

The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

A Controversial Newsletter "The Printed Voice of Summit Theological Seminary"

~ All articles are written by George L. Faull, Rel. D. unless otherwise stated ~

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George L. Faull, Editor

You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

--By George L. Faull

Exodus 20:5-6, "5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me; 6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."

The family is the original building block of society; before society, before schools, before government, and even before the Church. In fact, those things are ineffective without the family.

It is my desire to preach to you about how to help your family and this sermon is a result of that desire.

It is a simple sermon that could help you and your family if you can forget me and my faults and shortcomings.

It is difficult to benefit from a preacher of whom you may not be so fond for any number of reasons. Nevertheless, I am going to be speaking the lessons from God's Word.

First of all, let's lay down some groundwork. This sermon will show:

- * Sin has consequences.
- * The wages of sin is death.

- * God visits the sins and iniquities to the third and fourth generation on those who hate Him.
- * As a mother is, so is her daughter; and like father, like son.
- * Big doors swing on little hinges! (Our decisions on little things greatly affect us.)

THE GOOD NEWS IS, THERE IS A SOLUTION TO THESE PROBLEMS AND HIS NAME IS "JESUS".

I wish for you to be happy, well-adjusted, and functional families. I want you to know, however, I could find no perfect family in the Bible. There is no ideal family so we will have to look at ideals. The easiest way is to look at bad examples.

1. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

The wife is like Eve and makes the decisions in the family.

If she forgets that she is the helpmeet, not the decision-maker.

If she forgets that God's divine order is God, Christ, man, and woman.

1 Corinthians 11:3, 9, "3 But I would have you know, that **the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God.** 9 Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man."

That she argues with her heart, (emotions) not her head (intellect).

1 Timothy 2:12-15, "12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was first formed, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. 15 Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety."

Adam was not deceived, and he was cursed for following her. **The ground was cursed, she was cursed, and death resulted. He blamed her, she blamed Satan and the serpent didn't have a leg to stand on.**

If you do not want a dysfunctional family, men, get back in the driver's seat. At least do not follow her when you know she is wrong.

2. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You are like Cain and think your way of worshipping is up to your own preferences.

Do it your way and go to your own place. God required blood... by faith, not vegetables... by the work of your own hands.

1 John 3:12, "Not as Cain, *who* was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous."

Led to death by murder...denied he was his brother's keeper.

Without God, what kind of functioning family did Cain have with his wife and family?

3. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

Your children marry the ungodly, like those in the days of Noah.

Genesis 6:4, "There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare *children* to them, the same *became* mighty men which *were* of old, men of renown."

When a child of God marries a child of Satan, there will be trouble with your father-in-law.

Pre-flood hearts only imagined evil continually and had no relationship with children or grandchildren.

4. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You're like Godly Noah and bring alcohol into you home.

Genesis 9:20-21, "20 And Noah began *to be* an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: 21 **And he drank of the wine, and was drunken**; and he was uncovered within his tent."

It divided the only family on earth. It made Canaan a servant to all his father's children. All his uncles and their children became idolaters, except Shem.

5. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You join in a One-World Government against God's command to separate so He could raise up a Heavenly Kingdom. (Tower of Babel resulted.)

Genesis 11:4-9, "4 And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top *may reach* unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth. 5 And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of men builded. 6 And the LORD said, Behold, the people *is* one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do. 7 Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech. 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city. 9 Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth."

Acts 17:26-27, "26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us."

What were these families like? Confusion...rebellious...idolatrous.

6. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You leave where God led you like He did Abraham and then you move to Egypt for fear of hunger (daily bread).

Genesis 12:10, "And there was a famine in the land: and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine *was* grievous in the land."

It created all kinds of trouble due to his lie. He denied his wife. Did he ever have her trust again?

He did it again to Abimelech. Later, his son did as he did.

Pharaoh's gifts to him.... caused marriage trouble, inheritance trouble, and trouble with Lot's herdsman.

You cannot have a "**planned mode of lying**" and be a man of integrity and have the respect of the ungodly and your family.

