

University Heights Church of Christ

BULLETIN

December 30, 2007

And Suddenly It Is Over

Life will pass just like the 365 days of 2007 have passed. So will pass the course of this universe and each of us will meet God face to face. What each has accomplished in the past 365 days is probably a reasonable sample of what each will accomplish in life on earth no matter how long life extends. At this moment it seems like a very long time until January 2009, but that is the way it seemed when we were at January 2007 thinking about January 2008. In January 2007 there was plenty of time ahead in the year 2007 to get done everything that we really wished to do, including all of those "wish to's" left over from 2006, 2005, 2004 and who knows where, right? Now, here we are at 2008 with leftovers from 2007, 2006, 2005, 2004 and who knows where, all over again. Some of those leftovers will probably still on the "to do" list the day they close our coffin, simply because they are not important enough to ever quite make it to the top of the list. They keep getting nudged aside by things like taking out the garbage, washing a few dishes or just taking it easy. They are things that a person fondly imagines that somewhere out in the future they would really like to do, but definitely not now, this minute while they are busy reading last week's newspaper or some other spur of the moment after thought activity of no consequence. The reason we do not do certain things is because it is not important to us to do those things. If we do not read our Bible it is simply because it is not important to us to have God talk to us. If we do not pray to God it is simply because it is not important to us to have God hear from us. If we choose not to attend church it is simply because that activity is not important to us regardless of what God said about it. When something that is actually critically important for us to do, **is not seen by us as important for us** to do, it is usually simply because **we are ignorant of its true importance in our life**. Students who do not see the importance of homework over TV or video games have that mindset because they are ignorant of the real outcome of failure to do well in school. They do not understand the impact that their current shortsighted actions are going to have on their future happiness and success. They cannot see the connection between their current thought patterns and their future potential for success. Usually in the case of little folks parents intervene to make them walk the walk and do the work whether the little folks understand the long-term impact of getting homework and doing well in school or not. Parents do that so that the little ones do not, because of their ignorance, lose out on the ultimate benefits of doing well in school. How many of us are happy that our parents made us do the right thing when in fact we were ignorant of why it was the right thing. I certainly am happy for that. It would probably be a whole lot harder to learn to read if we were allowed to put it off until we fully understood how valuable it was going to be to us to know how to read. The point is that if there are important things that should be part of every day of my life, but which instead, are nothing but infrequent visitors or total strangers, I need to **begin** my reformation by **educating myself about those important things**. I need to come to understand why they are important to me. Bible study is a good example. Is it important to study the revealed will of God? **If it is important why is it important? It is important to study God's word because God revealed His will so that God's people may know and obey God's will.** Deuteronomy 29:29 "The secret [things belong] to the LORD our God: but **those [things which are] revealed [belong] to us and to our children forever, that [we] may do all the words of this law.**" When Jesus Christ faced off with the devil the tool Jesus used to defend himself was **knowledge of the revealed will of God**. At each temptation Jesus used His **knowledge of the revealed will of God to defeat the temptation.** (Matthew 4, Luke 4) Of the word of God Jesus said, "It is written, Man shall not **live** by bread alone, but **by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.**" (Matthew 4:4) **The only way a person may live by God's word is to know God's word. The only way you can know God's word is to study God's word.** If, as Jesus indicated, God's word is one of the things that we **LIVE** by, **knowledge of God's word is absolutely crucial to our life.** For me to plan to please God Bible study must be a daily activity, like eating food is. One of the best ways to further my daily private Bible study, is to also study God's word with groups of people, such as in those studies that are conducted by this church at 9:45 on Sunday morning and at 7:30 Wednesday evening. If I have arrived at 2008 with no more knowledge of God's revealed will than I had when I arrived at 2007 I can probably plan on arriving at judgement day without enough knowledge of God's revealed will to please God. Unless I here and now make a major change in my **THINKING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING GOD'S REVEALED WILL** even though learning God's word remains somewhere on my "to do" list for the rest of my life it will never ever get done and in the judgement before God my lament will be that of all of the unprepared, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." (Jeremiah 8:20) I need to listen to God more carefully in 2008 than I did in 2007 because I need to grow. **1 Peter 2: 2** "As newborn babes, **desire the sincere milk of the word, that you may grow thereby:** 3 If so be you have tasted that the Lord [is] gracious." **THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN HUMAN LIFE IS ETERNAL LIFE.** "Lord, to whom shall we go? **You have the words of eternal life.**" (John 6:68) To know it better in January 2009 study God's word **TODAY**.

Remember to Pray For

Donnie & Tracy Oliver and their newborn baby. They are from Hazard. Mother and child had to be in the hospital here for a little while.

