

## WHO IS ON THE LORD'S SIDE?

Last Lord's Day morning I preached a sermon by the above title. It is a challenging and soul-searching question that every person needs to seriously consider. There is coming a day of reckoning—a day of judgment—when **every** knee will bow and every tongue will confess *“that Jesus is Lord, to the glory of the Father”* {Phil. 2:10-11). We are commanded to love God with **all** our heart, soul, and mind (Matt. 22:37). We are required to *“seek...first his kingdom, and his righteousness...”* (Matt. 6:33). We must possess the attitude of the Savior and always worship and serve **only** the true and living God (Matt. 4:10; John 4:24). One is not able to divide his loyalties between *“two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other...”* (Matt. 6:24).

It is, therefore, of utmost importance as to who is on the Lord's side. You will remember that when Moses did not return from the mount when the people thought he should (cf. Isa. 55:8-9), they asked Aaron to **make** them gods to go before them (Exo. 32:1). Aaron complied with the people's request (Exo. 32:2-6) and then, in attempting to defend his willful sin, seeks to place the blame on the **people** and the **fire** (Exo. 32:22-23, 24). A tremendous lesson that all need to learn is that each person is responsible for his own deeds (2 Cor. 5:10). No one inherits the sins of someone else, but the soul that chooses to sin will die unless he repents (turns from) that sin (Ezek. 18:20; Luke 13:3).

We live in a society today where the majority of folks refuse to accept the responsibility for their actions. Most people want to pin the blame for their sins on someone else. So many always see their sins and shortcomings as the fault of something else or someone else. Some are convinced the government owes them a

living and thus blame the government for all their troubles. Children blame their parents, parents blame their children, a wife blames her husband, and a husband blames his wife. Juries play the game by blaming the gun instead of the one who commits the murder. The cry is then heard by those who refuse to think or reason either logically or correctly, “Ban firearms; outlaw guns.” Do these same people take the position that it is not the fault of the arsonist but the fault of the match? Is gasoline at fault that arsonists use? Do we hear demands that we ban matches and gasoline? Surely one can see the truth that those guilty of sin cannot successfully pin the blame for their wickedness on something or someone else. One can overcome his environment, but one's environment cannot overcome a person who is determined to make right choices!

**Some today claim to be on the Lord's side without having any knowledge of what the Bible teaches.** How can one claim to be a follower of the Lord and not know the Lord's teachings? Time and time again, when trying to teach others a doctrinal truth, they say, “I did not know that was in the Bible.” One must *“give diligence (study, KJV) to present [himself] approved of God...”* (2 Tim. 2:15). How can one be on the Lord's side and not even know what the Bible says about a religious or spiritual matter?

**How can one be on the Lord's side without doing what the Lord said to do to be saved?** Most people today believe they are saved because they claim they have had some “religious experience.” Have you tried searching the Scriptures to see if they say that having a “religious experience” is the way that one puts on Christ (cf. Gal. 3:27)? Does salvation come by a “religious experience” or is it true that *“he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved...”* (Mark 16:16)? Does “belief only” or “faith only” justify one who so believes, even

though James writes *“that by works a man is justified, and not only by faith”* (James 2:24)? Can one believe on Christ but refuse to confess Him because he thinks more of man's teaching than he does of God's teaching (John 12:42-43)? One is not on the Lord's side who claims to have faith but steadfastly refuses to do what the Lord says one must do (James 1:22).

One can be on the Lord's side only if he submits to and obeys the Lord's will. After the golden calf incident, Moses said, *“Whoso is on Jehovah's side, let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him”* (Exo. 32:26). It does no good to claim to be on the Lord's side and then refuse to answer His call. The Lord calls all today through the gospel (2 Thess. 2:14). There is only one gospel; all other so-called gospels are perversions (Gal. 1:6-7). There is only *“one body”* (Eph. 4:4), and the Holy Scriptures declare that *“the church”* is *“his body”* {Eph. 1:22-23). How can one claim to be on the Lord's side while being a member of a manmade church that the Savior did not build—and thus is not His body (Matt. 16:18)?

One is not on the Lord's side who calls Him *“Lord”* and then refuses to do what He says to do (Luke 6:46). If one is not for Christ, he is against Him (Matt. 12:30). Are you on the Lord's side? Are you sure?

**Marvin Weir** *from Spiritual Perspectives*

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***“Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”***  
**Matthew 7:21**

## BIRTHDAY

Ted Thrasher, 11-30.

## ILL

**Sunday:** Leah Thrasher; Millie Robertson (PM).

Allen Scott is recovering at home. Bob Adams is having some difficulties and his outpatient procedure has been rescheduled for when he is better.

**Those battling cancer:** Jamal Abyad, David Cole, Ledgia Campbell and Betty James. Please remember these in your prayers, as well as: Millie Robertson, Allen Scott, and Ralph and Helen Franklin.

## HOME BOUND

Bob Adams resides at Room D-4 of the Johnson County Nursing Center in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

## OUT OF TOWN

The Parish's were away last week. Chris Edwards was in Liberal, KS visiting relatives. The Stillwell's were visiting relatives in Arkansas. The Thrasher's are visiting relatives in Oklahoma and Missouri.

## GUEST SPEAKER

Please welcome brother Robert Lukenbill of the 39th Street congregation as our guest speaker this Sunday.

## POT LUCK DINNER

Our monthly Pot Luck Dinner will be held next Sunday, December 2 following our AM worship. All are invited to come and enjoy the good food and company.

## GOSPEL MEETING

Chuck Northrop will conduct a Gospel Meeting at the Chipman Road congregation in Lee's Summit, MO on December 2-5. See the flyer in the foyer for details.

## ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 50; Sunday PM, 36; Wednesday PM, NA.

## Those To Serve

November 25, 2007

**BUILDING AND COMMUNION..... Thrasher**

### MORNING WORSHIP

**ANNOUNCEMENTS..... George Thomas**  
**SONG LEADER..... Steve Brown**  
**OPENING PRAYER ..... Jeff Nemechek**  
**PRESIDE..... John Cody Carter**  
**ASSIST..... Joel Nelson**  
**ASSIST..... David Parish**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... John Dodson**

### EVENING WORSHIP

**OPENING PRAYER ..... Chris Edwards**  
**CLOSING PRAYER..... Trent Thrasher**  
**LORD'S SUPPER..... John Cody Carter**

### WEDNESDAY 28th

**SONG LEADER..... John Cody Carter**  
**INVITATION ..... Steve Brown**

## 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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