Genesis 12:11

7. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You bring another woman into your home.

God has shown us several polygamous families and the dishonesty, distrust, despising, and bartering there is in such a home. Was anyone happy in his home? His relatives? Whom did the Ishmaelites become? Whom did the Midianites become?

You may think polygamy puts the FUN back in "dysFUNctional, but I think not!

8. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You cast your tents towards Sodom, like Lot.

He lost his sons-in-law, daughters, wife, wealth, and witness. His soul was vexed day-by-day at the un-Godly.

Imagine moving to San Francisco, Seattle, Las Vegas, or Chicago. It will affect your family.

9. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You let millennials rule your home, like Lot did his daughters and they think the end justifies the means.

See what liquor did to his daughters. Whom did the children of Ammon and the Moabites become? Enemies of God.

10. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

Your wife tries to be like Sarah or Rebecca and tries to make God's promises come true on their timetable, instead of God's.

Sarah wanted a child and talked Abraham into having a child of Hagar. How did that work out for her? Whom did the Ishmaelites become?

Rebecca made Jacob a coveter, cheat, coward! She never saw him again, nor his wife.

What did the Edomites, Ishmaelites, Ammonites, Moabites and Midianites have in common? God's promised seed's descendants became their enemies. Our mistakes bring enemies to God's people.

11. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

Like Jacob, you play favorites with your children; who favored Joseph. Was that a functional family?

He is fortunate; God worked it out for good. He can do that.

12. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

You're proud, jealous, and petty, like King Saul.

How was his relationship with his daughter, his younger daughter, or with Jonathan? David? or how about his wife, his army, or God's priests?

13. You May be a Dysfunctional Family If...

In idleness you're lusting after other women, like David.

It led to murdering Bathsheba's husband, Uriah, Ammon's death, Absalom's death, Adonijah's death, and David's best friend, Ahithophel's, suicide.

CONCLUSION - Am I not right?

- * Does not sin have consequences?
- * Are not the wages for sin, death?
- * Are not daughters like mothers and sons like fathers?
- * Does not God visit sins to future generations?
- * Don't big doors swing on little hinges?

Can I prove that Jesus is the solution to our sins? Yes!

- * He came to save sinners from their sins.
- * He came to be a ransom for our sins
- * He has made a New Covenant and promises that He will remember our sins no more.

Hebrews 8:8-13, "8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9 **Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt;** because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10 **For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:** 11 **And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.** 12 **For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.** 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away." Turn to Jesus!

God can take your dysfunctional families and use them to His glory, like He did Joseph.

If you would like this sermon on CD, contact Summit and order sermon #1686.

Dear Brother Faull,

What do these verses mean and why do we not see churches practicing them? There are many others that deal with Church discipline.

Romans 16:17-18, "17 Now I beseech you, brethren, **mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.** 18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."

1 Timothy 6:3-5, "3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; 4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, 5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: **from such withdraw thyself.**"

2 John 1:7-11, "7 For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist. 8 Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. 9 Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. 10 **If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:** 11 **For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.**"

2 Thessalonians 3:6, "Now **we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us.**"

2 Peter 2:1-2, "1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, **and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.**"

Titus 3:10, "**A man that is an heretick after the first and second admonition reject;**"

2 Thessalonians 3:14-15, "**14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. 15 Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.**"

Philippians 3:2-3, "2 Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision. 3 For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, **and have no confidence in the flesh.**"

Galatians 1:7-9, "**7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.**"

1 John 2:19, "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would *no doubt* have continued with us: **but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.**"

Jude 1:19, "These be they who separate themselves, sensual, **having not the Spirit.**"

2 Timothy 3:5, "Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: **from such turn away.**"

Matthew 18:15-17, "15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother. 16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. 17 **And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.** 18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Hebrews 13:17, "**Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.**"

Acts 16:4, "And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem."

Galatians 6:1, "**Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.**"

1 Corinthians 5:1-13, "1 It is reported commonly *that there is* fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. 2 **And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. 3 For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, 4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction**

of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. 6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. 9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: 10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. 11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. 12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? 13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person."

