

A CHRISTIAN WILL...

The word “Christian” is used like many other words are used today – loosely. One may claim to be a Christian when in reality he is far from being a faithful child of God. A Christian is a follower of Christ. One does not **follow** the Lord who will not obey the gospel plan of salvation. One does not **follow** the Lord who will not worship according to His will. One does not **follow** the Lord who will not “*walk in the light, as he is in the light*” (1 John 1:7).

A Christian will love God! Jesus said, “...*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind*” (Matt. 22:37). A proper love for God will not leave room for a love of things that are contrary to His will. John warns, “*Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the vain glory of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world*” (1 John 2:15-16).

We live **in** the world but are not to be **of** the world. This means Christians must make proper choices if they are to be pleasing unto God. One may convince himself that he can serve both God and worldly riches, but Christ says such is not possible (Matt. 6:24). It is either one or the other!

A Christian will respect the word of God! So many today who claim to love God have utter contempt and disdain for His word. Jesus said, “*If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments*” (John 14:15). John taught the brethren, “*Hereby we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and do his commandments. For*

this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous” (1 John 5:2-3).

The word of God commands the Christian to “*have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather even reprove them*” (Eph. 5:11). A faithful child of God will not support or encourage false teaching. This is a serious matter within the Lord’s church today. Some **claim** to disagree with the liberal path the preacher and elders are following, but they assemble each week to listen to unsound teaching, and they support such by their weekly contribution.

If the word of God is respected, one will not contribute in any way toward false teaching. A Christian will have the attitude of the Psalmist who said, “*...I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way*” (Psa. 119:128). Many brethren today need to carefully study the meaning of the word “fellowship!”

A Christian will cherish the church of Christ! The cost of the Lord’s church is a constant reminder of the precious nature of this spiritual institution. Paul charged the Ephesian elders, saying, “*Take heed unto yourselves, and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit hath made you bishops, to feed the church of the Lord which he purchased with his own blood*” (Acts 20:28). The Lord’s church is to be held in high esteem. Paul again teaches, “*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself up for it; that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, that he might present the church to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish*” (Eph. 5:25-27).

The “give me Christ but not the church” mentality that was espoused years ago is still alive and well. Many profess their love for the Lord while admitting their disgust for the one true church. One who does not love Christ’s church **cannot** love the Christ.

A Christian will be steadfast and unmoveable! The apostle Paul warns Christians to no longer be like children, “*tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, in craftiness, after the wiles of error*” (Eph. 4:14). To the Corinthian brethren he said, “*be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord*” (1 Cor. 15:58).

A Christian has made the decision to follow Christ and do His will. One is neither steadfast nor unmoveable who compromises Christian principles with the world or manmade denominations. Jesus, knowing man, warns, “*No man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God*” (Luke 9:62).

Brethren, **all** denominational churches are in **opposition** to the Lord and His church! Jesus warns, “*Every plant which my heavenly Father planted not, shall be rooted up*” (Matt. 15:13). A faithful child of God will not **fellowship** those following man-made creeds. This means one will not “share in company with, co-participate in” [*Strong’s*] that which denominations may be doing. Christians must do nothing to aid, encourage, or assist denominationalism. A Christian **will** be loyal to Christ and His church!

Marvin L. Weir from Bonham Street Beacon

ILL

Sunday: Melissa Cole; Millie Robertson (PM).

Wednesday: Melissa Cole.

Wilba Hopkins was admitted to Olathe Medical Center on Wednesday last week. After several tests and treatment she was released on Thursday. Millie Robertson is scheduled for outpatient tests this week. Clara Scott is scheduled for knee surgery on February 4th. Tom Tucker continues his eye treatment.

Those battling cancer: Ledgia Campbell, 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. Marion Stone is at home. Barbara James' aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at the Sweet Life of Rosehill in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

The Brown's were in Texas last weekend visiting relatives. John and Louise Dodson were in Arkansas last weekend visiting relatives.

POT LUCK DINNER

Our monthly Pot Luck Dinner will be held next Sunday, February 1, following our AM worship. Plan to stay and enjoy the good food and company of the saints!

MISSION WORK

Brother Eugene Jenkins is laboring in Jamaica and is scheduled to return on Tuesday, January 27. Brother John Shafer arrived safely in India on January 22. He reports that they have had five baptisms in two meetings so far. Please remember these brethren in your prayers for their labors and safe travel.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 48; Sunday PM, 32; Wednesday PM, NA.

Those To Serve

January 25, 2009

BUILDING AND COMMUNION..... Parish

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Joel Nelson
SONG LEADER..... George Thomas
OPENING PRAYER John Cody Carter
PRESIDE..... Trent Thrasher
ASSIST..... John Dodson
ASSIST..... Dave Parish
CLOSING PRAYER..... Chris Edwards

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER Steve Brown
CLOSING PRAYER..... Jared Nelson
LORD'S SUPPER..... Trent Thrasher

WEDNESDAY 28th

SONG LEADER..... Ted Thrasher
INVITATION George Thomas

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

Phone: (913) 764-2325

E-mail: olathecofc@sbcglobal.net

CHURCH OF CHRIST

515 WEST PARK

P.O. BOX 482

OLATHE, KANSAS 66051

www.kc-cofc.org/olathe.htm

www.oabs.org/olathe.asp