

THE BULLETIN—VOL 46, NUMBER 22, May 32, 2020

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ethan Allen/Steve Rigney/Ed Kelleher

PM: cancelled

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

GOOD NEWS

**“... in every nation, he that feareth him, and
worketh righteousness is accepted with him.” - Acts 10:35**

AND IF YOU DON'T?

**"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18
(but make sure it's the RIGHT thing!)**

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

**Any Time On Request
Everyone Welcome!**

Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time man wanted

BULLETIN EDITOR

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**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 ASV). 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 worshiper, 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 worshiper may engage without attention. Catholicism is a system of such worship where the worshiper 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)**

"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Merrie Chrismus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.*

MEETING PLANS: Lord willing, members will be meeting at the church for **10 am Bible study** (Psalm 32), and the worship assembly at 11. There's plenty of room in the auditorium for people to space themselves out as they wish. We'll be using alternate rows of pews to help with that. Masks, hand sanitizer and alcohol wipes will be available. The Lord's supper will be provided in individually packaged servings. Pick a package up when you arrive. After, we can discuss restarting Wednesday and Sunday PM meetings. If you're going grocery shopping, you should be able to attend.

“And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them “ - Acts 20:7

We want to share news on members in this bulletin — How they're doing and any needs they might have. Members are calling each other, which is a good thing we all should be doing. Some members don't have family they can count on for help.

Here are some who are **NOT** connected electronically and need to be checked on by phone regularly. Call them, see how they're doing and then let **Paula** know so it can get in this bulletin:

- **Trevia Parks** 673-8411, 129 Duchess Trail, Lexington 29073
- **Judy Cornelius** 606-6401, 2402 Breeze Rd, Cayce 29033
- **Pat Joyner** 807-9332, 5 Chicorana Rd, W Cola 29169
- **Margaret Herring** 926-1786, 1146 Pinecroft Dr, W Cola, 29169
- **Barbara Reeder** 834-4265, 216 Burlie Ct, Apt K, W Cola 29169

- **Ernie Richards** took a turn for the worse with COVID 19 and was in the hospital longer than expected.
- **Michael Mancuso** graduates from high school June 3rd.
- **Lawrence Haselden** has expressed a desire to meet with the church. He plans to attend Sunday, good opportunity to meet him. His contact info will be in an updated directory.

IMPORTANT! If you have news on members, even just to say you've contacted them and they're ok, please share it with **Paula Kennedy** by call or text to 260-2000 or by email to **KennedyPaulaM@Gmail.com**. She will summarize it on Thursdays to be included in the next bulletin.

This will greatly help maintain our fellowship during this troubled time!

**"We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak,
and not to please ourselves.**

Let every one of us please his neighbor for his good to edification." -Romans 15:1-2

Requisites Of Acceptable Worship — (cont. 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 worshiper — 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 within Scripture. By this rule, we can never use instrumental music in worship, because it is nowhere commanded or even mentioned in New Testament 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 New Testament 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 Ephesians 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 of 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).**

Henry Leo Boles, 1874-1946, Bible teacher, Nashville, Tennessee

"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18