

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Josh Berryhill

Opening Prayer: Billy Box

On the Table: Head - Eddy Dickinson
Servers - Charles Berryhill
Greg Lowery
Ralph Burleson

Closing Prayer: David Key

Preparing the Lord's Supper Linda Lawrence

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study	10:00 am
Morning Worship	10:45 am
Evening Worship	5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study	7:00 pm
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Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson

Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Minister: Greg Lowery

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**Let Us Not Be
Ungrateful Children**



**The
Brilliant
Beacon**



Jesus Learned Obedience, Have your Children?

By Dan Jenkins

One of the great joys of Bible study is finding words and phrases which have great truths but which can so easily be overlooked. Read the following verse, and see if you may have overlooked one of the “hidden” truths. “Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him” (Heb. 5:8-9). He learned obedience! Obedience is not something which happens accidentally, it must be learned.

There is no doubt that Jesus came into the world to do the will of God (Heb. 10:7). Because our High Priest was tempted in every way in which we are, He had to learn that which we learn—He had to learn to obey.

When He taught His disciples how to pray, He included the petition, “Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” He explained to His followers why He behaved the way He did by saying, “I always do those things which please Him” (John 8:29). Facing the horrendous agony of Gethsemane and Golgotha, He prayed, “Nevertheless, not My will, but Yours be done” (Luke 22:42). His great commission showed the importance of His followers learning to obey. “Make disciples...teaching them to observe all things” (Matt. 28:19-20).

One mistake I see so many young parents make is failing to teach them obedience. That obedience is important is seen in the prominence given to it in the Ten Commandments. “Honor your father and your mother as the Lord has commanded you...that it may be well with you” (Deut. 5:16). This command is placed above those about murder and adultery. Yet, far too many young parents do not see this. Honoring and obeying parents will not happen naturally, it must be learned.

The modern philosophy about dealing with children is distraction. When a child is told to do something, and he shows displeasure, parents are being taught to distract them or bribe them in some fashion. What happens at that time is the children may be distracted and conflict is avoided, but that child did not learn obedience.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Faye Cotton: please continue to pray that she continues her fight against cancer and that she will win

Danny Berryhill: having trouble with blood clots, please pray that he can receive help with this problem

Dewight Kitchens: (Al’s Boss) recovering from recent colon cancer surgery, please praying that they all the cancer was removed

Alice Foster: was diagnosed with congestive heart failure and having problems with her lungs, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Rainey: she has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Maylene McWhirter: her blood gases are showing signs of myeloid leukemia, please be praying for her and her family

Chad Henderson: this young man is battling cancer, please pray that he will be able to receive treatment that will help him in his fight with this terrible disease

Jack Waldon: {Linda’s Brother-In-Law} he is under hospice care, please keep him and his family in your prayers

Billy Lee: {Carolyn’s Brother} diagnosed with renal failure, please keep him in your prayers

Connie Autrey: recent scans show that the cancer is shrinking, please continue to pray that the treatments will continue to work in defeating her cancer

Jack Frazier: (Lellie’s Brother-In-Law) has been diagnosed with bone cancer, please keep him and his family in your prayers

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Bobby Sanderson: doctor was pleased with his recent knee surgery, please pray that he has a good recovery

Arthur Ewing: has lung cancer, please pray that he will be able to receive treatment that can help him

Robeana Green: has been diagnosed with cancer, please be praying that with treatments that this cancer can be defeated

Angie Ganey Gardner: she has been diagnosed with stage 3 breast cancer, please pray that this cancer will be treatable

Deborah Pollard: is currently taking cancer treatments, please pray that these treatments will be successful in defeating her cancer

Upcoming Events

May 20 th	Fellowship Meal	
May 20 th	Nursing Home	2:00 pm
May 27 th	Tri-County Singing {Here}	2:00 pm

This lesson about obedience is learned best when the child is very young. In the first year of a child’s life, he can learn the meaning of the word “No.” He must learn this, for the world does not revolve around the child; he will not always get his way. That lesson must be learned early and repeatedly emphasized as the child grows. He will learn parents’ rules (and God’s) must be obeyed. Wait until he is a teen to teach this, and he will likely be unmanageable.

