



The Voice Of Truth

A weekly publication of the

Hillcrest church of Christ

1621 Hillcrest Drive
Green Bay, WI 54313
(920) 499-5677

www.hillcrestchurchofchrist.com

October 7th, 2007

Serving God

By Jimmy Pettigrew

HOW ARE WE TO SERVE GOD? We are to serve God with a perfect heart and with a willing mind (**1 Chronicles 28:9**). God deserves our service. Think of all He has done for us. He *gives every good and every perfect gift* (**James 1:17**); He gave us Christ and the cross and eternal life (**John 3:16-17**); He gave us a plan of salvation; All spiritual blessings (**Ephesians 1:3**); God is worthy of your service.

How are **YOU** serving God??? We are to serve with a perfect heart, a loyal heart! This means you are to serve Him with a heart that is attuned to His will. *Let your heart therefore be perfect with the Lord our God, to walk in his statutes, and to keep his commandments, as at this day* (**1 Kings 8:61**). We are not to give half-hearted service; it makes my Lord sick (**Revelation 3:15-16**) I have seen so many so-called Christians try to hold on to God with one hand and the world with the other. Esau could not have the pottage and the birthright; we cannot have both heaven and pleasure of sin. I want us to give God whole-hearted service, with no turning back.

Also, we are to serve Him with a willing mind. This means our service is to be voluntary, with a mind that desires only that which will please God (**Acts 20:19**). This service involves every area and all particulars of life, job, the home and vacation. It involves every human relationship. God comes before family (**Luke 14:26**). He comes before sports and entertainment.

Are you serving God right now? Are you serving Him with a perfect heart and willing mind?

The Great Day That Is Coming

Jimmy Pettigrew

There are various kinds of days. There are important personal days: birthdays, marriage, anniversaries. There are important days set forth in the Bible. The Israelites had significant days: Passover and Sabbath. The *"first day of the week"* is a significant day for the Christian (**Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2**). The *"Day of the Lord"* is the great day that's coming! Men must prepare now for the day of the Lord. Death is not the end of life

because there is a great day coming (**John 5:28-29**). The Lord's return is a sure promise (**2 Peter 3:9; John 14:1-3**). The "*day of the Lord*" will come as a "*thief*," unexpectedly, suddenly (**1 Thessalonians 5:1-2; 2 Peter 3:10**). There are no "*ifs, ands, or buts*" about the Lord's second coming. When Jesus comes "*the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat*" (**2 Peter 3:10**). God by the power of His word brought all material things into existence (**Genesis 1:1**). When He wills His creation to cease, it shall do so! The physical heavens, at Christ's second coming, along with "... *the elements...*" and "...*the earth...*" will, by fire be consumed. The material universe shall be destroyed.

In view of the sure promise of Christ relative to His coming and the end of the world "what manner of persons ought ye to be?" (**2 Peter 3:11**):

- (1) People of faith (**1 Peter 1:5-9**).
- (2) Obedient people (**1 Peter 1:22-23**).
- (3) Holy people (**1 Peter 1:15-16**).
- (4) Diligent people (**2 Peter 1:10**).

The wise man wrote, "*Where there is no vision, the people perish*," **Proverbs 29:18**. Unless you know where you want to go, you are not likely to get there! We must "*watch*" (**Matthew 24:42**), and "*be ready*" (**Matthew 24:44**).

NATURE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is not an "it"
He knows (**1 Corinthians 2:11**)
He has a will (**1 Corinthians 12:11**)
He loves (**Romans 5:5; 15:30**)
He grieves (**Ephesians 4:30**)
He can be insulted (**Hebrews 10:29**)
The Holy Spirit is not an "it" or a
force. He is the third personality of
the God-head. (**See 2 Cor. 13:14**)

OIL YOUR BIBLE

An old Bible salesman with whom we once worked related this, story: in visiting a home to demonstrate a Bible, and upon selling it, the lady asked him this question: "How can I keep my Bible cover from becoming dry and brittle, thus causing cracks and breaks in the binding?" The salesman, replied, "Use palm oil, my lady," The lady, not knowing of such an oil replied, "But what is palm oil?"

The salesman replied "Lady, in the palm of the hand is to be found an oil, which when applied daily to the covers of your book, will prevent deterioration of the covers caused by dryness." The lady was able to understand this. David knew the principle, evidently, for he said: "In his law doth he meditate day and night." The thing we need more today is Bibles with "**PALM OIL**" signs upon their covers. There are too many Bible bindings suffering decomposition because of dryness, caused by lack of palm oil.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear and Learn - Rom. 10:17; John 6:45; 17:3

Believe - Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24

Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30

Confess the Lord - Matt. 10:32-33; Rom. 10:9-10

Be Baptized - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27; 1 Pet. 3:21

Continue in the Apostles' Teaching - Acts 2:42; 2 Tim. 3:14-17