it is this banished sinner that cries out to God. He cries for help; he cries for salvation; he cries for the presence of God in his life. He wants to be united with his maker. But how? Job of old, framed the question in this way, *"But how can a mortal be righteous before God?"* (Job 9:2).

Righteousness is a moral concept that describes "Holy and upright living, in accordance with God's standard." It refers to a state that conforms to an authoritative standard and that standard is God's character. Man's righteousness is therefore defined in terms of God's righteousness. Ignorance of God and His word leads to believing and accepting a system of righteousness which is alien to God. The Jews of the first century were guilty of this, *"Since they did not know the right-*

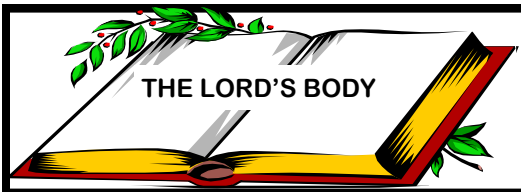
eousness that comes from God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness," (Rom 10:3). By not submitting to the righteousness of God they remained estranged from God. Lost! "Your iniquities have separated you from your God, (Isa 59: 2).

To answer Job's question, mortal man becomes righteous before God when he submits to the righteousness of God. This is the divine authoritative system established by God, a system that conforms to His divine nature. God's divine nature is just. God is a just God. Consequently there is a penalty for sin, as sin is the greatest of all evils. Indeed some may argue that sin is the only evil. We understand therefore why *"the wages of sin is death."* The sinner must die. If he does not, justice would not be served, and if justice is not served, then God would be unjust. This was the basis of ancient man's dilemma. "How can a mortal be righteous with God?" God's wisdom provided the way. Let the sinless, righteous One die for the unrighteous and the way will be open for sinners to receive forgiveness. This is redemption, forgiveness of sins through the sinless One. The **only** sinless One is Jesus. He died for us - you, me and every mortal being. Through Him we can be righteous.

Acceptance of Jesus and submission to His will culminate in obeying His gospel which is all that is required. "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned."

Are you one of the righteous ones?

Lancelot W.



The family by John Stallworth



*LIVING IT OUT—
PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY
BY
BENJAMIN FIELD*



ladies' Corner
by
Paulette Watson

Privileged to Serve 7/26/2015

Morning Service

Song leader	Jason Harper
Call to worship	
Welcome/Prayer	Jamal Colson
Song #1	453
Scripture – Psalm 12:1-8	Tyler Dowdy
Songs #2	851
Song #3	853
Second Prayer	Greg Watkins
Song #4	909
Lord's table and Collection:	
Lead	Derek Peterson
Assistant	James Guiffre
Assistant	Anthony Soto
Assistant	Steve Lynch
Song - Kids to class	
Song #5	712
Scripture- Mk 10:46-52	Steve Lynch
Sermon -	Lancelot Watson
Invitation #6	924
Responses & prayer:	
Joe Cirnigliaro	
Derek Peterson	
Announcements &	
Closing Prayer	Jamal Colson
Closing Song #7	703

The Gospel Truth

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From dark to Light

1 Pet. 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Col. 1:13 For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,

God brought us out of this horrible place call darkness where sin and judgement lives. However, he did not just ask us to leave this miserable home with NO place to go. Instead he gave us a new home: "the kingdom of the Son he love"...his wonderful light".

