

If You Have Your Bibles
and I DO!

Scripture Text:

Colossians 1:18

Please stand for the reading of God's
Word!



Colossians 1:18, Colossians 1:24

18 He is the Head of the body made up of his people—that is, his Church—which he began; and he is the Leader of all those who arise from the dead, so that he is first in everything;



Today's Message

The Church:
What Is It All
About?



The Church: What Is It All About?

- Biblical meaning of the word “church.”
- The term ***ecclesia*** meant a group of people who are called out of the world’s system by God’s grace for the purpose of assembling to worship and serve Christ.



The Church: What Is It All About?

- God's design for this sacred gathering involves:
 - **WORSHIP**
 - INSTRUCTION
 - ENCOURAGEMENT
 - EVANGELISM
 - MINISTRY TO THOSE IN NEED, BOTH WITHIN THE FELLOWSHIP AND OUTSIDE ITS WALLS.



The Church: What Is It All About?

- The Worship of the Church of Christ
- **JESUS SAID, BUT THE HOUR COMETH, AND NOW IS, WHEN THE TRUE WORSHIPPERS SHALL WORSHIP THE FATHER IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH: FOR SUCH DOETH THE FATHER SEEK TO BE HIS WORSHIPPERS. GOD IS A SPIRIT: AND THEY THAT WORSHIP HIM MUST WORSHIP IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH JOHN 4:23-24**



The Church: What Is It All About?

- The Worship of the Church of Christ
- We must worship in spirit.
 - Our hearts must be right.
 - We must be right in life.
 - We must have the correct attitude.
 - We must be thinking of what we are doing
 - (Isaiah 1:11-20; Proverbs 28:9; Matthew 15:8).



We must be right in life

For me your answer rest with how do you present Christ to this population of youth. Can you emphatically say to them as your faith move “If I were to die tonight and stand before God, and if God were to say to me, 'Malcom why should I let you into my presence?' then you would say, 'You shouldn't let me in. I have sinned and owe you a debt that I cannot pay back.' But you wouldn't stop there. You would continue, 'Yet, because of your great promises and mercy, I depend on the blood of Jesus Christ shed as a substitute for me, paying my moral debt, satisfying your holy and righteous requirements, and removing your wrath against those sins!’”



We must be right in life

Then let them know because of what Christ did, is doing, and will do for you that daily you work on minimizing that “moral debt”. Understand though this is the dilemma of mankind, rationalizing their minimization of moral debt.

So let them in, and let everyone know you have established standards for “moral debts” in this organization. And everyone has God’s gift of prerogative choice. But also be clear with them that God does not give you the privilege of determining a different outcome to what the choice will entail. The consequences are bound to the choice.



Minimizing our Moral Debt

My initial response to the conversation of being a Christian and LGB. We don't have a heaven or hell to put anyone, couple that with we are all sinners so none of us has the right to judge anyone's sin or scale degrees of sin. However as Pastor (or ministry leader) based on my biblical interpretation and understanding I'm bound to personal behavior towards a progressive MOMD (sanctification). That lifestyle also allows me freedom to preach teach that biblical understanding and interpretation WHICH IS NOT CONDEMNATION I believe it helps in MOMD. However for the sake of transparency biblical understanding and interpretation is not STANDARD which causes the variances in MOMD.



The Church: What Is It All About?

- The Worship of the Church of Christ
- We must worship God in truth. To worship God in truth means that we will worship God according to the truth. God's Word is truth
- **John 17:17 (KJV)**
17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.



The Church: What Is It All About?

- **The Worship of the Church of Christ**
- New Testament gives the acts of worship in which Christians are to engage.
- The acts of worship mentioned in the Old Testament such as dancing, instrumental music, animal sacrifices, special singers, and the burning of incense, were commanded in the Torah.



The Church: What Is It All About?

- The Worship of the Church of Christ
- The Old Testament operates as our “kindergarten”.
- The Old Testament as a binding law for God’s people ended at the cross (Colossians 2:13-14)



The Church: What Is It All About?

- **The Worship of the Church of Christ**
- Colossians 2:13-14 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;
- 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;



The Church: What Is It All About?

- **The Worship of the Church of Christ**
- Christians must learn from the New Testament, the law of Christ for all people today, how God wants to be worshipped today.
 - **THE LORD'S SUPPER**
 - **PRAYER**
 - **PREACHING AND TEACHING GOD'S WORD**
 - **GIVING**
 - **PRAISE GOD IN SONG**



The Church: What Is It All About?

- **The Worship of the Church of Christ**
 - THE LORD'S SUPPER
 - BAPTISM
 - PRAYER
 - PREACHING AND TEACHING GOD'S WORD
 - GIVING
 - PRAISE GOD IN SONG
- **YES WE'VE PREACH ON EACH ONE!**



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