



Lemoore church of Christ

Jan. 24, 2021

Respect for God's Authority

- by Paul Smithson

The standard of what is acceptable in religion for many is whether it satisfies the individual. Many "shop" for a religion that meets their personal preferences, treating the Scriptures as a salad bar-- picking things they like and passing over others. Many declare satisfaction with the course they have chosen in religion without ever considering the question, "Is God satisfied with my religion?" The whole conclusion is not, serve God as you please, but "Fear God and keep His commandments" (Eccl. 12:13). Our purpose in daily activities and in worship should be to strive to please God. Those who truly seek to serve God will not be satisfied until they do this. We must be willing to test our practices and beliefs to see if they agree with the Scriptures. "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves" (2Cor. 13:5).

The only way to please God in all that we do is to follow His revealed will-- to simply read and study the Scriptures and follow them in all we do, not adding to them or taking away (2Jn. 9; Deut. 4:2). Those who fail to do this lack respect for the authority of God as Lord and Master. The inspired apostle declared, "And whatsoever ye do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord" (Col.3:17). To "do all in the name of the Lord" means to respect the authority of the Lord in everything. We must have God's authority for all that we do and that authority must be established from the Scriptures; for it is there that God has revealed His will for us.

So, our personal morality, conduct, religious beliefs, and things practiced in worship must be based on book, chapter, and verse. One may be satisfied with the manner in which they live and worship, while God may not be, making life and worship worthless before the Lord. As Jesus warned,

This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me. But in vain they do worship Me,

teaching for doctrines the commandments of men (Matt. 15:8,9).

Therefore, let us search the Scriptures to establish authority for all that we believe and practice showing respect God's authority.

Prayer List:

Hannah Ortiz, daughter of a friend of Garrett, home now- Dr's investigating auto immune issues
Maria Craig, Joyce Curtis' mother in isolation room with COVID 19 as well as 38 other residents of Pioneer's Home in Arizona.

Fred Herrera. Anthony Crain's Father (Llisa Butts' nephew), in hospital with Diabetes related illnesses.
David Belvin, brother-in-law of Shirley Garretson, passed away on Friday.

Danette and Mozelle Curtis, both have COVID-19
Cleta Sisk, Eula's sister, had a TIA- Was treated at hospital but is home now.

Jim Broaddus, Whitney's son, home on oxygen
Darlene Wilson is waiting for the date for her next procedure.

John Moore is now home
Sandy, friend of Cheryl Crain, recovering from surgery

Mike Souza recovering from back surgery

Eula Rhoads

Gail Davis, Jenny Davis-Fall sister-in-law – In ICU in Mississippi

Megan, Garth's Brother-in-law's niece, cancer
Kim Cargill, Stephanie Tischmacher's stepmom

Doug Standridge

Red and Marjorie Cooper Marjorie's surgery postponed

Janet Billington radiation for liver cancer

Kelly Kusserow, friend of Lisa Butts, has cancer

Gary Radcliff, Garth's father, continual chemo

Linda Frye, Cancer

Bill Fox, co-worker of Frank Baldwin,

Angie and Tito Cano- Tito had a bad week with infusions

Casey Case Jr ongoing oncology treatment

Our Mission Work:

- First Responders
- Justin and Lorie Witt
- Preachers in Nicaragua
- Agape Village
- Crossover Ministry
- City of Children
- Manuelito's Children's Home
- Church of Christ Disaster relief Fund
- World Christian Broadcasting