Interestingly, the scriptures above are a different concept from the world. When speaking of sin, many will attempt self-justification. Stating, "I'm a good person. I don't kill anyone. I don't steal. I don't hurt people." There is some nobility of the idea: "I don't XYZ". Some have gone thru great lengths to live a 'good' life. It's like they are trying to leave this place of darkness. The sobering problem is: "GOOD DEEDS DON'T TAKE AWAY SIN!" The Bible's way to remove sin is the blood of Jesus. His blood can only be obtained by obedience to the Gospel, by being baptized into Christ's death. (Rom. 6:1-6) Part of this process is to 'repent of your sin'. Some are actually willing to do a change of lifestyle; a pseudo 'coming out of darkness' – living a good life. However too many miss the opportunity of 'coming into his wonderful LIGHT'; into the kingdom of the Son He loves; into the family of God. Fact is, the only way into the kingdom (family of God) is to be born into it. (Jn. 3:1-7)

YES, God called us out of darkness. However, he did not leave us without a new home! That new home is the wonderful LIGHT; the kingdom of the Son He loves. Living a good life is NOT 'good' enough. Just because my son's friends come to visit, they are not part of my will or inheritance. Unless you or I are part of the God's family, we do NOT have any right to the inheritance of the family!

Balance in Your Christianity

Ecclesiastes 7:16-17 - Do not be excessively righteous and do not be overly wise. Why should you destroy yourself? Do not be excessively wicked and do not be a fool. Why should you die before your time?

It is difficult for the devout to find balance in belief. Solomon, wisest of all and in the most legalist religion, said that **an over religiosity is practically equal to excessive evil.** The longer you are in the faith the harder this is, and I can relate. We are much better at avoiding and targeting the evil. We get "Why should you die?" Avoid crazy living, risky stuff; sins that can lead to harm, jail, disease, death, and we tend to the more minor sins and behaviors.

"Why should you destroy yourself?" MORE difficult. It's almost an affront that implies we need to cool down our "bible jets" sometimes. "Aren't we to be perfect and exceed the Pharisees?" Yes and No...

So how does being "too good" destroy the same as "too evil?" Many are constrained in legalistic living and are void of any enjoyment in life, save for eating perhaps... (Often missing that even excess eating is wrong and in fact one of the deadliest habits as per death/disease rates in America.) Everything they see is horrible/wrong. It starts with hyper-focus on particular sins that results in snap-back sins in times of weakness that are greater than the original fear. It leads to professing a standard that you are unable to uphold, leaving you ignored by believers. It causes belief that souls depend upon you, instead of God. It breeds anxiety/isolation/hatred; not fellowship. It leads to bizarre anti-social behaviors and hyper-focus on all things "religion" and "God" to the point of an inability to talk about or take interest in anything or anyone else without oddly turning it "there;" your friends stop listening. At home and work it surfaces as irrational behavior and statements; making your family and coworkers hate you. It causes unnecessary persecution. It makes you think your deeds maintain salvation. Yes, being overly righteous **destroys you, and the faith of others.** **Luke 7:33-34, Matthew 23:15**

Pure religion- helping widows and orphans. Done it lately? Solomon spoke similarly. Micah said "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with your Lord." Easy. **Ecl. 9:7-9, 11:9-10.**

Be Content With What You Have

"What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul" (Mark 8:36)? Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have" (Hebrews 13:5). These two passages highlight one of the biggest problems in modern society—the desire to have more regardless of how much we have. One telling gauge, based on analysis of 2015 Federal Reserve statistics, is that in the United States credit card debt averages \$15,863 per household (nerdwallet.com). Christians must be careful not to be caught up in the world's values in this way.

The Hebrew writer advises, "Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." This advice suggests that our faith should be at the forefront of our hearts at all times, trusting that God is with us, regardless of our circumstances. Paul reiterates this in Philippians 4:12-13: "...I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Most of us have memorized the last part of verse 13 in the New King James Version, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me," but we may have lost some of its impact by neglecting its context, which tells us that this belief is "the secret of being content."

Biblical contentment is a profound concept which, I think, it could be beneficial to study over the next few weeks. We will look at some insights from Easton's Bible dictionary which tells us that it is a state of mind in which we are satisfied with our lot in life whatever it may be. It is opposed to envy, avarice, ambition, anxiety, grumbling and complaining. It is produced from humility, our awareness of our own unworthiness, and a strong faith in God's good will for us and in His promises.