

Christian



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From the PASTOR'S DESK

Hello Faithful Brethren,

There is a disturbing trend in America's churches to adapt to the changing standards and morals of society, conforming to the culture instead of staying the course that God has charted. Is it the Church's duty to follow the winds of change, blown about by changing mores and standards of conduct, or is it the Church's duty to stand fast and transform rather than conform? Should Christianity adapt to the times or should our society and culture conform to God? Are there truths that are timeless?

The history of man as recorded in the scriptures verifies the predictable trend of human nature that results in sin and immorality becoming acceptable and even desirable, chic, modern and liberated. The problem comes when our liberation is from God and His word, His standards of conduct and thought, instead of

“A righteous person lives on the basis of his integrity. Blessed are his children after he is gone.”

— Solomon (Proverbs 20:7, God's Word)

liberation from sin and its wages.

All but righteous Noah and his family went along with the morals of a decaying and declining culture and were washed away from the face of the earth by the God who created them. Lot's wife was comfortable with the despicable life style of Sodom and Gomorrah; she paid the price for ignoring God's instructions, compromising and accepting the immorality of that society, ending up a pillar of salt. Israel repeatedly forsook God and followed the way of their gentile pagan neighbors. God was not amused and Israel kept paying the price with captivity and oppression. Even the great and wise King Solomon allowed himself to be led away from the God who gave him all his wisdom and wealth, forsaking He who made him great.

The Apostle Paul recognized this mortal trend and warned Christians then and now, not to fall prey to this deadly trap.

Special points of interest:

- *A lighthouse of Integrity*
- *Faithful to God*
- *Others may . . . You cannot*
- *Our sermons broadcast on KGRO Radio 9:05 AM Sunday. www.pan-tex.net*

Our Home Page:
www.christianchurchofgod.org

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A cheerful disposition is good for your health; gloom and doom leave you bone-tired.

—Proverbs 17:22, *The Message*.

chuckles



"And after services we hope you'll join us for coffee, cappuccino, decaf cappuccino, double decaf cappuccino, latte, latte mocha, mocha java, double mocha decaf. . ."



"Welcome, O weary searcher for truth! Say, have you ever worked with kids?"



I hear by the Grape

Hi Jeff,
Wanted to update you and Linda. I got offered a job in Colorado Springs at a medical education company called MedStudy. I will write education materials for students. This is what I've been aiming for, so it's a good deal. They will double my salary, no patient care, 8-5 M-F only, no weekends/holidays/call. So, we're moving to Colorado Springs in about 2 weeks, so Maddie can start 2nd grade. They have a great Christian school there, and she's enrolled. They've already asked us to come to their classes and speak about the Feast. Pretty interesting. So, we're off to the mountains. Kind of ironic to be going back to the place we got married.

Candace (& Glenn) Mitchell

PRAYER REQUESTS: "... The prayer of faith shall save the sick and the Lord shall raise him up: ... Pray for one another that you may be healed." — James 5:15-16.



- Sheri Bartlett:** Julia McKinney's daughter, having serious health problems.
- Eric Booth:** Jeff's brother, diagnosed with prostate cancer, undergoing treatment.
- Sandy Booth:** Sister-in-law of Jeff. The ovarian cancer has recurred.
- Amber & Dylan Clark:** Grandchildren of Betty Clark, cerebral palsy.
- Betty Clark:** Has shingles.
- Vickie Crevoi:** Sister of Linda Booth, Chronic Progressive MS.
- DeAnne DeLuna:** Larry Lyles' stepdaughter, breast cancer. She underwent surgery and is now doing chemo.
- Velvet Green:** Gary's wife, schizophrenia.
- Randy Gnessett:** Friend of Candace Sellers has received a lung transplant. He is still in very guarded condition.
- Jeffrey Hertz:** Brother of Ruth Wertz, bladder cancer.
- Anna Law:** Lupus & kidney failure.
- Dollie Meil:** Cerebral palsy. She is growing weak.
- Glenda Rankin:** Niece of Rudolph, Hodgkins Lymphoma, undergoing more chemo so she might be strong enough for stem cell transplant.
- Ted Rankin:** Undergoing physical therapy, following back surgery. Still in pain and having eye sight problems.
- Brenda Roberts:** Josh Sursa's mother-in-law, has colon cancer.
- Kathryn Scott:** Friend of the Baileys; severe MS, losing use of arms and swallowing ability.
- Vic Shaklee:** Linda Booth's father, is in very weakened condition following gall bladder surgery.
- Kathrina & Dave Sharman:** (Ken Westby's daughter). Their house burned to the ground.

