

Vancleave Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

Dedicated to spiritual encouragement and local Christian ministry

April 17, 2022

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:21

United in Matters of Faith? Part 6 By Duane Patton

Scripture reinforces the following truths: **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.** Take a moment a ponder the last “reason” for why so much division exists regarding matters of faith in Jesus Christ.

Some have selfishly manipulated God’s word. We are so dependent on God’s saving message to be clearly revealed to us! We must know for certain what and how Jesus cleanses and protects us from sin and its consequences (**John 8:31, 32**). Once we begin to understand the Bible alike, the man-made lines of division soon disappear – we become united in Christ (**Ephesians 2:11-22**). Sadly, some suppose that godliness is a “means of gain” so they distort the truth, leading others away with error. These false teachers cause many to follow after them to the hurt of their own souls (**1 Timothy 6:5; 2 Peter 3:16, 17**).

The foregoing reasons are but a few of the many reasons that could be cited for the existence of so much confusion over what the Bible or any portion of it means. We are encouraged by the clear and practical teaching of the late Wayne Jackson as he so clearly wrote on the matter:

Any person who has an honest heart and strong desire to understand the will of God, if he will but exercise enough discipline to study hard, applying sound principles of interpretation, can comprehend the plain and essential elements of the Scriptures.

One thing is certain and needs no interpretation: Jesus intended salvation and sanctification to include all who accept the terms of the New Covenant made known by the apostles as they were guided into all truth beginning in the first century (viz., **John 17:14-21; 16:13, 14:26**). Based on Jesus’ authority and love for us, this should be our deep desire and earnest plea to the world as we seek to carry on the Lord’s ministry until He comes (**Matthew 5:16; 28:18-20**)!

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 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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Recent Prayer Requests & Announcements

- **Gene Bedwell**, Sylvia Hall's sister-in-law, passed away last Thursday from a stroke. Remember Sylvia and family of sister Bedwell as they grieve the loss of this dear one.
 - **Cindy Stevens**: Needs further recovery time after having gall bladder surgery
 - **Joe Crawley**: She is doing some better and is thankful for our prayers.
 - **Chris McDevitt**: Successful amputation of hands. Praying for good report on her feet.
 - **Stephen Soldo**: Has a rare blood condition (ITP) where platelets are extremely low. Please pray for sister Soldo's son as he is hospitalized with this condition.
 - **Ukraine**: Please continue to pray for our brethren in Ukraine, and for all who suffer.
 - **Others**:
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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	Rita Herring	Tommy Shirley	Kim Atkins
Connie Wages	Frank Sentelle	Jo Lichtenberg	David Hart	George Mertz
Mary McDaniel	Lanette Girod	Gene Thompson	David Hines	Nathan Smith
Paul Langham	Teddy Dearman	Linda Kenney	Earl Kenney	Jack Hayes
Greg Blanchard	Andrea Shofner	Scott Kiekhafer		

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

1 Kings: Deals with three basic historical events. King David's death, the reign of his son, Solomon, and the subsequent, horrible division of the kingdom into two distinct nations. Ten northern tribes ("Israel") and two southern tribes ("Judah") are identified in the text so that the historical events covering close to the first 100 years of these two "nations" are accurately and forthrightly documented. Some great events associated with Elijah the prophet are recorded in this book, also. Whereas in 2 Samuel the kingdom is shaken, in 1 Kings, the kingdom is split.

This week's memory verse:

"And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and burned incense at the high places" (1 Kings 3:3, NKJV)



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