Jesus learned obedience. Parents, set guidelines and use the conflict to teach them what Jesus had to learn!

Obtained at: www.churchofchristarticles.com

Are you a child of Hell?

By Jonathan McAnulty

One would hope not, but it’s a serious question worth asking.

Our Lord Jesus, in preaching to the Jews condemned the Jewish scribes and Pharisees, saying, “But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces. For you neither enter yourselves nor allow those who would enter to go in. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel across sea and land to make a single proselyte, and when he becomes a proselyte, you make him twice as much a child of hell as yourselves.” (Matthew 23:13, 15; ESV)

As Jesus surveyed the Pharisees he recognized that they were religious, and that they were zealous for that religion. They went to great lengths to promulgate their religion, but in the end, it would not matter. The religion they were teaching was only going to send them to hell.

This should make us take note. Religion, Jesus was saying, does not, in and of itself, guarantee a place in heaven. Jesus would never have agreed with the doctrine, taught by some, that all religions are getting us to the same place, just by different paths. Too many believe that it does not matter what you believe; to them, all faiths are equal in their effectiveness.

Jesus taught the road to heaven was more exclusionary than that. (cf. Matthew 7:13-14) “I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life,” said Jesus, “No man comes to the Father apart from me.” (John 14:6)

When Jesus looked at the very religious Pharisees, He did not see people on their way to heaven. What they were doing was not sufficient for salvation. Much earlier in His earthly ministry, Jesus had warned His followers, “Unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and the Pharisees you cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven.” (Matthew 5:20)

The Pharisees had several problems identified by Jesus, not the least of which was their rejection of Him as the anointed of God. They refused to believe that Jesus was the messiah and in that rejection, they shut themselves away from God’s grace.

A religion that points men away from Jesus is pointing men away from their only hope of salvation. (cf. Acts 4:12) If you reject Jesus, you are in effect, embracing hell.

This was not the only problem the Pharisees had. Jesus also habitually condemned the hypocrisy of the Pharisees. Though much of what they taught came from God’s word, the Pharisees refused to apply it personally to themselves. Thus, Jesus said of them, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat, so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice.” (Matthew 23:2-3; ESV)

A religion that does not actually affect one’s behavior is a worthless religion. Jesus did not want his followers to be hearers of the word without also being doers of the same. (cf. James 1:22-25) If you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, that belief needs to actually touch your behavior. If you know the truth, and can teach people the truth, but you yourself never obey the truth, you are not a child of heaven.

Finally, Jesus condemned the scribes and the Pharisees for adding their own opinion to the word of God. He cited Isaiah and applied it to the religious leaders of the day, stating that their worship of God was vain, because they were adding to God’s word. (cf. Matthew 15:9) God warned His people not to do this. (cf. Proverbs 30:5-6) But the Pharisees did it anyway, creating customs and titles and dogmas, and adding it all to the Law, making their teachings equal to God’s teachings.

Even so today, believers in Christ are warned not to change the Gospel. If a man does not abide in the doctrine Christ gave, but runs ahead of that doctrine, adding to it, that man has lost his relationship with God. (cf. 2 John 9) Likewise, we are told that if anyone starts changing the Gospel being preached, then what they are preaching is no longer the Gospel, and that person is accursed, or, in other words, a child of hell. (cf. Galatians 1:6-9)

Far too many feel comfortable moving beyond what God has proscribed, assuming that their own additions, adjustments and ideas will still be pleasing to God. But if our worship, our faith and our behaviors are in accordance with our own desires, rather than the desires of God, we are not on the path to the Father, but are instead following in the footsteps of the devil. And when we convert people to such a path, we are not making them children of God, we are making them children of hell.

All of this should give each of us pause, and motivate us to serious self reflection. There are many denominations, and many contradictory things being taught as doctrine in this world. But not all religion is good. Any religion which points away from Christ is naturally problematic and evil. But even if a religion claims Christ and the Bible, if it is a form religion that is willing to change God’s word, it is not a saving religion. A religion that adds to what God has taught men, inserting human wisdom into the divine text, is one that is following in the footsteps of the Pharisees, and Jesus warned us where their path was taking them. It’s a path we don’t want to be on.

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