

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ed Kelleher

PM: Ed Kelleher

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

WATCH YOUR MOUTH

“for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” Matthew 12:34.

**“If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man,
and able also to bridle the whole body” James 3:2**

IT WILL PAY OFF MORE THAN MOST ELSE YOU WATCH

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

On Request
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

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

BULLETIN EDITOR

Ed Kelleher
Office Phone (803) 796-8858
E-Mail: Ed@macro-inc.com



WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

REQUISITES OF ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP

“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” - John 4:24

Three requisites of acceptable worship are set forth in this verse: 1-We must worship God. 2-We must worship God in spirit. 3-We must worship God in truth.

The first commandment forbade the worship of any other being. It said, “**Thou shalt have no other gods before me.**” (Deut. 5:7). Verse 9 of Deuteronomy 5 reads, “**Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them; for I, Jehovah, thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the third and upon the fourth generation of them that hate me.**” Hence, however sincere might be the idol worshipper, his worship is highly displeasing to God, because it fails in the first of the requisites above given. It is not directed to God.

Secondly, the worship must be in spirit, i.e., proceeding from a sincere heart and rendered with attention and understanding. This forbids worship that is merely formal—worship that consists of rites and ceremonies in which the worshipper may engage without attention. Catholicism is a system of such worship where the worshipper may not know, and indeed is not expected to know, the significance of much in which he engages.

There is some danger that this type of worship should come to obtain in Christ’s church. The unvarying routine of services, the formal and mechanical participation in song, prayer, and the Lord’s Supper, the failure to give attention and enter heartily into the worship leads to that which is not in spirit.

This is that which Jesus rebuked in the Pharisees in Matthew 15:9—vain worship. Such people as this worship him with their lips and give utterance to phrases of worshipful nature, but the heart is not in it, and God is not pleased. We should ever be on our guard that we do not fall into a mechanical, formal, heartless type of devotion to God.

—Continued on Page 3

**“And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Colossians 3::17**

“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.*

- Several in the church are looking for answers to ills, but are not getting much help from worldly physicians. **Pray Margaret, Pat, Stephanie, Amy and Lauren** find relief and comfort.

“A certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in *her* body that she was healed of that plague.

...And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole.” Mark 5:26

- **Margaret Herring** suffering from multiple debilitating conditions is now fighting pneumonia. Send her a card or give her a call to go visit.
- **Janet Boyd** has sprained her ankle and is getting around, but with difficulty.
- **Laura Nichols** continues to wrestle with many difficulties with people in her business.
- **Judy Cornelius** will see Thursday if her ankle brace can come off.
- **Paula Kennedy** is to have rotator cuff surgery 3/28, she’s not looking forward to it.
- **Pat Joyner’s** back is worse and it’s hard for her to get around, even in her house.
- **Steve Hafer**, a friend of **Jason’s** will have a marrow harvest procedure next week in Charleston, in an attempt to cure his leukemia.
- Keep ALL these in your prayers, and pray also that we all grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge.**

“My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.” 2 Cor 12:9

“WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP” - Romans 12:15

- **Harvey Allen’s** cousin in North Carolina passed away as a result of an animal attack last week. She was 79 years old and had been out walking early in the morning. Pray for the family.

“My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever.” - Psalm 73:26

THE GOSPEL—1 Corinthians 15:1-4

“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:”

REQUISITES OF ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP —(Continued from page 1)

Finally, worship, to be acceptable, must be in truth. To be “in truth” is to be according to God’s word. Jesus said, *“Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth.” (John 17:17)*. Any act of worship—however sincere might be the worshipper—is not acceptable to God if it is not in harmony with the scriptures. This teaches us that God will accept only that which he has specifically set forth in the scriptures for us to do in worship. We walk by faith and not by sight, (2 Cor. 5:7), and since faith comes by hearing God’s word, (Rom. 10:17), we can offer in faith only that which is set forth in his word.

This will exclude from our worship everything not specifically mentioned therein. By this rule, we can never use instrumental music in worship, because it is nowhere commanded or even mentioned in Christian worship. Therefore, we cannot engage in it “by faith.”

True, David used instrumental music, but he also offered animal sacrifices and burned incense in worship. We do not take our orders from David today. Christ is our lawgiver and guide. (Matt. 17:5; 28:18; Heb. 1:1-2). He has nowhere authorized instrumental music, the Holy Spirit-inspired apostles did not sanction it, no New Testament writer mentioned it in Christian worship, and no apostolic church practiced it. To engage in it is to fail to worship “in truth.” But God is pleased when one only worships in truth. Therefore, instrumental music is not pleasing to him.

The items of worship are set forth in Acts 2:42 and Eph. 5:19. These are (1) teaching, (2) singing, (3) prayer, (4) the contribution, and (5) the Lord’s Supper. These items were observed on every first day of the week by the church in apostolic times. (1 Cor. 16:2; Acts 20:7).

The disciples were directed by men who were empowered with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:42; 2:1). We can do no less than this and be assured to pleasing God today. What pleased him then will surely please him today. All else must be rigidly excluded from worship and service to God.

“Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.”

1 Samuel. 15:22

- H. Leo Boles, 1874-1946, Gospel teacher

HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAYETH

“Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” - Revelation 3:4-6