1 Timothy 1:19-20, "19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: 20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; **whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.**

2 Timothy 2:16-18, "**16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. 17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; 18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some.**"

ANSWER:

These verses mean what they say and say what they mean. These are commands and instructions from the holy Apostles and Prophets.

However, these verses are considered opinions by some who we list here, so you realize they get to ignore these verses. (I speak as a fool.)

1. Extremely self-wise elders and preachers.
2. Old preachers who have so much experience.
3. Men who have more authority than the apostles, who tell us what to do in these verses.
4. Men who are so skilled in the original languages, who can twist verses to their own behavior.
5. Men whose wives know more than the authors of these words.
6. Men who have no fear of God's judgment or disobeying Him.
7. Cowards are excused from obeying what these verses say.
8. Men who do not like confrontation.
9. Men who love the praise of men more than the praise of God.
10. Men who wish to be liked or popular.
11. Men who are lovers of money and power more than lovers of God.
12. Men who do not love the truth.
13. Men who are lovers of crowds more than lovers of souls.
14. Men who just want everyone happy.
15. Men who want no enemies, beware.
16. Men who have a perversion of what real love is.
17. Men whose pole star is peace at any cost.
18. Men who would rather die than have any friction.
19. Men who think they know more about what motivates man than God does.
20. Men who do not see the dangers of an "Achan in the camp".
21. Men who do not realize a little leaven, leavens the whole lump.
22. Men who do not realize a steward must be faithful and he must give an account as an Elder or Evangelist.
23. Men who think being united is better than being obedient.

Other men are humble and obedient and enjoy the success of doing

God's Will and will hear, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant".

The fearful and unbelieving shall not be counted faithful and worthy and will not be awarded as faithful servants.

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POLITICAL DEFINITIONS

Socialism – You have 2 cows and give one to your neighbor.

Communism – You have 2 cows. The government takes both and gives you the milk.

Fascism – You have 2 cows. The government takes both and sells you the milk.

Nazism – You have 2 cows. The government takes both and shoots you.

New Dealism – You have 2 cows. The government takes both, shoots one, milks the other and throws the milk away.

Capitalism – You have 2 cows. You sell one and buy a bull.

SHE'S FLATTERING HERSELF, NOT YOU!

--By George L. Faull, Rel. D.

Years ago, as I was driving through Ft. Wayne late one evening, a lady of the night walked up in front of my car. I stopped and she asked me if I would like to have a good time. Knowing that she was a prostitute, I said, "You flatter yourself." She looked at me shocked. "What do you mean?" she asked.

"Do you think I would trade eternity with Christ my Lord, for an hour with you? What kind of fool do you think I am?" And with that, she ran off into the darkness.

I thought, "did I not ask her a fair question?" No doubt about it.

When you are offered sexual pleasures, you should ask them questions:

- Would I miss Heaven for an hour with you?
- Would I spend eternity in Hell for your kisses?
- Would I give up my faithful wife and kids for one such as you?
- Why would I forfeit my integrity and good conscience for you?
- Do you think my reputation is worth nothing?
- Would I risk divorce for you?
- Why should I give up my home, my car, my motorcycle, my boat, my guns, my coin collection, my silver and/or gold and half my retirement and pension for you?
- Why should I endanger my life with your other lovers? **Proverbs 6:33-35**, "33 A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. 34 For jealousy is the rage of a man: therefore he will not

spare in the day of vengeance. 35 He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts."

My salvation means more to me than a lifetime with the likes of you.

Why would you insult me? Why should I let what God says be true of me? **Proverbs 6:32-35**, "32 *But* whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he *that* doeth it destroyeth his own soul. 33 A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. 34 For jealousy *is* the rage of a man: therefore he will not spare in the day of vengeance. 35 He will not regard any ransom; neither will he rest content, though thou givest many gifts."

