

# University Heights Church of Christ

BULLETIN

June 1, 2008

## THROUGH THEIR WORD

Jesus prayed for those who would believe on Jesus through the words of the inspired apostles of Jesus. **John 17 20** “Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word”... The only way we may believe on Jesus is through the words of those inspired apostles of Jesus that lived with Jesus during the personal ministry of Jesus on earth in the first century AD. The only words of those inspired men that we have are their written words that are preserved in the New Testament. It is only through those words that we today may come to believe on Jesus. Those words were written for the purpose of inspiring belief in readers.

During the lifetime of the inspired apostles of the first century AD the disciples were to follow what those apostles said, what they wrote and what they did that was in harmony with the inspired word that the Holy Spirit led them to speak and write.

**1Corinthians 4:17** “For this cause have I sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, who shall put you in remembrance of my ways which are in Christ, even as I teach everywhere in every church.”

**2Thessalonians 2: 15** “So then, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word, or by epistle of ours.”

**2Thessalonians 3: 6** “Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw yourselves from every brother that walks disorderly, and not after the tradition which they received of us. **7** For yourselves know how you ought to imitate us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; **8** neither did we eat bread for nothing at any man's hand, but in labor and travail, working night and day, that we might not burden any of you: **9** not because we have not the right, but to make ourselves an example unto you, that you should imitate us.”

**2Thessalonians 3: 14** “And if any man obeys not our word by this epistle, note that man, that you have no company with him, to the end that he may be ashamed.”

After the inspired apostles of the first century AD died what was to guide the disciples of Christ? What did the inspired apostles say before they died?

The overseers of the church at Ephesus were told by the apostle Paul to rely on the word of God after Paul departed.

**Acts 20: 32** “And now I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build [you] up, and to give [you] the inheritance among all them that are sanctified.”

In his absence from churches Paul wrote them letters to read to guide them.

**1Thessalonians 5: 27** “I adjure you by the Lord that this epistle be read to all the brethren.”

**2Thessalonians 2: 15** “So then, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word, or by epistle of ours.”

The letters that the inspired apostles wrote contain information about the traditions that the inspired apostles taught. The letters are available to read and follow to this day. Everyday all over the world people are reading and following the inspired letters of the inspired apostles of the first century AD just as the Christians who first received the letters read and followed them.

**2Thessalonians 3: 6** “Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you withdraw yourselves from every brother that walks disorderly, and not after the tradition which they received of us. **7** For yourselves know how you ought to imitate us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; **8** neither did we eat bread for nothing at any man's hand, but in labor and travail, working night and day, that we might not burden any of you: **9** not because we have not the right, but to make ourselves an example to you, that you should imitate us.”

All of the religious traditions that people follow that are not found in the Holy Bible are not from God. In most cases those non-Bible religious traditions actually keep people from obeying the word of God. That was true in the days of Jesus' personal ministry on earth and Jesus commented about it. Jesus said that the non-Bible traditions of the Jews had made void the word of God.

**Mark 7: 13** “making void the word of God by your tradition, which you have delivered: and many such like things you do.”

Today the New Testament is the only source of the teachings of the inspired first century AD apostles of Jesus. The words of the first century inspired apostles of Jesus Christ are preserved only in the New Testament. The words of the apostles are not preserved in the unscriptural traditions of apostate churches. If Diotrephes (**3John 9**) started an apostate church that was still identifiable on earth today, that apostate church could trace its origin all the way back to the days of the apostles. But the New Testament would prove that the church Diotrephes started was an apostate church, not a church of Christ. God's word identifies God's people.

**3John 9** “I wrote to the church: but Diotrephes, who loves to have the preeminence among them, receives us not. **10** Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he does, prating against us with malicious words: and not content therewith, neither does he himself receive the brethren, and forbids them that would, and casts [them] out of the church. **11** Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that does good is of God: but he that does evil has not seen God.”

