THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Self Discipline

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Josiah, Wayne & Cathy, Helen Spicer, Bill & Peggy,

Ralph, Danny Beebe

Traveling/Working: Slope workers

Radio Programs: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture: Proverbs 25:28 "He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls."

Wisdom for Today: Proverbs 23:7 "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he."

Evening Sermon: Eddie Maxwell

Attendance Last Sunday 75/65 Our Record: 107 For more information, visit our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

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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
Remain Faithful	Matt 24:13; Rev 2:10; James 1:12

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES

Sunday:

Bible Classes: 10AM
AM Worship: 11AM
PM Worship: 5PM

Wednesday: Bible Study: 7PM

OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Self Discipline

Cotton Candy Preaching

If I were to ask you what would be worse, to give your children cotton candy or poison, what would you say? In answer to this question most people would very quickly say that poison would be the worse thing to give our children. But consider this, what if all we gave our children to eat was cotton candy? What if cotton candy was their favorite food and that was all they wanted, and any time they received anything else they would throw a fit? Would we only give them cotton candy? Would we be loving and concerned parents if we only fed our children this cottony pile of sugar? Most assuredly not! We understand that our children could not survive only on sugar, for they would soon grow weak and sick, and would soon die. So, what is worse for us to give our children, only cotton candy or poison? The truth is that both will eventually kill our children.

Now let us make a spiritual application. Is it worse to teach in the Lord's church false doctrine or to teach simple pleasant truths from God's word? In answer to this question most people would quickly say that false doctrine would be the worst thing of all to teach. But consider this, what if we only taught concerning the loving story of Ruth, or about benevolence, or about the need for loving families, or about the need to feel good about ourselves? Now these are topics that we should be concerned about and are issues of interest, and should be taught. But, can a Christian survive spiritually solely on this kind of diet? Can a child of God mature and be grounded in the faith solely on these kinds of meals? The answer is no!

There are many preachers and teachers in the Lord's church who are not teaching error, but neither are they being distinct in their preaching and teaching. Many are given more to proclaim what the brethren want to hear than what they need to hear. Concerning the people of Isaiah's day, the Lord declared, "For it is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of Jehovah; that say to the seers,

Sermon: Paul Stone, Article: Tom Moore

See not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits" (Isa. 30:9-10). Many today are clamoring for the same things as the Israel of old – smooth things, and sweet and pleasant words. And what is even more disturbing are the preachers and teachers who are giving into their cry with sermons and lessons filled with nothing but "lovey-dovey mush."

Many preach to please men and tickle their ears with what they like to hear. Paul said, "For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? For if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ" (Gal. 1:10). Paul warned Timothy about people who have "itching ears" and warned that such people will gather around those who will scratch their ears by teaching lies (2 Tim. 4:3-4). The whole counsel of God must be preached, regardless of how it is received (Acts 20:26-27)! The truth is truth and must be preached! I didn't write the book (Bible) and have no right to "water it down" to please men.

The apostle Paul declared, "I shrank not from declaring unto you anything that was profitable, and teaching you publicly, and from house to house... Wherefore I testify unto you this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I shrank not from declaring unto you the whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:20, 26-27). If we really care for our families and brethren the actions of Paul will be true of us! Furthermore, Paul also said, "Preach the word; be urgent in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" (2 Tim. 4:2). You will notice that good gospel preaching demands positive and negative proclamation of truth. But as already mentioned, some "will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and turn aside unto fables" (2 Tim. 4:3-4). But we must not allow this attitude to influence us away from preaching the whole counsel of God.

There are too many "cotton candy preachers" in the brotherhood who are "sugar coating" the brethren into spiritual decay! Tell me, which are worse, false teachers or cotton candy preachers? The truth is they both will cause the spiritual demise of their listeners.