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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

The Devil's 3 Goals
(1 Pt 5:8-9)

PM Sermon:

Christian Behavior

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The book of Daniel – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

Acts – Vance Smith

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

On Channel 6-2 Sundays @ 7:30 am

The Truth in Love on Channel 47

Sundays @ 8am

Oologah Internet Radio Programs

Vance' Program on Wednesdays
@ 6:15pm & Thursdays @ 6:15am

LIVE broadcast on Mondays @ 5pm

Visit www.tgrn.org to listen or visit
www.oologahradio.org for more info.

The Oologah Informer

May 8th , 2016

Introducing the Church of Christ (Part 3)

By Jack Williams

The Church of Christ is . . . People Who Love Christ and Follow His Commands

The idea of "doing something" is spoken against in many quarters. But God has much to say about the idea of doing things He has commanded. We are told very plainly that "Christ is the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey Him" (Hebrews 5:9). Some think that such obedience will negate the grace of God, but such an idea is foreign to the teachings found in His word. Instead of obedience being condemned it is called love. *"If ye love me, keep my commandments"* (John 14:15).

Those in Christ's church obey Him out of love. We realize that following His commands will not merit us salvation, for as Christ said,

"when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do" (Luke 17:10).

Those in the church of Christ obey Him, not to earn His love, but to show our love in return for His. We realize we could not even truthfully call Him "Lord" and not do the things He has said (Luke 6:46). It is for this reason that those in the church of Christ seek to do all "in the name of" or by the authority of Christ (Colossians 3:17). As a result you will find many things different when you visit the worship services of the church of Christ.

You will hear the New Testament used as the authority for our actions and teachings. This is because the Old Testament was given as a "schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ" (Galatians 3:24) but when Christ came, He took the old law out of the way (Colossians 2:14). Of course the Old Testament is still valuable for our learning (1 Corinthians 15:4) and admonition (1 Corinthians 10:11), but we would not take it upon ourselves to try and justify our actions by a law Christ nailed to the cross (Galatians 5:4).

You will not find a mechanical instrument of music used in worship to God. The reason for such is that God has been very plain in saying that we are to sing (Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19). Since we have such love for Christ and His commands, we would not presume to add that which He has not authorized in worship to Him. After all, it

was He who said our worship must be "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:23-24).

You will see the observance of the Lord's Supper each first day of the week. The early church, as they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine (Acts 2:42), partook of the supper on the "first day of the week" (Acts 20:7). If we are to have the proper respect for the commands of God, how can we do differently?

You will notice that only men lead in the public services of the church. God has told us that He does not allow women to have authority over men (1 Timothy 2:12). This is not an insult to women, but simply respect for the commands of Christ whom we love.

These are some of the things people sometimes look to and wonder about when they consider the church of Christ. But the answer is very simple, the church of Christ is people who love Christ and follow His commands. As such, we must be as the early disciples who, when faced with the decision whether to follow the will of God or the things popular with man, proclaimed, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

**The Church of Christ is . . .
People Who Desire That Others Share The Joy They Have In Christ**

We have wanted to introduce you to the church of Christ, not just so you will understand us better, but in the hope that you will see a bit of the love we have for God and the joy we have in following His will. But more than that we want you to have that same joy. We want you to be able to joyfully proclaim with us the same sentiment the apostle Paul had . . .

"I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2 Timothy 1:12).

The apostle Paul loved Christ enough to commit his all to the Lord's keeping. He rejoiced in knowing that such a commitment was sure and steadfast as he approached the day of judgment. We in the church of Christ share that commitment and want you to be a part of the hope we have in Christ.

We hope you will allow us to help you in being a part of that one body which belongs to Christ and lovingly follows His will.