

Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry

April 10, 2022

Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14, 15

United in Matters of Faith? Part 5 By Duane Patton

So far, and in view of part of why so much confusion exists over matters of faith, we have learned that **some individuals of accountable age and mental responsibility have never once heard God’s word, some have heard only a twisted version of God’s word, some have been conditioned against God’s word, and some have turned way from God’s word, exercising their free will to do so even after having been saved by God’s grace (cf. 2 Peter 2:18-22; cf. 3:14-18).** Consider now another reason that for such lack of unity.

Some have incorrectly applied God’s word. A tremendous difference often exists between what the Bible says and what it actually means. This is not to say the Bible contradicts itself – it surely does not! An example of this is illustrated in the record of Jesus’ temptation by the diabolical one, the satan of Matthew 4 and Luke 4. The text reveals the devilish fiend of Christ repeatedly misusing Scripture in a futile attempt to prevent Jesus from beginning and, thus, completing His soul saving ministry to mankind. The arch-foe of all that is good quoted Scripture as accurately as any well-educated theologian or pulpit minister could. But, like so many others have done and still do, he also lifted texts out of their original and remote context in a vain attempt to apply it to something God did not intend. (cf. **2 Corinthians 11:12-15**). An incorrect application of the Bible will ultimately lead to more error and confusion.

Even a casual reading of Scripture reveals the problem of incorrectly applying God’s word existed since near the beginning of the human experience. According to Genesis 3, while Adam and Eve were still in their innocence, the tempter crept into the Garden and deceived our forefather and mother when they were enticed to doubt God’s word regarding the taking of “the tree knowledge of good and evil” (**3:1-7**). Theologians and Bible Scholars from time immemorial have debated over and struggled with explaining the cause and meaning behind such a satanic ploy against God’s creatures. Regardless, one point of clarity on which all should easily agree is this: incorrectly applying God’s word only serves to needlessly confuse and divide people from one another and ultimately from the life God intends for all to share with Him! No wonder Jesus said to the Jews who believed in Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed” (**John 8:31**).

Seeking First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness

| Services: | Local of Faith: | Foreign Missions: | Subscribe to these on YouTube: |
|------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| <u>Sunday:</u> | Sunnybrook Children’s Home | Guyana | <i>Vancleave Church of Christ Digital Ministries</i> |
| 9 AM Bible Class | Gulf Coast Bible Camp | India | <i>The Mississippi Gospel Minute</i> |
| 10AM Worship | Local Food Pantry | Guam | |
| 6 PM Worship | Annual Youth Events | | |
| <u>Wednesday:</u> | Back-Pack Buddies | | |
| 6 PM Prayer & Bible Class | The Gospel of Christ TV (Every Sunday at 6:30 AM, Fox 25) | | |



Local Wi-Fi Network Access: SSID: 2Wire029 Key: 3995723302

E-mail: vcocministry@vancleavechurch.org

Web Site: <https://www.vancleavechurch.org>

Recent Prayer Requests & Announcements

- **David Hart:** To have heart surgery Monday. Please lift David's needs in prayers.
 - **Gene Thompson:** Recovering at home from heart surgery. Grateful for our prayers.
 - **Steve Carter:** Now at home and to begin therapy later this week. Thank you for prayers!
 - **George Mertz:** Not doing well. Please pray for his comfort and peace.
 - **Mary McDaniel:** Greatly improved and very thankful for our prayers!
 - **The mother of Liz Madden:** Now with hospice care. Not doing well. Prayers requested.
 - **Lanette Girod:** Suffering from injured right hand. Prayers are requested.
 - **Bill Whitehouse Family:** Prayers requested for the family at the recent passing of Bill.
 - **Ukraine:** Please continue to pray for our brethren in Ukraine, and for all who suffer.
 - **Others:**
-
-
-

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

Please Continue to Remember These in Prayer

| | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Harvey Goldensup | Maxine Robinson | Tonya Organ | Roy Corbin | Dino Vecchio |
| Judy Hinton | Jerry Kennedy | George Mertz | Rita Herring | Tommy Shirley |
| Andrea Shofner | Kim Atkins | Connie Wages | Frank Sentelle | Jo Lichtenberg |
| Chris McDevitt | Paul Langham | Teddy Dearman | Earl and Linda Kenney | |
| David Hines | Nathan Smith | Greg Blanchard | Jack Hayes | |

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

Rightly Dividing the Word

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

2 Samuel: A continuation of the former book, this book describes the reign of Israel's second earthly monarch, David. It also records the moral decline of the king including the affair with Bathsheba and of David's subsequential murder of her husband, Uriah the Hittite. In essence, 2 Samuel records the rise and fall of King David. Whereas in 1 Samuel, we read of the kingdom of Israel being solidified, in 2 Samuel is a record of the kingdom being shaken.

This week's memory verse:

"So David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD'" (2 Samuel 12:13a, NKJV)



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