

THE FLORAL HEIGHTS INFORMER

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Floral Heights
Church of Christ
1814 Buchanan
Wichita Falls, Texas
76309
(940) 322 - 1650

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Our Elders:

Mike Chancellor
(322 – 6374)

Tom Witherspoon
(923-6479)

Deacons:

Joe Cronin

Jim Hall

David Witherspoon

Preacher:

John C. Robertson

Profane Babblings

2 Timothy 2:16-18

The Apostle Paul writes, "*But shun profane babblings: for they will proceed further in ungodliness, and their word will eat as doth a gangrene: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; men who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already, and overthrow the faith of some*" (2 Timothy 2:16-18). The word "*profane babblings*" (*kenopsonias*) is found at 1 Timothy 6:20 in the context of erring doctrines being taught. The word is defined as "empty babbling, vain disputation, fruitless discussion" (Moulton's Greek English Lexicon pp. 228). Paul gives an example of fruitless and vain disputation that Hymenaeus and Philetus were teaching; i.e., that the "resurrection had already passed." To say that the resurrection had already passed was to take man's hope away from him (as though he missed out on God's promises). Such a teaching is certainly "*Profane babblings.*"

Additionally, Paul identifies man's profane babblings as *error.*" When men teach fruitless error it has the tendency to "*eat as doth a gangrene.*" The "*gangrene*" (*gaggraina*) = "a Greek medical term used since the time of Hippocrates for a spreading ulcer. Paul compares the corrupting influence of profane talk to this disease" (ISBE v. 2, pp. 399). The leavening effects of error was a concern of Paul's when dealing with the Corinthians too (see I Cor. 5:6). When error spreads it has the ability to "*overthrow the faith of some.*" False teaching is profane, erroneous, and likened unto a spreading disease within humanity. Babbling words that distract or deviates one from the eternal goal of heaven ought to not only be identified but shun.

Local News:

Welcome to all our visitors:

We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please do come back at your every opportunity!

Announcements:

Our **new directories** are now available. Be sure to pick one up on your way in or out today!

Robert Noris was taken to the emergency room this past Thursday with flu like symptoms. Robert was very sick but seems to be doing better now.

Nicolas Long injured his right index finger using a table saw this past Thursday evening. He is ok but in much pain.

Joe Smarr's brother Jason has recently broken his collar bone in a motorcycle accident. The Smarrs have been out of town with Joe's brother.

Erin Mixon fell and broke her ankle last week. Please keep her in your prayers too as she recovers.

Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Calvin York
692-0489 (Home)

Ila Belle Windham
(at home but request no calls at this time).

The Firm Foundation of God Stands

2 Timothy 2:19

After the apostle Paul exposed the erroneous teaching of Hymenaeus and Philetus, two men who taught that the resurrection had already passed, he makes a statement about truth. Paul writes, "*Howbeit the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, the Lord knows them that are his: and, let every one that names the name of the Lord depart from unrighteousness*" (2 Timothy 2:19).

We live in a world of much religious confusion. It is estimated that there are over ten thousand different religions in the world and within Christianity alone there are approximately thirty thousand different faiths. The Lord has divinely revealed one truth (Eph. 4:1ff). Those who practice religious beliefs outside the one faith have greatly erred. This short article is not designed to expose the erring doctrines of our day but rather to comfort all Christians who have made the observation of their seemingly minority approach to serving the Lord.

No greater words of comfort could have been spoken by the apostle of Jesus Christ then to say, "*Howbeit the firm foundation of God stands.*" It matters not that man tries to teach something that opposes truth because God's promises will always remain (2 Timothy 2:13). It matters not if one attempts to hide, suppress, or limit truth because God's word cannot be bound (2 Timothy 2:9). Try as men may they will not change the truth and neither will they effect the promises of God to those who remain faithful all the days of their lives.

John C. Robertson

FELLOWSHIP

The Basics of God's Word

Introduction:

When one obeys the gospel of Jesus Christ they are cleansed of sins and put into the fellowship of saints (Acts 2:38ff). An individual's state of justification brings them into a spiritual fellowship with others who have done the same thing (Rom. 5:1ff). Sometimes this group of fellow justified people are termed saints (1 Cor. 1:1ff) and other times they are identified as the church of Christ (Rom. 16:16), Christians (Acts 11:26), or the brotherhood (1 Peter 2:17). These terms illustrate a special fellowship that exist and that was predicated upon individual's actions in relationship to the gospel message. This lesson shall examine the fellowship of Christians

I. The Association of Like Minded Saints

A. The word "fellowship" is most often used in our New Testament Bibles to illustrate things fellow Christians share:

1. Salvation (Rom. 11:17; I Cor. 1:9; Phil. 1:7)
2. Unity in truth (Acts 2:42; I Cor. 10:16; Gal. 2:9)
3. Suffering of Jesus (Phil. 3:10; I Pet. 4:13; II Tim. 3:12)

B. Another important aspect of fellowship is the **association** that is formed when one obeys the gospel:

1. People are "called" into this fellowship (1 Corinthians 1:9) by the gospel message (2 Thessalonians 2:13-14).
2. The Christian's fellowship with other Christians is not based in our common interest in hobbies, sports, or music. Our fellowship is identified not only through a common obedience to the gospel message but through a life of faith (1 John 1:3-7).

II. What Distinguishes those in fellowship with God and those out of fellowship with God?

A. The saints "walk worthy of the calling..." (Eph. 4:1ff).

B. The saints "show forth" this calling in their lives (I Pet. 2:9)

C. The saints are "sons of light" rather than "sons of disobedience" (Eph. 5:6-7).

D. The saints endeavor to be holy (I Pet. 1:16) and when they fail they pick themselves up and keep trying (Phil. 3:13ff).

E. Many claim fellowship with God; however, their deeds reveal otherwise (2 Tim. 3:1-5).

III. Does Bible Fellowship exist between Denominational bodies and the One true Church?

A. People have tried their hand at unity and fellowship while having a diversity of beliefs for a long time (see Ezek. 44:4-9).

B. The Bible rejects the idea of unity in diversity of beliefs (Jn. 17:14-20; 2 Jn. 9-11).

Conclusion:

When one becomes a Christian he or she is a new creature in Christ Jesus (2 Cor. 5:17). This new state of being is identified as being justified from sins. When many justified men and women are together they make up the church, saints, Christians, or brotherhood. The only ones considered a part of this association are those who have obeyed the gospel and are currently in good faithful standing with the Lord (1 John 1:3ff). These are the ONLY ones with a true hope of heaven.