

HIRAM CHURCH OF CHRIST

www.hiramchurchofChrist.com · 7660 Nebo Road, Hiram, GA 30141 · (770) 943-9977

LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU AND SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

Vol. 16 No. 10 - March 10, 2019

"If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 4:11

"Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

MINISTER: MELVIN J. BRYANT II

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements: Matt Johnson

Opening Prayer: Matt Johnson

Song Leader: Kwame Abdul

Second Prayer: Jeff Kirkland

Lord's Table: Clarence Proctor
Melvin Bryant III

Message: Melvin J. Bryant II

Closing Prayer: Devin Bryant

Attendance

Morning Hour: 17





Bible Class: 21

Worship: 29

Wednesday: 21

Contribution: \$TBA

Weekly Service Times

	The Morning Hour	9:00am
	Bible Class	10:00am
	Morning Worship	11:00am
	Wed. Evening Bible Classes	7:30pm

The Morning Hour

- Announcements
- Prayer
- Song
- 25 Minute Study - Rightly Dividing
- Card Writing/Mail Outs
- Prepare for 10:00am Bible Class

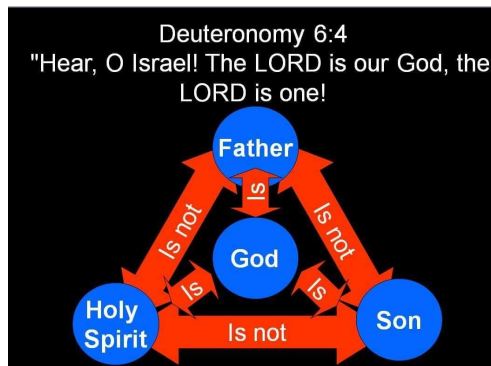
Missions: India & Childhaven

PLAN OF SALVATION

- ★ Taught by God - John 6:45
- ★ Believe - John 8:24
- ★ Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
(Repentance entails counting the cost)
- ★ Confess - Matthew 10:32-33
- ★ Be Baptized - Matthew 28:18-20
- ★ Live a FAITHFUL life until death - Revelation 2:10

Four Types of Worship

1. True Worship (John 4:24)
2. Ignorant Worship (Acts 17:22-23)
3. **Vain Worship** (Mark 7:1-20)
4. Will Worship (Colossians 2:20-23)



WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREATED OUR CELL PHONES?

WHAT IF WE...

...carried it with us everywhere?



...turn back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?



...used it in case of emergencies?

...spend an hour or more each day using it?

What would our lives look like?

ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES

Lea Overton (Jeff's mother), Sebastian and Erica Suarez, Ron McCurry (shut in-visits requested), Amy Brown, Polly Tunstall (Amy's mother), Ann Phillips, Harold and Dean Reeves, Potts/Williams family, Kilwonia Chandler, Barbara Helton, Vera Patrick, Mary Troup, Joanie Saporito, Charlie Griffin, Patty Dale, Daniel Welker (kidney transplant), Al Gattis (COPD), Shirley Glosson (radiation), Ben Westbrooks (leukemia)

PRAYER REQUESTS

(JAMES 5:16)

- ▶ **Dennis Johnson** had another medical test last week and the results were good. They plan to travel back to India later this week.
- ▶ **Brad and Doranda** are in need of prayer as they prepare to relocate.
- ▶ **Ameena Redic** passed away. Please keep the family in your prayers during this difficult time.
- ▶ **Richy and Dene** has finally moved into their new home and wants to thank the congregation for all the support they received.
- ▶ **Mary Troup** had mouth surgery and is in need of our prayers.
- ▶ **Ann Phillips** is still in need of prayer.
- ▶ **Ron McCurry** has requested prayers for his son in law, Tommy. He goes in a few weeks to see if he still has fluid in his pancreas, if he does the doctors will put a stint in his colon, which will have him in the hospital 7-10 days.
- ▶ **Traci Bryant's** uncle passed away. Let us keep the Molden family in our prayers.
- ▶ **Erica** is in need of prayer for her overall health. She appreciates the calls and prayers.
- ▶ **Mary Brock** has requested prayers for her daughters.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

✓ March Birthdays

Becky - 15th
Erica - 23rd
Patty - 29th

✓ Local Church News.

