

The Word



The right way is God's way

By

Lancelot Watson

"...and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished. ...Which have forsaken the right way and are gone astray..." (2 Pet. 2:9-15).

God declared, "for all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). This declaration points to our rebellion against God which led us to "forsake the right way." Yes, contrary to popular thought there is a right way for everything.

The way of God is the right way and the way of man is the wrong way. "...let God be true, but every man a liar..." (Rom. 3:4). Jesus describes the right way as the "straight and the narrow." "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life and only a few find it." (Matt. 7:13-14).

Many of us continue to forsake the right way of God. The unfortunate thing is that having forsaken the right way, we expect God to accept our own way. This will not work, God has stated his position, they will be "punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power" (2 Thess. 1:9).

Numerous are the examples of persons who were punished by God because they forsook the right way. Adam and Eve were punished because they disobeyed the voice of God (Gen. 3:16-19). Nadab and Abihu were punished because in their worship to God, they "offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, contrary to his command." (Lev. 10:1-2).

It is important that we learn that the right way is the only way acceptable to God and the only way by which we can find favor with God.

There is a Right way to be saved. A person is not saved until God through Christ pronounces such a person saved. Jesus has clearly told us who such persons will be. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (Mk. 16:15-16). "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins" (Acts 2:38). That is the right way of God. Repentance, belief and repeating the sinner's prayer is the way of man. That is the wrong way. That is not the right way!

There is a right way to worship God. This is the way commanded by God. Jesus said it must be "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). Consequently, the New Testament Church "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." (Acts 2:42) True worship is not to make the worshipper "feel good." The purpose of worship is "to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ" (I Pet. 2:5). There is no place in God's worship for the innovations of men, those make our worship vain, "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men." (Matt. 15:8-9). The worship authorized by God has simple elements that no mortal has the right to change by either adding extra items or subtracting from them. These are, praying, singing, preaching, communion and giving. These are the elements of worship in your new Testament and which the Church of Christ through the centuries have practiced. Subtracting or adding to them is the way of man, that is the wrong way, it is not the right way!

There is a right way to die. It is folly to think that we can live a non-Christian life and reap the Christian's reward. The Lord says, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." (Rev. 14:13). To die in the Lord, we must first be living in the Lord. Life in the Lord begins with baptism into Christ, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:26). This is followed by faithfulness to Christ throughout our lives, (Rev. 2:10).

Let us seek out the right way and live by it. The right way is God's way and that is the only way that is right!

CHELMSFORD LIFE LINES

DECEMBER 23, 2012

Come, let us sing for joy to the lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. Psalm 95:1-2

December 23, 2012

Greeters Loiselle Family
Song Leader Chengsheng Luo
Welcome Rich Cascio
1st Prayer Earl Mosier
1018 Joy to the World

1st Reading Luke 1:26 - 38
2nd Reading Luke 1:39-56
1003 Silent Night! Holy Night!

3rd Reading Micah 5:2 Luke 2:2-35
1001 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

2nd Prayer Bob Smith (Wisdom,
Knowledge, Thanksgiving)
23 Our God is Alive

4th Reading Gen 1:26; John 1:1-5;
Rev 1:8

5th Reading Matt 8:1-13; Matt 9:1-7
162 All Hail the Power of Jesus Name

6th Reading John 1:43-50; Zech 9:9;
Matt 21:4-9

Communion Isa 53 Luke 23:32-43
Contribution

7th Reading Luke 24:1-12
202 Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee
Prayer

Announcements

Prayer Requests

Pray for Rich Cascio who is in a lot of pain.
 Pray for Roseann has laryngitis and a bad cough that it eases.
 Pray for comfort for the families affected by the tragedy in Newtown, CT.
 Pray for Janice Dumont that she has strength in the situation with her mother and for her mom for peace and comfort as she continues with tests to determine the spread of the cancer.
 Pray for Delia who had another fall and is bruised.
 Pray for all those traveling during the holiday season. May the times with family and friends reenergize us in our walk with the Lord.
 Pray for Maria who has pain in her head, shoulders and back.
 Pray for Stu Sheets who is suffering pain in his back.
 Pray for Rene's friend Kaddy who is having surgery due to complications from Marfan Syndrome. This will be her 2nd year in the hospital at Christmas
 Prayers for Jackie Christle (former Member) who had a major heart attack and is in need of a transplant.
 Pray for all the students as they complete school work before the Christmas break. Pray for the teachers as they work to finish up the semester Pray all those dealing with the violence in society.
 Thanksgiving for Stephanie's friends baby Brittany who though premature is healthy.

A Reason To Celebrate!
 Jesus-
 What a wonderful name...
 What a perfect Saviour...
 What a reason to celebrate!
 She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus because He will save His people from their sins. Matthew 1
 re: Dayspring cards

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 Elders: R. Cascio, C. Dismuke

Worship Opportunities

Sunday
 Fellowship 9:00 am
 Worship 9:30 am
 Bible Classes 11:00 am
Mid-Week
 Wednesday 7:00 pm

Our mid-week service offers a prayer devotional and classes. Please join us for that midweek lift.

Calendar of Events

Potluck Meal and Fellowship—1st Sunday
Monthly Ladies Gathering—January
Men's Breakfast—Last Sat of the month

Outreach Building Use:
 AA Young Adults - Mon. 7:00pm

	12/16/12	12/9/12	12/2/12
Fellowship			
Worship	41	40	37
Contribution		5430.35	1952.90
Mid Week Devotion	13	15	11

Announcements

There will be our monthly Men's Breakfast December 29th.

Ladies, we will resume our monthly gathering in January. Please mark your calendar for Saturday, January 12th. Plans are in the works.

December 30, 2012

Greeters Jones Family
 Song Leader John Wolfert
 Welcome
 Prayer Phil Dumont
 Scripture John Ferullo
 Earl Mosier
 Communion Kent White
 Contribution Bill McIninch
 Servers Stu Sheets
 Leshe Abety
 Lesson Lancelot Watson
 Prayer Rich Cascio
 Announcements
 Shepherd's Blessing