

June 9, 2019

CHURCH *of* CHRIST



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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....7 p.m.

Minister, John Keith

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WELCOME!

We of the Cambridge church of Christ
invite you to all our services.

"...the churches of Christ salute you" (Romans 16:16).

CALIBRATING THE CONSCIENCE.

INTRODUCTION: reading: Acts 24:14-16

1. The conscience can rightly or wrongly condemn us.
2. My conscience must be captive to the word of God; (Acts 24:16).

I. SHOULD YOU LISTEN TO YOUR CONSCIENCE?

- A. “Conscience”: what you are convinced is right or wrong at any given time.
- B. We should listen to it—it’s there for a reason.
- C. Is it always right? No. But it is worthy of serious consideration.
- D. There is danger in ignoring the conscience. Ignoring can lead to:
 1. A calloused conscience (1 Cor. 8:10).
 2. A wounded conscience (1 Cor. 8:12).
 3. A seared conscience (1 Tim. 4:2).

II. HOW RELIABLE IS YOUR CONSCIENCE?

- A. Biblical Principle is this: do not sin against your conscience (Rom. 14:22-23).
- B. No one’s conscience aligns perfectly with God’s will.

III. IS YOUR CONSCIENCE BIBLICALLY CORRECT (Rom. 14)?

- A. To be biblically correct, one must have biblical knowledge.
- B. Areas of disagreement
 1. Meat vs. vegetables only (Rom. 14:2).
 2. Special days (Rom. 14:5).
 3. Paul implies that those who eat only vegetables and esteem certain days are less informed, and thus are “weak” in contrast to the “strong”, more informed brethren (cf. Rom. 15:1).

IV. CALIBRATING YOUR CONSCIENCE

- A. Calibration: to align an instrument with a proven standard.
- B. Calibration may at first seem like “sinning against” your conscience
 1. You are *sinning against the conscience* when you believe your conscience is speaking correctly and yet you refuse to listen to it.
 2. Conscience does not make a wrong thing right, but it can make a right thing wrong.
 3. You are *calibrating your conscience* when Christ (the Lord of your conscience) teaches you through Scripture that your conscience has been incorrectly warning you about a particular matter—The example of Peter (Acts 10:9-15; Gal. 2:11f).

V. HOW DO YOU CALIBRATE YOUR CONSCIENCE?

- A. By Educating it with Truth.
- B. With Due Process (Patiently).

CONCLUSION:

1. God had given each of us a conscience and we should pay attention to it.
2. We should appreciate the conscience when we feel guilty for it very likely is convicting us of sin, and thus, we have opportunity to repent.
3. Its reliability is only as good as the calibration and therefore should be calibrated—educate by the Word of God as the ultimate standard.

IS SINGING REALLY THAT IMPORTANT?

Singing was in the mind of God in eternity (Job 38:7). As we were created in God's image, we are to focus on God's glory and sing praises to His name. One of the greatest distinctions between us and the animals, is the ability to praise God with the fruit of our lips. There is no higher nor nobler use of our tongues than to bless and honor the name of Jehovah (Jas. 3:9; Psa. 34:1). The psalmist often told how his soul had to find a way to express his joy, and he found it in singing (Psa. 63:5; 108:1). Christ shows the exalted place of singing in the church in at least four ways:

By his own example when He and His disciples were gathered for the Passover (Matt. 26:17). After Christ inaugurated the Lord's Supper (Mt 26:26-29), the Bible says, "And when they had sung a hymn, they went out unto the mount of Olives" (Mt. 26:30).

By its teaching. Scripture shows the high demand placed upon, and the benefits of singing: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord" (Col. 3:16). Just as there is teaching and admonishing in preaching, so there is in singing. Singing is ***not*** some secondary ordinance of worship that carries no building benefit- it is a vital role in the instruction of the church. When one refuses to sing, he says, "I don't care about the others", "I don't care what Jesus said or did", and "I will not obey God".

By its power. Acts 16 reveals the arrest and imprisonment of Paul and Silas for preaching Christ and casting out spirits in the name of Jesus. They follow apostolic example from a previous occasion, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the Name (Acts 5:41). This shows that when singing ascends to Heaven God's power descends to His children and we see the specific dignity He has placed on singing: our Lord delights in it and at times has and can respond to it.

By it being a foretaste of heaven. As seen in Revelation 15:3, worship in Heaven is filled with singing: "And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvellous are thy works, O Lord God, the Almighty; righteous and true are thy ways, thou King of the ages. It would seem the Hebrews writer has told us (12:22-24) that the church has entered into the worship of Heaven. What thrilling thought indeed, that man on earth may be part of the worship of Heaven!

We should joyfully sing of the prospect of Heaven while we are yet in the body of believers here on earth. In light of the great salvation Jesus has accomplished for us, the overall characteristic of Christian singing should be joy and thanksgiving: "Through him then let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of lips which make confession to his name (Heb. 13:15). So, yes! Singing IS really that important: The Bible tells me so—*JK*.

We encourage our visitors to fill out one of the blue cards and place it in the collection plate.

<p><i>IN OUR PRAYERS:</i> Jerry & Erma Endly, Mary Lou Huprich, Cathy Jackson, Tina Keith, Gary & Debbie Jones, Kathy Mayo, and Flavil & Verna Miller</p>	<p><i>SHUT-INS:</i> Audrey Burns, Jack Mitchell, Shirley Patterson and Marge Rothwell</p>
<p>FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Nellie Bichard, Alec Blake (grandson of Wilma Roe), Weston Boulet, (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Dick Caldwell (friend of the Fowler's) Larry Chips (friend of the Starrett's, Kenneth Crookshank (son of Dannelle Gilmore), Dan Doudna (Wilma Roe's relative), Bob & Patty Eddy, Tom Eddy (Betsy Cook's brother), Carmie Green (Flavil Miller's sister), Doris Hall, Herb Hamilton (friend of the Starrett's), Bob & Donna Henthorn (Laura Jamiel's parents), Collene Keister, (Mo Smith's sister), Les McCollum (friend of Deb McGath), Erica Rich, Shirley Roe, Mona Stoffer (Flavil Miller's daughter), Mitch Vick, Bob & Marge Watson, Kedra Wyatt and remember to pray for one another.</p>	

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Mary Lou Huprich** is now at the *Beckett House* in New Concord, room 210.
- **Business Meeting** this evening for the men of the church at 5:30.
- There will be a reception in the basement in honor of *Brendyn Herald*, our lone graduate this year, following worship this evening. 🎓

REMINDERS:

- ✓ ~~WORDWATCHER~~ will meet tomorrow.
- ✓ If anyone would like to take a turn creating a bulletin board for the entry, please sign up on the board in the foyer.
- ✓ **Be sure to check the bulletin board for upcoming area events.**
- ✓ We still need a teacher to take over **Brendyn Herald's** class.

TODAY'S LESSONS

AM: Calibrating the Conscience (Acts 24:14-16)

PM: Christians as Partakers (2 Peter. 1:1-4)

<i>Bible Class</i>	<i>Sun. AM</i>	<i>Sun. PM</i>	<i>Collection</i>	<i>Wed.</i>
37	60	41	\$2497	31