✓ Traveling.

Patty is in Oklahoma for a while.
Dennis and Beth Johnson will be traveling back to India.

✓ We will have a Fellowship Meal on the last Sunday of each month.

✓ Hiram Church of Christ News

Let us keep James Munsell in our prayers. He was added to the Lord on January 20, 2019. He found our church Youtube channel and studied with Bro. Bryant, now he's a child of God. He was baptized at the Quivira Heights church of Christ in Topeka, Ks.

✓ We have been asked to keep another interested person in prayer. Her name is Maricela, she has asked that we keep her sons, Antonio and Alexander along with ex-husband Torrell and friend Justin in prayer. She lives in California, and she too has found our Youtube channel and has shown interest in studying more regarding the word of God. Let us pray that the Lord will open her heart to heed the things spoken.



“WORSHIP...GOD” Pt. V
“Identifying the FOUR types of Worship in the Bible”
“Vain Worship”
Mark 7:6-7

In Isaiah 29:13, (which echos Mark 7:6-7), God said the people, “Removed their heart from Him,” *that is*, they removed their minds from following Him. They didn’t consult nor look into His word to find out HOW He desired for worship to be done! God said, “A False Fear is taught of Him,” *that is*, man is trying to teach other men HOW to fear the Lord, And God tells us how they are doing this, “By the Commandment of Men!” Men are not going to the Bible to teach the FEAR of the Lord, they are turning to their own doctrine to describe that fear! Deuteronomy 10:12–13 describes how the children of Israel were to FEAR the Lord! This also remind us of a New Testament scripture (Matthew 22:34-40). Loving God constitutes us FEARING Him! *That is*, us having an AWE of Reverence for Him! One of the most complete scriptures we find in the Bible is **Ecclesiastes 12:13**, “**Let us hear the conclusion of the WHOLE matter: FEAR God and KEEP His Commandments, For this is man’s ALL!**”

God has always instructed His people in regards to how He expects us to “Worship” and serve Him. God has NEVER left it to man’s own devising as to how we are to “Worship,” “Serve,” OR; “Fear” Him. NOR, did He leave it to man to create his own doctrine or commandments, YET, man has done this, “Vainly!” (Proverbs 14:12)! There are millions of people “Worshiping” God each day in Vain! And, although they TRULY believe what they are doing is according to His will, God will NOT accept ANY “Worship” from ANYONE, *Regardless* of how Sincere they are, how Passionate they may be, how many members they have in their congregation, God is to be regarded as Holy, and we are to approach Him in “Worship” according to what He has prescribed! *Nonetheless*, what is the meaning of;

I. VAIN

- A. BDAG tells us the word means, “to no end.” (pg. 621).
- B. Louw & Nida tells us that “Vain” means, “to no avail, with no results.” (vol. 1 pg. 783).
- C. Liddell and Scott tells us that “Vain” means, “fruitless, to no good end.” (pg. 1084).
 - So, to “Worship” God in “Vain” is to “Worship” Him offering “fruitless service”!

II. WHEN MEN PUT TRADITIONS OVER THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD (Mark 7:2-4)

- A. When we examine the context of Mark 7:1, the scribes and Pharisees presented a question to Jesus regarding the “Tradition of the Elders”. (see Mark 7:1ff).
 - There was nothing uncommon for Jesus to have, “Religious Hit Men!” *Remember* in Mark 2:15, Jesus was dining in Levi’s house, there were many tax collectors and sinners that sat together with Jesus and His disciples. In verse 16, “...when the scribes and Pharisees SAW Him eating with the tax collectors and sinners, they said to His disciples, ‘How is it that He eats and drinks with tax collectors and sinners?’” What were they doing? TRYING to find FAULT! The Bible tells us in verse 17, “When Jesus heard it, He said to them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I did not come to call the Righteous, but Sinners, to Repentance.’”
 - But we have “some” brethren in the church today that would dare NOT sit down and eat with a Prostitute, an adulterer, a homosexual! That type of behavior is that of a scribe and Pharisees!
 - We ought NOT think, we’re too good, to tell the SINNER about the Sinful state he’s in, even “IF” it’s over a MEAL! (emphasis on Mark 2:16, Jesus ate and drank with Sinners)!
 - So, these men (the scribes and Pharisees) traveled from Jerusalem to the land of Gennesaret, to where Jesus was, and they went, NOT for the purpose of being taught, but to TRY and find FAULT with Jesus!