Helen Stephens

Rick Estes

Brayden Grushon, the newborn baby boy, of Wes and Jessica Grushon

Morgan Farmer

The mother of Lori Dailey

Ron Hollinger

Chris Handshoe

John Brown

Anilinn Estill

Chris and Jen Dooley

Jeffrey Howerton

Ruel Baker

Addison Pervine

Carl Stripplehoff

Sybil Jamison

Blanch Thompson

Karen Handshoe

Tom Kemp

Freda Blakey

James Stauffer, should finish with his cancer treatments in the next few days

We all need to pray that the influence of **the word of God** will continue to grow in every heart, in every family, in every nation and in every church across the face of this globe. There is no other influence that will do this world as much good, as the influence of the word of God.

It is not so much what God said that divides the religious, as it is what men said which God did not say.

The church that Jesus Christ died to save is subject to Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5: 23 *“For the husband is the head of the wife, and **Christ also is the head of the church**, [being] himself the savior of the body. 24 But **as the church is subject to Christ**, so [let] the wives also [be] to their husbands in everything”.* **A church may be subject to Jesus Christ only by obeying the New Testament only.**

The minute a church stops obeying the New Testament only that church stops being subject to Jesus Christ. How can any claim to be subject to a person whose will they do not obey? The New Testament is the only will of Jesus Christ that we have. If we do not obey the New Testament we are not subject to Jesus Christ.

Why is the University Heights Church of Christ what it is? Is the University Heights Church of Christ what it is because of following what the New Testament says? “Of Christ” means that.

Thoughts

Tis the season of religious folly and the Bible does not teach a word of it.

The following are **only part** of one day of church advertisements in the newspaper:

“Holiday Worship”

“Candlelight Holy Communion”

“Bows of Holly” a children’s play”

“Lessons and Carols”

“Worship and Wonder” (designed for children under nine and their families)”

“Candlelight Communion Service”

“Candlelight Carols and Communion”

“Children’s Service”

“Living Nativity”

“Christmas Organ Concert”

“Join Us As We Celebrate Our Savior’s Birth”

“Christmas Eve Communion” (This event is scheduled for 11:00PM on **Monday** evening)

“Join in Observing Winter Solstice- The Longest Night- With A Special Non-Denominational Service ‘Blue Christmas...Sanctuary for the Soul”

“You’re invited to be Surprised by Christmas, Worship Experience Times Saturdays...Sundays...”

“Magnificat” the virgin Mary’s song of praise...come and celebrate the third Sunday of Advent with this exuberant, festive Musical presentation.”

“Family Eucharist”

“Festival Choral Eucharist Carols and Instrumental Music”

“Getting Ready For Christmas Advent 2007”

“What are You Expecting?” With Children’s Christmas Pageant”

“Come Experience a New Tradition”

“A Choir, A Soprano Soloist, Eight Brass Players and Three Percussionist”

“Fellowship Time”

“Special Worship Service”

“Singers, Soloists, and Orchestra”

“Handel’s Messiah: Part One”

“On This Very Night: The Living Christmas Tree Will Be Performed”

“Twenty-five Hour Ring-a-Thon”

“Christmas Program, “Miracle on Main”

“Church will present “One Small Child of God” The performance will include music, sacred songs and dance.”

“Bethlehem Christmas Concert”

“A Grammy and Dove Award Winner Will Perform”

“Choir and harp Performance of “Ceremony of Carols” and other anthems of the season”

“Service will include the lighting of the Christ candle and musical entertainment”

“Church will hold a New Year’s Eve Party.

Bring a dish for the potluck. There will be games and movies”

WHERE DOES THE BIBLE TEACH IT?

Notes

THERE WILL BE A BUSINESS MEETING FOR THE MEN AT 3:00PM ON JANUARY 13, 2008

THERE WILL BE A MEETING FOR THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION AT 4:00PM JANUARY 27, 2008

The purpose of our faith is the salvation of our souls. **1Peter 1: 9** *“Receiving the end of your faith, [even] the salvation of [your] souls.”*

How good our life is depends to a large degree upon how determined we are to avoid evil. **1Peter 3: 10** *“For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: 11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord [are] over the righteous and his ears [are open] to their prayers: but the face of the Lord [is] against them that do evil.”*

Jesus Christ defined proper marriage by saying, **Matthew 19: 4** *“Have you not read, that he which made [them] at the beginning made them male and female?”* God did not make them males and female or male and females or male and male or female and female. God made them male and female. That still defines a marriage that is pleasing to God.

How may Jesus be Head of a church that does not follow the teachings of Jesus? **Jesus is not** the head of any church that does not follow the teachings of Jesus

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**