

EVERY GOOD GIFT

A poor man was given a loaf of bread. He thanked the baker, but the baker said, 'Don't thank me. Thank the miller who made the flour.' So he thanked the miller, but the miller said, 'Don't thank me. Thank the farmer who planted the wheat.' So he thanked the farmer. But the farmer said, 'Don't thank me. Thank the Lord. He gave the sunshine, rain, and fertility to the soil, and that's why you have bread to eat.' Regardless of how sophisticated, how advanced we may be scientifically, we still can't create, we still can't make a kernel of wheat. That has to come from God. God gives us the things we need in order to live on this planet. 'Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights ...' (James 1:17; Acts 17:24)-.-
 -quanah church of Christ, Quanah, TX

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray For: Logan's grandpa, The Larry Smith and Cooper families for their loss.
Traveling/Working: Slope workers, etc. Danesa, Hans, Brandon, and Donovan in Dillingham. The Churchill's are also still traveling. Charles and Nell left on the 7th. Later this month, Thad, Heather and family will be leaving. Tom and Debra are traveling now as well.
Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program, Sundays at 9am, on 99.7 FM.
Today's Scripture: "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some count slackness; but is longsuffering to you-ward, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." **2 Pet. 3:9 (1901 ASV)**
Today's Proverb: "My son, attend unto my wisdom; Incline thine ear to my understanding: That thou mayest preserve discretion, And that thy lips may keep knowledge." **5:1-2 (1901 ASV)**
Attendance Last Sunday: 71

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

ELDERS:
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God's Plan of Salvation

Hear Romans 10:17
 Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
 Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
 Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
 Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
 Arise & Walk in Newness of Life Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

—Romans 1:16 KJV

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:
 Bible Classes 10AM
 AM Worship 11AM
 PM Worship 6PM
Wednesday:
 Bible Classes 7PM

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:
 2061 N. Merciful Circle
 Wasilla, AK 99654
 Visit our website at:
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 (907) 373-5773

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

WALKING BY FAITH: ORIGIN OF INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC IN CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

Is it wrong to play on musical instruments? Here again we must reply, there is nothing wrong in the act itself outside of religious service. The opposition to instrumental music in the worship is misunderstood by many good people. They often say: "Instrumental music is so attractive and entertaining in its effect that we cannot see why anyone should oppose it." If this were the criterion of judgment, the opposition would cease at once. Its use in the worship of God is not opposed on the ground that there is no taste for the music itself. The bewitching strains of the organ, piano, violin, etc., are equally as pleasing and attractive to many of the opponents as they are to any who advocate its use. Why, then, oppose it? Simply because God has not appointed it in His worship, but has appointed music of another kind. God has no more plainly said, eat bread on the Lord's table than He has said use vocal music in the worship. In Eph. 5:19, Paul says: "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord"; and in Col. 3:16: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts unto God"; and Jesus and His disciples sang a hymn at the institution of the Lord's Supper, Matt. 26:30. Hence by both precept and example, vocal music is appointed in the worship of God. It is sometimes argued from Rev. 5:8, and 14:2, that there will be instrumental music in heaven; but what of it? There will be infant membership there, too; and the same passage speaks of "golden bowls of incense." If the Lord provides for infant membership and instrumental music in heaven, it will be right for them to be there; but if He excludes both from the church on earth, we should do the same. God's will should be man's guide. But it is claimed that the Lord has not forbidden instrumental music. Neither has He forbidden meat on the Lord's table, except by telling us to eat something else; and in the same way He has forbidden instrumental music by telling us to use another kind. If specifying what we are to eat on the Lord's table excludes everything else, then specifying what kind of music we are to use in worship, excludes every other kind. If not, why not? Here, then are four distinct acts — washing the hands, eating meat, dipping an infant in water, and playing on musical instruments, all of which are sinless in themselves, but wrong when done as religious acts, because there is no divine authority for it. The worship of God was not appointed as an aesthetical performance to please and gratify man's taste, but to please and honor God by loyalty to His Word. We are to walk by faith.

 M. C. Kurfees

TEACHERS! TEACHERS! TEACHERS! MY, HOW GOD LOVES THEM!

Teachers mold the hearts of little children. Whenever little children study the Bible, wonderful women and men mold their hearts and lives. Such is a work of God, to teach and train little minds the grand and glorious truths of God, to prepare them for life's great adventure. Concepts are formed and opinions strengthened for life, quite often takes place. Teachers uphold the truth of God always; at least they should. And when they do, wonderful things happen.

Darkness is banished, light is brought to bear, the great things of life are illuminated, and error is exposed. Little minds and hearts are touched for good, and lives are changed for the better. Error is put to rout and bedrock faith emerges! Teachers deal with the great issues falling every generation. If not, then the practical application of these great Truths is lacking and much is left undone.

Without direction and application, people often go away untaught and left to wonder as to what God expects of them. Teachers change our communities and lives. Their example and training often spill over from the classroom into our families, communities, and lives. God wills it so. This is an expression of our light shining and our salt influencing those about us. Some of our dearest memories are of teachers we have had in our lives. They have made a difference. They always will.

Man is a teachable, learning being. And great and good teachers influence us. One of their rewards is found in seeing the change in their students' lives, and just once in a while the student then becomes a teacher himself. What attribute and honor to those who taught them. This is a great reward.

So dear teacher, please continue to forget the thankless hours of preparation and sacrifice, the pain and anguish of teaching. Just keep on doing your wonderful thing, for GOD LOVES YOU — and SO DO WE!

-Andrew M. Connally