

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

July 28, 2019

A god After Man's Own Heart

No, this is not a slip up. It is not a misprint. I meant it just as it is written. Most, if not all, of you reading this article know that God sought out David to be the second king of Israel because he was looking for someone who was a “*man after God's own heart*” (*1 Samuel 13.14*). Paul reminded his Israelite audience of this in *Acts 13.22*. He explained that “*a man after God's own heart*” is someone who will do everything God wants him to do.

Unfortunately, most people do not have a heart like that. Most people would rather do things their own way and create a god who will agree with them. After the death of Joshua, before there was a king, Israel began seeking their own gods (*Judges 17.6*). Even though God sent them many judges to lead them back toward Him, the book of Judges ends with the words, “*In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit*” (*Judges 21.25*). As a result, the people either created their own gods or followed other gods who were already like they wanted. Read about Micah (*Judges 17*).

Are things different today? Of course not! Our culture is saturated with humanism, a system of thought that replaces God's values and ethics with whatever “*I*” determine is best for “*me*”. In other words, everyone is doing as he sees fit. Consequently, sin has become the dominant way of life for most people around

us. When you take God out of the picture, there is no accountability to anyone but “*me*”.

The philosophy of creating “*a god after man’s own heart*” has permeated Christianity. Why else would there be so many denominations and division within churches? Why else would there be so much church hopping? Why else would there be bitterness and anger and grudges towards other Christians? Why else would some say, “*I follow Paul*” or “*I follow Apollos*” or “*follow Cephas*” (1 Corinthians 1.12)?

But if we would care enough to listen, Jesus offers us a solution to our self-interest. Simply put, he said, “*If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me*” (Luke 9.23). A choice we make every day is to either let God be on the throne of our heart or create a god we may like better by ignoring God and doing our own thing. Creating “*a god after man’s own heart*” is not as far-fetched as you might think. It doesn’t require molding or carving idols out of wood, stone or metal. Like those in the days of the Judges, it’s simply just doing whatever you see fit to do regardless of what God says. When you choose to do things your way instead of God’s way, you are creating “*a god after your own heart*.” What have you chosen today that is not from the heart of God? When that happens, recall the prayer of David after he made a sinful choice: “*Create in me a pure heart*” (Psalm 51.10).

— Joe Chesser

Dead Man Walking

Woe to those who call evil good and good evil.

— Isaiah 5:20

“There’s right and there’s wrong” said John Wayne. “You got to do one or the other. You do the one and you’re living. You do the other and you may be walking around but you’re dead as a beaver hat.”

Paul agreed, jotting a sentence about people who were walking around, but were dead ... in transgressions and sins (Eph. 2:1).

“There’s right and there’s wrong,” said the Duke. It’s really as simple as that. No poll, no matter how lopsided on the side of wrong, can make it right. Legalizing a sinful lifestyle, no matter how many votes it gets or who signs it into law, can change it from wrong to right.

Israel tried to sanitize evil by renaming it “good.” Didn’t work then; won’t work now.

When in doubt, don’t.

— Joe Barnett

Upcoming Events :

Lady’s Day ... “A Word Fitly Spoken”

Presented by : Sheila Butt

Date : August 3, 2019 (*Mark this date.*)

Venue : Clinton Church of Christ
5450 Evans Rd..
Clinton, Illinois 61727

Luncheon : calling ahead appreciated (217/ 935-5058)

Gospel Meeting :

Cowden Church of Christ

Corner ... Cedar and Fifth Sts.
Cowden, Illinois

Date : August 16 & 17

Time : 7:00 p.m. Friday 6:00 p.m. Saturday

Speaker : Billy Willis from Brownwood, Texas

Pride Packages For Soldiers: We rotate the items that we bring in so there will be a variety of things available for Pat to send to our soldiers. For the next two weeks we’ll be bringing: *Bags or cans of any kind of nuts, Bags of sunflower seeds, cocoa, any kind coffee,*

Anniversary : Gloria & Delmar Aug. 1
 J.J, & Beth Aug. 3

Reading: I Corinthians 13: 1-8 ; Matthew 26: 36-46

NEXT WEEK : (**August 4, 2019**)

Song Leader : **Tim**

Scripture Reader : **Larry**

Table & Announcements : **Greg**

Prayer List : .

Susan Bowyer : New test confirms Susan has indeed started improving, but prayers are needed that she'll stay on course. They send many thanks for meals, cards and prayers received

Doris Faulkner: Doris had multiple falls again this week. She has so little control she even fell forward out of her wheel chair

Kathy Minser: (*Reynolds' sister*), heart cath showed that her problem is not caused by arterial blockage, but they don't yet know what is causing her breathing and swallowing problems.

Betty Lowe : We have no update. Betty's still awaiting word as to how they will treat her heart issues and the cancer. .

Stanley Rich : (*Jonathan's uncle*), Stanley was back in the hospital. He has trouble breathing and low oxygen level.

Shelly Kruger : Pete's niece is battling cancer and it's a real struggle. She is in urgent need of prayers.

Mike Nichols : Mike continues therapy and is beginning to show incremental progress as he seeks to regain his mobility.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Ruby, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel,

Others with ongoing issues :

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Nancy Miller : Parkinson's Disease

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Butch Reynolds : Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Bruce Miller: Madonna's brother-in-law is holding his own.

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend has severe kidney failure due to diabetes. His condition is deteriorating.

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Ya'll Come !

