

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1330

August 2, 2020

Ezra 6:21-22, “²¹And the children of Israel, which were come again out of captivity, and all such as had separated themselves unto them from the filthiness of the heathen of the land, to seek the LORD God of Israel, did eat. ²²And kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days with joy: for the LORD had made them joyful, and turned the heart of the king of Assyria unto them, to strengthen their hands in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel.”

At the return from captivity, those who separated themselves from the filthiness of the heathen of the land, and sought the LORD, did eat the feast of unleavened bread. Those who partook of this feast had to be spiritually unclean and keep themselves from things that made them unclean. They had to separate themselves from anything or anyone that made them unclean. If they did not do this they were unable to commune with the LORD and partake of the feast.

Likewise, we have to separate ourselves from the uncleanness of the land if we want to be close to the LORD. Paul wrote in II Corinthians 6:17, “*Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean [thing]; and I will receive you.*”

We have to separate ourselves from the world and the things that are therein. Though there has always been much sin in the world, it seems to be even closer to us today with mass media and the Internet. Consider some of the ways that we need to possibly separate ourselves from the world. These are not sinful in and of themselves, but what they bring can keep us from the LORD.

1. **Media.** There are many more ways to consume media today than just a few short years ago. It used to be that you had to purchase music on a physical medium or go see a movie. Now, you can easily listen to any song or see any movie at home or even on your cell phone. There are no gatekeepers to tell you not to watch something. Anyone who is old enough to operate a cellphone or computer has free and open access to anything available.

Consider what we watch and listen to. Is it wholesome and good or is it as Ezra wrote, “filthiness?” We need to make sure that which we do consume is wholesome and good and will not keep us from the LORD.

2. **Recreation.** What do we enjoy doing for recreation? Is it something wholesome and good. Even if it is, too much time spent on anything can keep us from our service to the LORD. Any recreation would be wrong if it keeps us from attending services and doing the LORD’s work.

3. **School and Career.** School is required in our society, and certainly an education is a very good thing to have. As we advance in education, and if we choose to attend college, we need to be careful what field we choose to go into. So many of the sciences overtly teach things that directly go against the Bible. Though we might feel we can resist such, with time they will wear away at a person, and it’s easy to be caught up in the false things they accept as truth.

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM



—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher, Jean Coffey, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Shirley Edwards, Clay Bozarth, Vicki McDaniel, Joanna Locke, Louise Greer, Archie & Judy Manning.**

—Due to increased Covid-19 concerns, we are only having one service at the building for the time being. Our 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday is at the building. The Sunday and Wednesday evening services will be at 6:00 p.m. on YouTube.

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Carefully choose a field of study where you will not be pulled away from the truth. Many disciplines will not even take you serious if you believe in God and the Biblical teachings on creation. A Christian can certainly be a scientist, and a very good one, but you need to carefully choose where you study and who you are surrounded by. Choose a field of study and career that will lead you closer to the LORD and further from the ways of the world.

4. Friends and associates. Who are our closest friends? Who do we spend the most time with? We certainly will be influenced by the people we spend the most time with. Paul warned in I Corinthians 15:33, *“Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.”* The American Standard Version translates the same verse as, *“Be not deceived. Evil companionships corrupt good morals.”* We are definitely influenced by our friends. Choose as many Christian friends as you can. Being around them will strengthen you as well as them.

Only those who had separated themselves from the filthiness of the heathen of those lands could partake of this feast. Likewise we too must separate ourselves from the filthiness of the world. It’s the only way we can be close to the LORD.

—Marty Edwards❖

Sunday, July 26, 2020		
Classes	7	I John 2:23-29
Preaching	9	
Contribution	\$721.00	
Evening	--	Mark 1:22-45
Wednesday, July 29, 2020		
Classes	--	Isaiah 39:1-8

Bible Quiz

They brought unto Jesus
all that were diseased at what time of day?

Last Week’s Answer— The sun (Isaiah 38:8)

Revelation 18:4, *“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.”*

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)