And again, "For by means of a whorish woman *a man is brought* to a piece of bread: and the adulteress will hunt for the precious life" **Proverbs 6:26** and **Proverbs 7:27**, "Her house *is* the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death."



Fellows think about these things. Such women will flatter you with her sweet words, but she flatters herself to think her company is worth the loss of life, salvation, health, and possessions for an affair with her.

Proverbs 9:17-18

"17 Stolen waters are sweet, and bread *eaten* in secret is pleasant. 18 But he knoweth not that the dead *are* there; *and that* her guests *are* in the depths of hell."



FORMER SUMMIT EMPLOYEE PASSES AWAY

Today, Tuesday June 25th, 2019, at 8:35 a.m., we lost one of our most faithful former co-workers for Christ that we have ever known.

Mrs. Alva (Janice E.) Phillips suffered greatly before being called to spend time in Paradise while awaiting her bodily resurrection when Jesus returns again. Janice E. Phillips was my personal secretary for 24 years. I've always said if it were not for Jan, there would never have been a Summit Theological Seminary.

In the beginning, Janice worked for only gas money but as God blessed the school, she gradually received a living income from the school. No one can take away the good work she did for Summit and the churches at which she and her husband, Alva, attended after they retired from their mission work in Germany.

She was saved by the one and only Savior of mankind and she knew she was not saved by her many good works. She loved her Lord and served Him with her whole heart.

Her daughter, Deborah Crabtree, and her grandchildren and son-in-law, Chris Crabtree were her pride and joy! Her husband, Alva Phillips, survives her and loved her dearly. Please pray for him and the rest of her family.

I, George L. Faull, cannot exaggerate what an important part Janice played in my own life and that of my children. I fully expect her to hear, "*Well done, my good and faithful servant*" by the Lord. Blessed are they who knew her and had her footprints on their hearts. Chances are, you got more work done for the Lord because she was in your life. May more dedicated women be raised up and be such a blessing to the Lord's Church.

--George L. Faull
Tuesday - June 25th, 2019

Fellowshipping with God

By Terry Carter

Text: Leviticus 1:1-9

Introduction

- A. This is a book of laws, a handbook for the priests.
- B. The Hebrew title means, "*And He Called*," which is the first phrase of the book.
- C. Leviticus means, "*pertaining to Levites*," the priestly tribe.
- D. However, it is a book for all God's people, verse 2.
- E. We are both God's people and priests, **I Peter 2:9**.
- F. The quote, "the Word of the Lord," appears more in this book than any other.
 1. It is not something we should find dull or uninteresting.
 2. Its message is key to the theme of Scripture.
 3. Without it, the cross is a mystery.
- G. The main idea is really the grace of God.
 1. How we, as sinners, may come into the presence of God.
 2. It is not spoken from the holy mountain, but from the tabernacle.
 - a. The moral was given accompanied with terror.
 - b. But the laws of sacrifice and worship from the mercy seat.
 3. No promise of salvation was given from the mountain.
 4. Mercy is shown from the tent of mercy or tent of meeting.
 5. Here we worship and have communion, or fellowship, with God.
 6. Here God dwells between the cherubim over the mercy seat.
 7. Here God accepts a sinner by the death of a substitute.
- H. How much more do we have grace under Christ, **Hebrews 12:18-24, 28**.
- I. It divides naturally into five sections:
 1. Sacrifice, **Chapters 1-7**.
 2. The priesthood, **Chapters 8-10**.

3. Daily living as holy people, **Chapters 11-22.**
 4. Special holy days and seasons, **Chapters 23-25.**
 5. Exhortation, **Chapters 26-27.**
- J. Let's consider some lessons from the chapters on sacrifice.

God Desires Fellowship with His People.

