

TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday:

Bible Classes 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Worship Service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Preacher & Editor

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**THE BIBLE AND THE BIBLE ONLY, MAKES
CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS ONLY.
THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS COMPOSED
OF CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE NOT
JOINED A DENOMINATION.**

StoneRidge Church of Christ

where CHRIST is the chief cornerstone
1 Peter 2:7



Vol. 15, No .8 October 23, 2022

Reason

Reason has been granted to us by God as those made in His image. When we try to reason without acknowledging God, we become our own idols by assuming that we do not need God. This leads to futility in thinking (Rom 1:21; Eph 4:17). In doing this we are relying on our own wisdom and we will not understand God and His purposes, since the world through its wisdom cannot know God (1 Cor 1:21). Reason and logic are an undeniable part of who we are. Try making an argument for denying logic and you will come across as senseless and self-defeating, for you will be appealing to reason even as you deny it. By using our reason appropriately, however, we are glorifying the God who gave us our minds and set in order the way facts, reason, and faith function together. We ought to learn to do it well because it is the Lord whom we serve and we are to love Him “with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind” (Matt 22:37).

I have seen criticisms of logic as applied to Bible study. This is often in conjunction with arguing that we ought not to try to interpret the Bible; we just read it and do it with no interpretation at all. This sounds noble, but it is naive, erroneous, and dangerous because it unwittingly makes a person’s own perceptions into another idol. “This is what the Bible says” can become code for, “This is what I think it means and I cannot be wrong.” And doing this will inevitably lead us into contradiction.

While there are places where “that’s what it says” is appropriate, making blanket statements like that without first doing the contextual homework can lead to misapplications of God’s word and lend support to false doctrine. We shouldn’t →

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just say, "That's what it says" without first making sure that's what it really says in its context. After all, the devil was crafty at using Scripture to test Jesus. He quoted Scripture. It's "what it said," but his application was malicious (Matt 4:5-6).

Let us be diligent and careful to avoid that devilish pitfall. Do the homework. Reason well. Apply appropriately. "Be diligent to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, correctly teaching the word of truth" (2 Tim 2:15). -Doy Moyer



It's a FACT we've got to honestly admit. We CANNOT be justified by faith ONLY (James 2:24). Yet, other passages condemn WORKS!?! (Eph 2:8,9). How do these harmonize?

The difference is between GODmade works and MANmade works. "In every nation he that fears Him and WORKS RIGHTEOUSNESS is accepted of Him" (Acts 10:34,35). "He is the Author of eternal salvation to all who OBEY Him" (Heb 5:8,9). May the confusion cease! Is your faith a living faith or a dead faith? -db

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. Owen Mundy (John and DeAnne's son) was injured in a shooting incident last Tuesday and was flown to the Med in Memphis for surgery. The report is that the surgery went well... This is being printed early in the week so catch updates on all those on the sicklist today... **Jack Ladyman** had eye surgery last week and it was successful. He will have another on Oct 25...**Jane Cureton** is now at home after a long stay in the hospital for physical therapy following a stroke.....**Charles Wayne French** (Nola Christenberry's brother) continues to receive cancer treatment... **Jerry Spencer's dad** is still in St. Bernard Hospital at this time and now his mom is also in the hospital after a fall**Charles Bradsher** is back at the nursing home and is under palliative care..... Prayers needed...**Donald Crisler** continues his treatment for cancer...Remember our shutins: **Madonna Vines** is confined at home. **Bob and Jean Evans** are also confined at home...**Gail Brooks** and **Rita Kieffer** are both at St. Bernard Village...**Shirley Coots** at Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)...**Joyce Riley** is at St. Elizabeth's Place...**Charles Bradsher** at Craighead County Nursing Home... Continue to remember all of these in your prayers.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

Oct. 21-23 – Raytown, MO – Dick Blackford



Some people feel dog tired at night because they growled all day.

We are defined not just by the opportunities that we make, but by what we make of the opportunities.

The only nation that, in some way, does not become Babylon is the holy nation of God, the body of Christ. God's nation today is not marked off by physical boundaries or ruled by earthly kings. It is the nation of which Christians are citizens first and foremost. Let us act accordingly:

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." (1 Pet 2:9-10)

"Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain." (Phi 2:14-16)

"But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself." (Phil 3:20-21).



If every member were just like you, would we need to build more seats or close the doors?

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