

THE BULLETIN—VOL 43, NUMBER 45 December 10, 2017

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Spencer Strickland

PM: Spencer Strickland

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

To Whom Should You Go?

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.” - James 1:5

“For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness.” - 1 Corinthians 3:19

“Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life” - John 6:68.

Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called! (Eph 4:1)

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
COME SEE!**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

Saturdays 3 pm
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time position open

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**WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

WHEN LOVE IS BAD

Even though Jesus taught that love is the greatest commandment (Matthew 22:36-40), we are also warned that there are certain types of love that are unprofitable and evil. The following are examples of love that we should not have:

Love of money – *“For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil: which some reaching after have been led astray from the faith, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows”* (1 Timothy 6:10 ASV).

Love of the world – *“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him”* (1 John 2:15).

Love of prestige – *“It is not good to eat much honey: so for men to search their own glory is not glory”* (Proverbs 25:27); *“For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted”* (Luke 14:11).

Love of idols – *“Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name. Ye shall not go after other gods, of the gods of the people which are round about you”* (Deuteronomy 6:13, 14).

Excessive love of self – *“For men shall be lovers of their own selves...”* (2 Timothy 3:2); *“And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again”* (2 Corinthians 5:15); *“...in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others”* (Philipp. 2:3, 4).

Love of strife – *“As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife”* (Proverbs 26:21); *“But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work”* (James 3:14-16).

Love of sin – *“That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness”* (2 Thessalonians 2:12); *“Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them”* (Romans 1:32).

- Jason Hilburn, Minister, Luverne church of Christ, Luverne Alabama

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www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 12/10/2017

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Merrie Christmus, Dorothy Gray & family, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Stephanie Rigney.*

- **Laura Nichols** requests prayers for a child, **Grace with many difficulties.**
- **Carolina Strickland** is suffering from strep. Her mother, **Amy**, is still seeking relief from abdominal problems. **Margaret Herring** recovering from a broken leg, has fallen complicating an already difficult situation.
- **Pray for all these**, and our search for an **evangelist** to help us with the work of the Lord here at West Columbia. Give **thanks** to God for his goodness and love for us.

“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” - James 5:16

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Drop-in at the Gamble’s home 7pm Friday 12/15/17.**
- **Men’s meeting** after Sunday AM assembly, please plan on being there!
- We need volunteers to pickup **Tommy White** and **Marshall Turbyfill, once a month on a regular basis** so they can attend our assembly regularly on Sunday morning.
- **MEN!** Sunday AM and PM please find **Jones Gamble** or whoever is putting together the assembly duty roster and volunteer to help with prayer, Lord’s table, singing, etc.
- **Contact** those on the Directory list that you’ve not seen recently (like last Sunday).
- **INVITE SOMEONE TO VISIT US!** Give them one of the **church cards** that are on the table in the foyer. If you take some, please use them.

“For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” - Matthew 18:20

Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called! (Eph 4:1)

RULES

What would basketball or football games be with out rules? They’d be a mess. They might be fun to watch—if you didn’t care who, if anybody, won.

Why then do people think religion and the church Jesus purchased with His blood is different, i.e., it doesn’t need any rules—That anything is acceptable to God if we think it is “sincerely” good? Sure, it might be fun, but God has said what He thinks of it:

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” Matt 7:21-23

How do we know the “*will of my Father*” in order to do it? How do we **not** “*work iniquity*”, but do what is authorized? USE HIS RULE BOOK—the Bible. —**Ed Kelleher**

WHEN HATE IS GOOD

We need to hate more. Does that bother you? Do you think it’s *wrong* for Christians ever to hate? Then carefully consider this lesson because hate is **essential** to our salvation! If we don’t hate, as the Lord has told us, then verily it will be easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for us to enter heaven. The Lord told us this through the apostle Jude:

“And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.” - Jude 1:22,23

I was burning leaves one time in the back yard. My son was riding his bicycle around, and as boys do, managed to fall into the fire. The next thing we both knew, he was flying through the air. Without thinking I had snatched him from the fire and stripped his burning coat off him. We must treat **sin** the same way. We must **hate** it and **abhor** it *so much* that without thinking we thrust it from us, or reach out to others to snatch them from it. We must be so aware, with every bit of our being, of the evil and deadly nature of sin that we reflexively react to save ourselves and others from it.

This is essential for our salvation! We **must** hate sin. We must abhor evil:

“Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good.” - Romans 12:9

We must hate sin because God hates sin. Jesus told us this:

“But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.” - Revelation 2:6

Jesus did not hate the Nicolaitans, but he **did hate** their sin! God can not have sin in his presence, and if we have sin on us, He will not receive us. This is of such paramount importance, that Jesus had to **die** for us to be cleansed of our sins.

Sin necessitated Christ’s cruel death on the cross. Can we then think so little of sin so as **not** to hate it? If we don’t, then we’ll find ourselves tolerating sin in our brothers and sisters—not **hating** the garment spotted by the flesh. And then, we’ll find **ourselves** accepting sin in ourselves. And then we’ll die.

We must **know** that God hates sin implacably—so we will strive to keep sin out of our lives, and out of the lives of our brothers and sisters. That is why this hate is **essential**, for without it, we’ll have a lackadaisical, not really important, tolerant attitude towards sin. We’ll fool ourselves into thinking that God feels this way too. And this will kill those around us and eventually ourselves as well. We’ll not work to pull our brothers and sisters from sin, as God has **commanded** us to do; many in the church will die—if we don’t **HATE SIN!** As Jesus’ disciples, we strive to have His mind in us (Php 2:5). A perfect man will have **all** elements of Jesus’ mind. Don’t neglect this one.

—Ed Kelleher, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

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