Rejoice with those
who rejoice; mourn

**CELEBRATIONS
AUGUST**

Birthdays:

- Reba Bailey 8-10
- Ken Hamilton 8-09

Anniversaries:

- Candace & James Sellers 8-09
- Trish & Ken Hamilton 8-15
- Jody & Joe Kirkpatrick 8-15
- Jerry & Martha McClenagan 8-26

Our condolences
to Rhett and
Tamara (Cryer)
Heflin in the
late-term
miscarriage of
their baby girl

Christian Church of God

PRAISE THE
LORD. PRAISE
GOD IN HIS SANCTUARY;

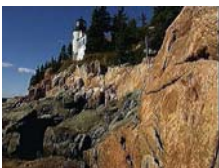


PRAISE HIM IN HIS
MIGHTY HEAVENS.
PSALM 150:1

"The church is not a gallery for the exhibition of eminent Christians, but a school for the education of imperfect ones." —Henry Ward Beecher
"For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."
—Jesus, Matthew 18:20
"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."
—Hebrews 10:25

Christian
Church of

CHART YOUR
COURSE



WITH INTEGRITY

From the PASTOR'S DESK

His words far exceed in power and beauty whatever I may say.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God (Rom 12:1).

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away. (2 Tim 3:1-7).

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man — and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud,

boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them. (Rom 1:18-32)

Ultimately, it is not our conformity God desires; rather, it is our transformation. He wants our heart, for if we have a love for God, we will demonstrate uncompromising obedience toward Him. Christians are to be lights, leading the way, not following the darkness. We are to be the salt of the earth, sprinkling God's word upon all. We should lead into the paths of righteousness, not follow into the valley of death. We must stand up for marriage as defined by God, not adapting to a culture that chooses to "live together" without vows. We must stand up for the institution of marriage as the sacred bond of a man and woman, not "redefining" the institution that was created for man, not by man.

We must stand up for the rights of the unborn who are not afforded the "choice" that so many women demand. We must defend the defenseless, protect the innocent, overcome evil with good and shine the light of truth in every dark corner of our culture. T

To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ: Mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you. Contend for the Faith Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe. And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. Likewise also these dreamers defile the flesh, reject authority, and speak evil of dignitaries. These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; raging waves of the sea, foaming up their

Integrity

Psalm 26

A Prayer for Divine Scrutiny and Redemption
A Psalm of David.

¹ Vindicate me, O LORD,
For I have walked in my integrity.
I have also trusted in the LORD;
I shall not slip.
² Examine me, O LORD, and prove me;
Try my mind and my heart.
³ For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes,
And I have walked in Your truth.
⁴ I have not sat with idolatrous mortals,
Nor will I go in with hypocrites.
⁵ I have hated the assembly of evildoers,
And will not sit with the wicked.
⁶ I will wash my hands in innocence;
So I will go about Your altar, O LORD,
⁷ That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving,
And tell of all Your wondrous works.
⁸ LORD, I have loved the habitation of Your house,
And the place where Your glory dwells.
⁹ Do not gather my soul with sinners,
Nor my life with bloodthirsty men,
¹⁰ In whose hands is a sinister scheme,
And whose right hand is full of bribes.
¹¹ But as for me, I will walk in my integrity;
Redeem me and be merciful to me.
¹² My foot stands in an even place;
In the congregations I will bless the LORD.

Psalms 26:1-12 (NKJV)

own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, "Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him." These are grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage. But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: how they told you that there would be mockers in the last time who would walk according to their own ungodly lusts. These are sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit. But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. (Jude)

Follow not man who can do nothing for you, but rather follow God who can do all things for you.

Keep the Faith!

Jeff Booth



Be a lighthouse of integrity!

Integrity

includes
these traits:

- An excellent attitude
- Faithfulness and diligence