- A. This entire book is filled with instructions that make this possible.
- B. A large part of Exodus deals with the construction of the tabernacle and its furniture.
- C. Now, Leviticus contains instructions and regulations concerning its use.
- D. Numbers deals with their encampment around it, etc.
- E. A large portion of the Law is dedicated to the idea of God allowing His people to draw near to Him.
- F. In this book, God actually expects, and invites His people to draw near to Him.
 1. There is provision for all to come.
 - a. The rich brought from the herd.
 - b. The middle class brought from the flock.
 - c. The poor brought from the birds.
 2. There are sacrifices required at specified times.
 3. Others are for any time the individual chooses.
 - a. God actually insists that we commune with Him at regular intervals.
 - b. But He desires for us to choose to fellowship with Him at other times, as well.
 - c. He is available for fellowship with His people at any time, any day.
 4. Neither of these types of sacrifices exempted anyone from the other.
 5. Worshiping God when you choose does not exempt you from worshiping Him when He requires, or vice versa.

Sacrifice is Required for a Sinful People to Have Fellowship with a Holy God.

- A. We are a sinful people, and God is a Holy God.
- B. But He still desires that we draw near.
- C. This requires sacrifice.
- D. We are unworthy, but sacrifice is made for us.
- E. It is not necessary that we be perfect to fellowship with God.
- F. But a sacrifice is required on behalf of the one bringing it.
- G. Jesus is our perfect sacrifice once and for all.
- H. But notice that sacrifice is an admission of our sinfulness.
 1. The one bringing the sacrifice put his hands on the head of the sacrifice.
 2. To do so was to recognize that you were a sinner approaching a Holy God.
 - a. It transferred your sin to the animal.
 - b. It acknowledged that you deserved to die.
 - c. It admitted your dependence on the sacrifice.
 - d. It demonstrated your submission to God's Will and authority.
 3. We do the same at the Lord's Supper.
 4. Our salvation doesn't hinge on our righteousness, but our accepting the sacrifice of the sacrifice without blemish, Jesus.
 5. What God requires is not sinlessness, but an admission of sinfulness, **I John 1:7-2:2.**
 6. That is called, "grace".

God Desires that Fellowship to be in the Center of our Lives.

- A. The tabernacle was the center of the nation's religious life.
- B. They encamped around the tabernacle by tribe.
- C. Later, the temple was in the center of the Promised Land.
- D. The book of Leviticus is in the center of the Pentateuch.
- E. Their greatness as a nation was their intimate relationship to Jehovah God.
- F. Our greatness as a church, or individual, hinges on the same thing.

God Regulates our Fellowship with Him.

- A. For every sacrifice, all details of how it was to be offered was specified.
- B. There was required preparation before coming to the tabernacle.
- C. For the regular sacrifices, even the times, were specified.
- D. Even voluntary sacrifices were under God's regulation.
 1. This prevented pretension on the part of the worshipper who would indulge in their own methods of sacrifice, thereby honoring themselves instead of God.
 2. All sacrifices must follow the specifically prescribed procedures.
 3. This says something about those who think anything in worship they offer to God in any manner is acceptable to Him.
 4. It also says something about "superior" versus "inferior" worship styles.
 5. The important thing about a worship style is its submission to God's Will, not our own.
 6. It must reflect our awareness of our sinfulness and His Holiness.
 7. Any acceptable worship style must do these things, **Hebrews 12:28.**
 8. But I think God has a problem with one that doesn't.
 9. Worship is intended to be vertical, not horizontal.
 10. That is, directed towards God, not other men.

CONCLUSION

We see in this our sinfulness.

We see in this God's love for us.

We see God's wrath upon sin.

We see God's grace.

We see His desires to apply it to all men.

We see His desire for fellowship with His people at all times.

Put God's worship at the center of your life and experience His grace daily.

“The Exceptional God”

--By Ryan Cox

Jesus answered, “The foremost is, ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one.’” ~ **Mark 12:29**

Jesus said to him, “I Am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but by Me.” ~ **John 14:6**

When asked what the greatest commandment is, Jesus answered in **Matthew 22** and **Mark 12** by quoting the *Shema*, **Deuteronomy 6:4-5**. It specifically states that there is only one God and that the one God is one, not many gods.

When Jesus informed His disciples in **John 14** that He would be leaving to prepare a place for all to be with Him, Thomas asked Him how to get there. Jesus responded by saying He is the Way.