Evil includes all religions that are not described in the New Testament. Good is what the New Testament teaches. What the apostles spoke and what the apostles wrote were the same things. The spoken words of the apostles did not teach anything that was different from what they wrote. The Holy Spirit guided them in both. (**2Timothy 3:16,17: Acts 2:4**) The spoken words of the apostles called for the same actions that their written words call for. If a church is not described in the New Testament it is not a church of Christ

### Remember to Pray For

All of those who suffer from natural disasters around the world

Ruth Brundige Richard's mother

Cindy Miller, Rob's mother

Jonathan Nations

Marlene Wood

Matt York

Glen Seabolt

Christie Ellis

Janie Smith

Shirley Lewis

Brady Gibbons

Carla Ward

Gail Hunter

Larry Flannery

Donnie Joseph

Alexa Anne Harper

Cheryl Spear

Lanny Hiller

Roselyn Agyare

Charity and Abdiel Pallafox in Mexico

Donnie & Tracy Oliver & their baby

Helen Stephens

Brayden Grushon

The mother of Lori Dailey

Chris Handshoe

Chris and Jen Dooley

Jeffrey Howerton

Ruel Baker

Addison Pervine

Carl Stripplehoff

Sybil Jamison

Blanch Thompson

Karen Handshoe continues to be very ill.

Tom Kemp

Freda Blakey

James Stauffer

John Scholtz in Africa

**The eternal power of God** and His Divinity is demonstrated in the order and purpose designed into every aspect of the natural world. Before this universe was turned on the Creator had to know everything that needed to be known in order to make it happen and keep it happening until this day.

**Romans 1:20** *"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, [even] his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."*

What is there in the universe that is without predetermined purpose? Predetermined purpose is not mindless accident. Predetermined purpose is preplanned and guided. The action follows the plan. That the universe follows a plan none can honestly deny. Before the plan there had to be the **Planner, because there can be no plan without a Planner.** Those that deny the existence of the true and living God are in fact **"without excuse."**

### Thoughts

How long will it take before a pile of gravel in the backyard will begin to demonstrate that it has intelligence.

When did my automobile decide that it needed a carburetor and when did yours decide that it needed a fuel injection system?

In a TV program about the mountain Kilimanjaro, it was stated that the mountain developed ways to conserve water. I wonder how long my gravel pile would take to do that?

In a program about the evolution of flowers it was stated that one of the things plants had to **learn how to do** was to attract something to pollinate them. Faced with that problem the plants developed flowers of the proper size, design, color and odor to pull in the pollinators. The question is, which came first, the flower or the pollinator?

The problem for any who believe that evolution from sea scum to scientist is possible is that every life form is in constant interaction with countless other life forms. If macroevolution is taking place the entire universe has to be evolving in perfect harmony with every part all the time in lock step or it would crash in a mass of dead-ends as soon as any of the minute parts got out of evolutionary sync with the rest.

That would have to happen if macroevolution was actually taking place. Because as soon as sea scum moved up the evolutionary ladder everything that depended on sea scum being sea scum would crash and everything that depended on those things would crash and everything that depended on those things would crash and on and on and on.

This universe is not made up of a bunch of unrelated pieces floating around in solo, each an independent system to itself. This universe is an orchestra of interdependent parts; each of which must be played in coordination with the rest, all the time or none can play.

My automobile did not decide that it needed a carburetor. My automobile's designer decided that it needed a carburetor.

**"In the beginning God created"** is the only thing that succeeds in explaining the universe and all that is in it. Every part of every part is what it is because that is what it needs to be. Each part does what it does because that is what needs to be done. It does what it does the way it does it because that is the way that particular part needs to do it in order to support the whole. Each and every part has a reason for being what it is where it is doing what it does the way it does it. The Reasoner that figured all of that out and put it all where it needed to be is the miracle working invisible Creator God described in the Holy Bible.

There is no other logical explanation for why things are as they clearly are.

We understand God's knowledge and power by observing the things that God has done.

### Notes

**Informational meeting today**

**June 1, 4:00PM**

**The next men's business meeting is**

**June 8, 4:00PM**

**SINGING 7:30PM FRIDAY**

**Jude 3** *"Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write to you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write to you, and exhort [you] that you should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered to the saints."*

Is **"the faith"** my opinion or God's revealed will?

*If I was able to ask the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit about salvation would I get three answers or one answer repeated three times?*

**Ephesians 4:5** *"One Lord, one faith, one baptism,"*

**How may I share with God in the "one faith"?**

Things God's children **must not still be doing.**

**Colossians 3:5** *"Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry; 6 For which things' sake the wrath of God comes on the children of disobedience: 7 In the which you also walked some time, when you lived in them."*

### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday Morning

Bible Classes 9:45am

Worship Service 10:45am

#### Sunday Evening

Worship Service 6:00pm

#### Wednesday Evening

Bible Studies for all ages

7:30pm

#### Monthly Song Service

First Friday 7:30pm

### University Heights

### Church of Christ

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**COME STUDY THE BIBLE  
AND WORSHIP WITH US**