

The Oologah Informer

October 26th, 2014

Address

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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:

Advance on All Fronts
(Isaiah 55:11)

PM Sermon:

Parents, Children, & Examples
(1 Samuel 2:22-24)

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The book of Judges – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

5th Sunday Singing/Devo

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

Tulsa KWHB TV 47
Sunday mornings at 7:30am

God Calls You to Worship

A.L. Parr

Hebrews 10:24-25 teaches us that assembling together on a regular basis is required. From the very beginning, the church came together on the first day of the week to worship God (Acts 20:7). I was reared in a rural community that had congregations of most of the “mainline churches,” and I had occasion to visit all of them over time. Having seen the various forms of worship and heard often the phrase, “attend the church of your choice,” it never occurred to me that God has actually told us how He wants us to worship Him.

A publication came to me not long ago in which there was a report on a gathering of seventh through twelfth graders for a conference on worship. One student was quoted as saying of the periodic event, “It just gives me something to look forward to that gives me a high on God.” The article stated that “Organizers gear worship at the conference to the audience.” Many churches advertise one period of “traditional worship” and another of “contemporary worship.” A newspaper in Houston, Texas carried an article last winter under the heading “Worship Wars” which reported on churches designing their worship programs according to what would bring in the largest crowd.

Many offer to God as worship what they have chosen, but God Himself has made a choice. The inspired record tells us that “true worship” (John 4:23-24) consists of five specific acts. The church which the apostles guided ate the Lord’s supper and exhorted one another in the word of God (Acts 20:7). They prayed (Acts 12:12), they sang spiritual songs (Colossians 3:16), and they contributed freely for the work of the church and the care of the needy (1 Corinthians 16:1-2).

It is natural to expect a member of the church to worship God. A Christian has been purchased with the blood of Christ (Acts 20:28), separated from worldly vices to live by Christ’s doctrine (2 Corinthians 6:14-17), and enlisted in the army of the Lord (2 Timothy 2:3-4). We expect Christ to call him to worship, and a Christian would want to answer that call.

On the other hand, God’s word applies also to the person who is not in the church. God “is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). He has told the world how to avoid perishing (2 Thessalonians 1:7-10) — all who do not obey the gospel will be separated from Him eternally. Those who do obey the gospel are saved and added to the church (Acts 2:47). Only in the church which Jesus will save (Ephesians 5:23) can a person worship God “in spirit and in truth” (Hebrews 2:12).

Everyone in the world can be a member of “the body of Christ” (1 Corinthians 12:27), “the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of truth” (1 Timothy 3:15). The church which Jesus built (Matthew 16:18) — of which He Himself is the only Head (Ephesians 1:22-23) — still worships today exactly as He directed in the New Testament. We invite you to search the scriptures like the noble Bereans and to worship God with us in spirit and in truth.