Jesus makes it perfectly clear that there is only **ONE God** and **ONE Way** to eternal life. And yet, many in the world, including some Christians, disagree with Jesus by saying there are “exceptions.”

One often-asked question is about those who never hear about Jesus. Did they never have a chance to be saved? That would seem to be awfully cruel for God to create people and then never give them the opportunity to have eternal life.

Thankfully, the apostle Paul addressed this for us. Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome, “¹⁹...*that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.* ²⁰ *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made,* so that they are without excuse. ²¹ *For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God... they became fools,* ²³ *and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures”* (**Romans 1:19-23**).

The Lord tells us in His Word that everyone has a chance to believe. NO ONE has an excuse for disbelief in the Creator God. From the words of Jesus and Scripture, we understand that God has not made a plan of salvation for which He will ever have to make exceptions.

In accordance with everything the Bible says, I understand that He never has nor ever will need to make any exceptions because EVERYONE of sound mind and of an age of accountability gets the opportunity.

It starts with, **Romans 1** tells us, the Creation. Even for those who do not have access to the Bible, they still have a choice. They can either:

- 1.) Look at the statue that their great-great granddaddy carved and say, “Yes, you made me”, or
- 2.) They can look at the heavens above and the earth around and say, “Wow, something or someone made this” (**Psalms 19:1**).

God says it is so evident that no one has an excuse. I believe for everyone who is willing to admit this, God makes sure they hear the Gospel (**Romans 1:16**), whether by a friend or even an enemy or by a device or a missionary God sent to that remote tribe because there was one who admitted in his heart the truth of Creation.

If not, then **John 2:2** is a lie. Praise God it is not! It is THE truth that Jesus Christ shed His blood for the entire world. We, therefore, do not worship a God of exceptions; we worship the exceptional God who is perfect in His wisdom and foreknowledge.

A second often-asked question is about those who are not immersed. Are those who are not immersed truly lost? What if they believed but could not access water to be baptized? What if they were on their way to be baptized and were killed in an accident?

In these questions of genuine concern are often found excuses for exceptions. What ends up happening

with these questions is the belittling of our all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-loving God and the deeming of nonessential that which God has declared essential.

God did not formulate His scheme of redemption and then go, “Oh, rats. That’s not going to work for those people or for that situation. I guess I’ll have to make some exceptions.” If so, then He is not God (**Isaiah 46:10, Acts 2:23**).

Rather, God in His perfect and infinite wisdom, foreknowledge, love, and grace provides everyone the opportunity for salvation. Thus, the Lord Jesus Himself declared that those who are not born of the water and the Spirit are not saved (**John 3:5**). Praise the Lord for the Good News that **NO ONE** (**Galatians 3:27-28**) is excluded from the choice of accepting or rejecting the free gift of God (**Romans 6:23**)!

The only question for you and me is: to whom have we shared the “Good News”?

Summit’s Fall Semester Classes Announced:

Begins Tuesday, Aug.27th, 2019
Fall Break – Nov.25th – 29th, 2019
Concludes – Thursday, Dec.19th, 2019

Please register before August 5th, 2019 to keep from incurring a late fee.

Tuesday

6:30 - 9 PM – Why God Gave the Law– 3 cr. George Faull/Terry Carter
6:30 – 8:30 PM – Madison, IN Off-Campus – 1 & 2 Peter – 2 cr. Kendall Faull

Wednesday

9 - Noon – Theology 1 - Elementary Syst. Theol. - 3 cr. Shane Capps
1:30-4:30 PM – Personal/Spiritual Develop. – 3 cr. Jerry Paul

Thursday

9 - Noon – Christian Doctrine – 3 cr. Terry Carter
2 – 4 PM – Phil./Colossians – 2 cr. Kendall Faull
6:30 - 9 PM – Hebrews - 3 cr. Kendall Faull

Anyone can audit classes for free! Free Tuition for Preachers – contact us to ask more about this program.