

Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry

March 13, 2022

Scripture Reading: Numbers 6:24-26

United in Matters of Faith? By Duane Patton

In the easy to understand words of his book, *Common Sense Religion*, Brandon Renfroe, on page 16, wrote, “[T]hose brave enough to argue for objective truth are often rewarded with caustic barbs for their efforts by those who view themselves as a cut above, intellectually speaking.” The result of this kind of anti-authority thinking – the rejection of objective moral truth in matters of faith – is the heart of religious division. It is a division that has minimized the impact of the Gospel in a lost and dying world of sin (cf., **John 8:32; 18:38; Galatians 4:16**). The Proverbs writer made no apology, however, writing, “buy the truth and do not sell it” (**Proverbs 23:23**).

Religiously speaking, people generally do not divide over what the Bible teaches, but over what they *think* it teaches. Not everyone who disagrees with a particular Bible teaching has a bad attitude toward truth. In many cases, there are folks who are even willing to accept God’s word on its own authority but who also lack understanding about how God authorizes a thing. This often clouds their judgment in matters of faith. For instance, even those who agree that truth can be known often disagree when facing more emotionally charged matters related to faith. Furthermore, when confronting controversial issues, they retreat into a “truth fog,” allowing for all conclusions, even opposing ones, to be acceptable. It seems that “certitude is the only notion distasteful to these individuals” (Renfroe, 16-18).

If only we could help others to better understand how to accurately determine Bible authority, much of the division and immorality that often follows it would soon begin to fade. Importantly, truth could more easily be grasped and practiced in all of life’s affairs! Over the next few weeks of articles I plan to address unity in matters of faith by providing six most common reasons why so much confusion exists. I hope that by covering this subject in such a brief, but hopefully concise way we will grow in our knowledge of God’s word as we seek to share the most valuable treasure – the good news of Jesus Christ!

“That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”
(Romans 15:6, KJV).

Seeking First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness

Services:

Sunday:

9 AM Bible Class

10AM Worship

6 PM Worship

Wednesday:

6 PM Prayer

& Bible Class

Local Works of Faith:

Sunnybrook Children’s Home

Gulf Coast Bible Camp

Local Food Pantry

Annual Youth Events

Back-Pack Buddies

The Gospel of Christ TV

(Every Sunday at 6:30 AM, Fox 25)

Foreign Missions:

Guyana

India

Guam

Subscribe to these on YouTube:

Vancleave Church of Christ Digital Ministries

The Mississippi Gospel Minute



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The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. ~ P salms 34:15

Recent Prayer Requests & Announcements

- **Steve Carter:** Now at Northshore Extended Care, Lacombe, LA for therapy to begin Monday.
- **George Mertz** (husband of co-worker of Carla Clayton) suffering with issues related to cancer of brain and lung.
- **Andrea Shofner** (niece of bro. Lou Dick) is to have a biopsy on lungs and spine. Please pray.
- **Ukraine brethren** are receiving a one-time monetary assistance from Vancleave to assist in food, fuel and other emergency supplies. As the war escalates, our prayers must rise, also!
- **Mary McDaniel** is showing good progress and she is grateful for our prayers!
- **Others:**

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- **A new member of the body of Christ has been added!** We welcome brother Anthony Masseur into our local fellowship! May God be glorified in Christ's work in him!

Please Continue to Remember These in Prayer

Harvey Goldensup	Maxine Robinson	Tonya Organ	Amy Stevens	Jack Hayes
Mason Kleist	Rita Herring	Cindy Stevens	Roy Corbin	David Hines
Mark Damron	Mike Kenney	Judy Hinton	Jerry Kennedy	Dino Vecchio
Frank Sentelle	Tommy Shirley	Paul Langham	Andrew Sawyer	
Earl and Linda Kenney				

Have requests or other announcements? Send email to vcocministry@vancleavechurch.org

Rightly Dividing the Word

A weekly synopsis of every book of the Bible with a memory verse designed to increase our faith

Joshua: Moses' successor, Joshua, leads Israel across the Jordan River into Canaan where they begin conquering its inhabitants. After depopulating the land of most of its citizens, Israel received land allotments by tribes: 9 ½ tribes west of Jordan, and 3 ½ tribes to the east. The divine record describes the fulfilment of all that God promised Israel this side of their Messianic hope in Christ (viz. 21:43-45). The first half of the book covers the 7-year conquest of the land promise God made with Abram (cf., Genesis 12:1-3). The last half deals with the partitioning of the lands to the Hebrew nation with this exhortation to Israel from Joshua "Choose you this day whom you will serve...as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD" (Joshua 24:15).

This week's memory verse:

Joshua 1:9

"Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee withersoever thou goest"



Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.