

IS IT A DISEASE?

THE wisdom of the world has for centuries tried its best to circumvent the wisdom of God, and for the most part has succeeded in capturing the hearts of the majority. Psychology has done nothing to help mankind understand life's problems. Built upon the tenets of humanism (shaping ones life in accordance with human, not divine values), this "science" defines all of life's problems as "disease" related. You name it, from alcoholism, to obesity, it's not your fault, you can't help it, it's a disease! After years of over indulgence, a 1035 lb. man was removed from his home by his local fire department, winched into an ambulance and taken to a hospital to begin the arduous process of losing the weight. The man told the firemen that he just could not help himself, the "disease" was killing him. Since the beginning, men have put the blame for their problems on anything but themselves (Genesis 3:12).

Webster's defines disease as an "*unhealthy condition*" and in a spiritual sense humanity does suffer from a "disease"—it's called "sin." Despite man's attempts at taking credit for developing right and wrong, the only way that we could possibly know there is a standard of good or evil is because God, who is perfect in ALL His ways, revealed it to us (Deut. 32:4; Ps. 145:17). Because God is righteous, true, just, good, and merciful, it is He alone who established how we ought to live (Prov. 16:2, 7; Jer. 17:10; Rom. 10:3; Eph. 4:21-24). Many today are caught up in the sins of homosexuality, alcohol, drugs, pornography, abuse, sexual addictions and gluttony; but unlike the world who downplays them to mere diseases that no one can prevent;

God says differently. "*Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are (these): fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousies, wraths, factions, divisions, parties, envyings, drunkenness, revellings, and such like; of which I forewarn you, even as I did forewarn you, that they who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God*" (Gal 5:19-21 ASV). Notice

that the drinking of alcohol is a "**practice**" (habit) as are fornication, lasciviousness and the like—**NOT** diseases. "*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law*" (Gal 5:22-23 ASV— emphasis mine).

Peter reminds us; "*Yea, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, in your faith supply virtue; and in (your) virtue knowledge; and in (your) knowledge selfcontrol; and in (your) self-control patience; and in (your) patience godliness; and in (your) godliness brotherly kindness; and in (your) brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, they make you to be not idle nor unfruitful unto the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ*" (2 Peter 1:5-8ASV— emphasis mine). Society has accepted the standard that what is loving and kind is to allow, to tolerate and even empower the sin of others, rather than helping them out of it. The gluttonous man did not come to weigh 1035 lbs. all by himself, his family **empowered** him by purchasing the food for him, rather than refusing and getting him immediate help. Alcoholics, drug and pornography addicts are also empowered by friends, and family, because they are afraid to endanger their relationship and therefore overlook or ignore the sin.

Unlike what most people think, silence is not golden. Both we and the sinner will answer for our deeds in that final day. For God has warned; "*When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man, thou shalt surely die, and thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way; that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at thy hand. Nevertheless, if thou warn the wicked of his way to turn from it, and he turn not from his way; he shall die in his iniquity, but thou hast delivered thy soul*" (Ezek 33:8-9 ASV). The world would have us believe that like recovering from heart surgery, we can also "recover" from alcoholism, homosexuality, etc., because it's in our genes, it is a family tradition. Recover? Yes. Not because it is a disease, but because one is seeking God's will for their lives and turning away from a sinful lifestyle.

It may not be popular to call homosexuality, sexual addiction, shacking up, alcoholism, gluttony, and a multitude of other issues "**SINFUL ACTS,**" but that is exactly what they are. Is it a disease? No, they are **choices** made by individuals who seek the wisdom of the world, rather than the wisdom of God. Sin can be wiped out by an open and honest heart seeking the power of the gospel.

Mike Demory from Heartland Herald

A HOME WITHOUT A BIBLE?

What would your home be like without a Bible? Would it be just as it is now, or would it be very different?

What is a home without a Bible?

'Tis a home where day is night, Starless night, for o'er life's path, heaven can shed no kindly light.

What is a home without a Bible?

'Tis a home where daily bread for the body is provided, but the soul is never fed.

What is a home without a Bible?

'Tis a family out at sea, Compass lost and rudder broken, drifting, drifting, thoughtlessly.

from House to House – Heart to Heart

"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Blessed art thou, O LORD: teach me thy statutes."

Psalms 119:9-12

BIRTHDAYS

Susan Cotterill, 01-17; Louise Dodson, 01-23;
Jillian Marcum, 01-23.

ILL

Sunday: Millie Robertson (PM); Steven and Debbie Schleif; Clara Scott (PM); Tom Tucker.

Wednesday: Janice Carter; Millie Robertson; Steven and Debbie Schleif; Clara Scott; Tom Tucker.

Those battling cancer: Ledgia Campbell, David Cole, Shauna Heck, Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers.

HOME BOUND

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace Nursing Home in Olathe. Barbara James' Aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at Sharon Lane in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

Debra Gragg is on vacation in Arizona and New Mexico for a couple of weeks. The Nemechek's are visiting relatives in Abilene, KS this weekend. Mrs. Leah Thrasher is visiting relatives in Owensville, MO this weekend. Chris Edwards was away on business last week. George Thomas was in Iowa on business on Wednesday.

BAPTISM

Jillian Marcum was baptized into Christ on November 15, 2009 at our AM service. We are thankful for her decision to obey the Gospel and pray for her a long and useful life of service in the Lord's church. We are sorry that this was not published in our bulletin sooner.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 38; Sunday PM, 33; Wednesday PM, 23.

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."
Ephesians 4:32

Those To Serve

January 17, 2010

BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Schleif

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS..... George Thomas
SONG LEADER..... Stanley Anderson
OPENING PRAYER Jared Nelson
PRESIDE..... Jeff Nemechek
ASSIST..... John Cody Carter
ASSIST..... Steven Schleif
CLOSING PRAYER..... Joel Nelson

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER John Dodson
CLOSING PRAYER..... Chris Edwards
LORD'S SUPPER..... Jeff Nemechek

WEDNESDAY 20th

SONG LEADER..... George Thomas
INVITATION Jeff Nemechek

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher

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