B. The Tradition of the Elders

- The “Elders of Israel” presented teachings that God did not authorize, and since the Pharisees and ALL the Jews adopted it, they considered the “Tradition of the Elders” as LAW, when it was not!
- They factored in, “Not eating unless they wash, the washing of cups, pitchers, copper vessels, couches, etc.” as commands of God!

Application:

- “IF” the Elders or the Brothers of the church say, “*We believe that its appropriate for us to have sister “so and so” as an elder!*” This would be a violation of God’s word and goes against the TEACHINGS of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 which outlines the qualifications of an elder! A WOMAN does NOT meet these qualifications! And we have congregations of the Lord’s people LISTENING to the Elders as they ALTER the commandments of God to fit their paradigm!

Other Traditions we have in the church

(1) Early morning worship. There is NO scripture that COMMANDS we have an early morning service! As long as we gather together as the Saints to worship God, ANYTIME on the first day of the week, is acceptable to God! (2) Two or three services on the first day of the week. Again, there is NO scripture that COMMANDS that we have multiple services on the first day of the week! Now, there is nothing wrong with having multiple services, but because one congregation may have two and the other one, that does not mean that they’re holier than the other. “IF” your Righteous Acts don’t extend from the church building, “IF” you’re not doing the will of God outside of the walls of the church, there is something wrong with your heart! (3) One cup vs Multiple cups. There was a time when “some” in “the church” would drink from ONE container. *However*, some people began to get sick because the spread of disease was prevalent, and the adoption of multiple cups was formed! BUT; there were “some” congregations SPLITTING because of multiple cups! They did not UNDERSTAND the emphasis is NOT on the “cup” OR “cups” but the CONTENT in the cup which is the “Fruit of the Vine”! (Luke 22:17).

III. THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES ACCUSE JESUS’ DISCIPLES OF...

A. Eating bread with “Unwashed Hands.” (see Mark 7:5-8).

- The Pharisees were members of the strict sect of the Jews, and the scribes were copiers, teachers of the Law. Now these men were “suppose” to be EXPERTS in the law. And they approach Jesus with the “Traditions of Men” rather than the Commandments from God! (1) Jesus calls them, “Hypocrites”. A “Hypocrite” is a pretender! One who PRETENDS to be something that he’s not! (Louw & Nida vol. 1 pg. 765). (2) What made them hypocrites? They were pretenders in their service to God, but they TRULY were not, and Jesus would explain to us what made them Hypocrites! Jesus said, “As it is written: This people Honor Me with their lips, But their Heart is Far from Me!”

IV. WHEN HONOR TO GOD IS ONLY LIP SERVICE (Matthew 21:28-30).

- A. Lip service is when you say “YES” with your mouth, but your Heart AND your Actions is saying And doing, something totally different!
- *Remember* Peter and ALL of the disciples said they would NOT deny the Lord (Matthew 26:31-56).
- B. When the “Heart” is far from the Lord.
- When we come to “Worship” and our BODY is in the pew BUT; our mind is on the outside, we are NOT worshiping God in Spirit and in Truth, and *therefore*, our worship is useless!

V. TRUE WORSHIPERS MUST AVOID HYPOCRISY AND VAIN WORSHIP (Mark 7:9-13).

- A. True worshipers “Worship God” in Spirit and in Truth! (John 4:24).
- Jesus applied these scribes and Pharisees FALSE Teaching and “Tradition of the Elder” to what the prophet Isaiah wrote in Isaiah 29:13. In Mark 7:10, Jesus quotes from Exodus 20:12 and then 21:17.
 - Instead of providing for their parents, they disregarded the Commandment of God because their tradition permitted them to escape the responsibility to their parents! *In other words*, forget what God says, our “tradition” supersedes God’s commands! Let us be careful as we handle the word of God!