

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1278

August 4, 2019

John 4:23, “*But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.*”

It’s not uncommon to see a “Help wanted” sign posted in front of a building. Sometimes the sign is more specific. You might see at a restaurant, “cook wanted.” At a garage you might see, “mechanic wanted.” Sometimes the signs are very specific. The sign might even say something like, “high school or greater education required.” There is no need to even apply if you do not have the abilities or qualifications the business is looking for.

In the same way the LORD is seeking those to worship Him. He is actively looking for worshipers. Most of us answered that call long ago, but are we qualified? We are told in John 4:24, “*God [is] a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship [him] in spirit and in truth.*” To be able to answer the call of the LORD seeking those to worship Him, we must do so in spirit and in truth.

To worship in spirit is to worship with the right heart and attitude. It does no good to come and worship and just going through the

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Sunday 9 AM & 6 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

motions of worship when you don’t really want to be at worship. Perhaps our minds are far from the worship service. Maybe we are checking our cell phones or mentally making plans for later.

We need to have the attitude of David in Psalm 122:1, “*I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.*” Are we truly glad when time for worship comes around? Or is it a drudgery for us? The more we attend and the more we focus on what is being done, the more our heart and spirit grows toward love for the worship services.

Perhaps we need a new heart and spirit. The LORD said in Ezekiel 36:26, “*A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.*” If we are unable to worship in spirit, it is the LORD only who can give us a new heart and a new spirit. This is obtained by prayer, study, and regular worship. It might not happen overnight, but if we do these things, we will receive a new heart and new spirit. Then we can worship the LORD in spirit.

The ones the LORD seeks to worship Him must also worship in truth. It does no good to worship the LORD with the right spirit if we are not worshipping the way the LORD has told us. Matthew 15:9 and Mark 7:7 have almost identical words, “*Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching [for] doctrines the commandments of men.*”

So many worship regularly, love worshipping and make it such part of their lives. But their worship is in vain because they are worshipping according to the doctrines of men. This worship means nothing. To worship in truth we need to worship the way that is laid out in the Bible.

As we study the Bible, we learn that Old Testament worship is not for today. Referring to the Old Testament, Paul wrote in Colossians 2:14, “*Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was*”
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News

—Continue to remember **Alice Thrasher**, **Steve Seaton**, **Shirley Parson**, **Brad Terry**, and **Denise Miller** (the sister of Sharon Franklin). **Enola Zigler**, the aunt of Mike Burd, is recovering from a second surgery for a broken hip. She is doing quite well.

Ruby Edwards has asked us to keep in prayer **Carlee Hicks**, the 12-year-old daughter of the minister and his wife in Berryville, Arkansas. She has been passing out and they have not determined the cause.

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against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross.” We must worship according to the teachings and pattern within the New Testament. This is the only way we can worship in truth.

The LORD has always required the right spirit and truth in worship. Under the old law it was required. Joshua 24:14, “*Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD.*” They, like us, were required to worship with the right spirit and also in truth.

In both the Old and New Testaments where we are told to worship with sincerity or in spirit, those are listed first then truth is listed second. There is no use in worshiping in truth if we don’t have the right spirit. If we are not worshiping in spirit, we are not worshiping in truth. It takes both and they are together as one.

The LORD has a “wanted sign.” He is seeking those to worship Him. Can we answer that call? Do we have the qualifications? The LORD wants us to worship Him. The eternal rewards for so doing are beyond what we can imagine. Let’s worship in spirit and in truth and reap the everlasting rewards.

—Marty Edwards❖

Sunday, July 28, 2019		
Classes	21	James 4:11-17
Preaching	26	Exodus 3:1-4:14
Contribution	\$742.00	
Evening	15	Matthew 21:1-27
Wednesday, July 31, 2019		
Classes	23	II Chronicles 24:1-27

Visitors— Jul 31 (Wed) John Lay (Glasgow, KY); Jordan Strother (Uno, KY); Clay Glass (Hiseville, KY)

Bible Quiz

How old was Joash when he began to reign?

Last Week’s Answer— To sit on His right hand and left (Matthew 20:23)

—Ruby and I would like to thank the congregation for the generous pay increase. It’s deeply and humbly appreciated, and helps us do the work of the church here. ❖ Ruby is traveling for a few days to Arkansas to help her parents with doctor’s appointments.

—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)