

Tidings From Timothy

Fourth Sundays are always so busy for the congregation here. This morning I will be preaching on "Those Things Sure" and tonight the young men will be taking care of the service. This afternoon we have the nursing home worship at 2:00pm. Come out and be with us and cheer them up.

In Need of Prayer: Ruby Howard is now at Brithaven in Bowling Green. If all goes well and with your prayers, she will be there about a week. Jeanette Harlan was in the hospital but is now home after a bought with arthritis and shingles. Lavonne Welch is in Greenview Hospital in Bowling Green. She had a knee replacement and the other knee "scoped". Hopefully she will get out Monday. Roger Deckard is at home following prostate surgery and is resting well.

Friends and Family Day: The key to a good Friends and Family day is in preparation. NOW is the time to invite your family and friends to come and be with us on August 31st. Flyers are out front on the desk.

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## DOCTRINAL PURITY OR COMPASSION

by Steve Higginbotham

**H**ave you ever been asked a question that was worded in such a way that you could not answer the question as stated? "Either or" questions are often like that. For instance, I might ask you the question, "Are you interested in improving your relationship with your spouse or are you interested in improving your relationship with you children?"

Well, which is it? As you can well see, this is not a fair question. It creates a false division. It assumes that you cannot desire to improve your relationship with both your spouse and your children. However, hopefully we want to improve our relationship with both our spouse and our children and we need not choose between the two.

Recently, I have heard some statements similar to the above question. Some seem to be suggesting that we must choose between being doctrinally pure and being compassionate. For instance, when asked how to handle the issue of divorce and remarriage in a congregation, one preacher said the following: "You must decide what business you are in. You are either in the business of defining or defending doctrine, or you are in the business of changing lives." Now I beg to differ with this man's assessment. I don't believe that this is a choice that must be made. I don't believe that striving for doctrinal purity and being compassionate are mutually exclusive.

Both doctrinal purity and compassion are noble goals that are worthy of being pursued. Just check out the following passages (Galatians 1:8-9; Ephesians 4:32). Since both are noble goals, which one should we pursue? Which one is better? Do you think God would call us to pursue two worthy goals that were mutually exclusive of each other? Such a contradiction could not be harmonized with the nature of the God we serve.

Doctrinal purity and compassion are not poles apart as some would seem to suggest. In fact they must go hand in hand. What good would it do if I knew all the answers to doctrinal questions, and yet would not show compassion to my fellow man (James 2:13)? And what good would it do if I was compassionate to my fellow man but had little regard for the will of God (Matthew 7:21-23)? Rather than being goals between which we must choose, doctrinal purity and compassion cannot be separated.

(Edit for use in this bulletin)

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).

Call 487-5342, or mail this form to us:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail to: PO Box 266, Tompkinsville, KY 42167

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## Mt. Gilead church of Christ

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**Hebrews 2:14 - 18** <sup>14</sup>Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. <sup>16</sup>For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

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

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.