

Tidings From Timothy

Today's morning sermon is from Jeremiah chapter 2. It is entitled "The People Who Fell". There are many good lessons we can get from the Old Testament, and I hope we are all encouraged to live more faithfully after studying on this today. Tonight, I will be preaching some more on evangelism in a question and answer format.

In Need of Prayer: Jason Goode is to have gall-bladder surgery this week. Gene Goode's aunt (don't know the name) has passed on, so there will be **no ladies Bible class tonight**. Your prayers are needed by Kieth and Phyliss' daughter Debbie in the sudden passing of Kenny Adams.

Blessedness of Marriage: It was a joy to see such a beautiful day for the marriage of Lori and Adam Estes this weekend. I recall how that I asked Bobby and Lavonne Welch at their 50th how you last 50 years. I was told that it takes the avoidance of selfishness, a dedication to God first, and also to the commitment that you made to each other when problems arise.

Friends and Family Day Will Be Here Soon! Get some flyers on the desk out front and distribute them. Invite close and distant family, friends who haven't visited with us in a while, and neighbors who can help us celebrate 151 years of the Mt. Gilead church of Christ!

Wrong is Always Wrong

by Wayne Jackson

Sinful human beings are ever attempting to blur the distinction between "right" and "wrong." This inclination reaches far back into antiquity. The Book of Proverbs declares: "He that justifies the wicked, and he that condemns the righteous, both of them alike are an abomination unto Jehovah" (17:15). Later, the prophet Isaiah affirmed: "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" (Isaiah 5:20). Amos spoke of those who "turn justice to wormwood, and cast down righteousness to the earth" (Amos 5:7).

"Right" and "wrong" exist. They are not merely evolved inclinations that have been humanly contrived in order to introduce a sense

of order and security into society. Nor are "right" and "wrong" subjectively determined so that, practically speaking, each person functions as his own law-maker. Rather, morality is to be measured by the laws and principles of divine revelation, as made known in the inspired writings of the Bible. Ultimately, morality is grounded in the very nature of God Himself. "[A]s he who calls you is holy, be ye yourselves also holy" (1 Peter 1:15). Though such a concept is almost wholly rejected by modern society, there is ample evidence to support it.

Let us briefly contemplate some of the principles contained in Scripture that assist us in putting "right" and "wrong" things into proper focus.

1. "Wrong" is not determined by the perpetrator's moral sensitivity to an act. A wrong act is still wrong whether or not the violator is aware of it, or whether or not he feels comfortable with the situation. Saul of Tarsus did not know that he was doing wrong when he persecuted Christianity (see Acts 23:1; 26:9; 1 Timothy 1:13), but he was violating the will of God nonetheless.
2. "Right" is not established merely by what man is able to accomplish by means of his genius and/or ability. Pragmatism does not provide the criteria for ethics. One human being presumptively can take another's life, but that does not make the act moral. Two unmarried youngsters are able to conceive a child apart from the sacred vows of matrimony, but the act is illegitimate nonetheless. "Might" does not make "right," and autocratic decisions relating to moral matters are condemned in Scripture (see Habakkuk 1:11). Radical attempts at human genetic engineering, or cloning, may be accomplished eventually through the manipulation of genetic laws, but the achievement, in and of itself, does not license the practice as ethical. The issue must ever be: Is a procedure consistent with the principles of God's inspired revelation?
3. "Right" and "wrong" are not determined by what is legal. In the Roman world of the Caesars, infanticide was legal, but it was not moral. In some ancient cultures, a woman was not a person; she was mere property to be abused, or disposed of, at the whim of her husband. There are few who would defend the ethics of this custom. Homosexuality is legal, but it is moral perversion (Romans 1:26-27). The destruction of human life by means of abortion has the sanction of civil law, but the practice is abominable before the eyes of the Creator (Proverbs 6:17).

What Must I do to be saved?

- **Hear the Gospel - Acts 15:7**

- Believe the Gospel - Mark 16:15,16
- Repent of Sins - Acts 17:30
- Confess Christ - Rom. 10:9,10
- Be Baptized for the Forgiveness of Sins - Acts 2:38

Then, as a Christian we must:

- LIVE FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH - REV. 2:10

Study the Bible?

God speaks to us today through the Holy Word of God - The Bible (Hebrews 1:1-2). The Scriptures instruct us in the way God requires His people to live (2 Timothy 3:16,17). The Bible is powerful and able to save us (Romans 1:16; James 1:21-25), if we will hear, learn and obey it.

⇒ **Yes!** I want to learn more about the Holy Bible. Please enroll me in the eight lesson FREE Bible Correspondence Course (we even pay for the postage).

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Matthew 26:26 - 30 ²⁶And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." ²⁷Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. ²⁹But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." ³⁰And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Elders:

Keith Dyer.....427-4105
Veachel Harlan.....487-5727

Deacons:

Steve Carter, Larry Copas, Ray C. Lyon, Cass Thomas Froedge, Bobby D. Gerald, Bobby Harlan, Jimmy High, Gary Rowland, Kevin Deckard

Evangelist:

Tim McHenry, 931-258-3494
12955 Clay Co. HWY Moss, TN 38575

Schedule of Services:

Sunday:

Bible Study...	9:30am
Morning Worship...	10:05am
Evening Worship...	6pm

Wednesday:

Bible Study...	7pm
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Listen to our Sunday Morning Radio Sermon on WTKY 1370 AM & 92.1, 102.7, 101.5 FM at 8:30am each week, and to our weekday 10min program after the Noonday news and reports.