

THE MESSENGER



"... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15

A Weekly Publication of the Christians Meeting at
2291 Highway Z, Wentzville, Missouri
Website: westlakechurchofchrist.org

Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)

Volume 12, Issue 35

Evangelist and Editor:
Dempsey Collins

Sept. 11, 2011

Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30

How Are You Treating Jesus?

Suppose that you leave your family someday by just walking away for three or four weeks or months! You don't help your wife care for the children; you leave no way for them to get by except what they may do for themselves. You are not concerned about whether or not the rent is paid, if there is food to eat, or if the other needs are met.

But suddenly one morning you walk in about breakfast time and inquire where your breakfast is without a word of apology to your wife or children. You feel no shame for your behavior and do not state that you have repented. How many wives should put up with such a scoundrel for a husband? Or, how many husbands would put up with such a wife who did things like this?

Yet, there are members of the church who think nothing about leaving the services for weeks at a time. They are not concerned about the Lord's work, do nothing to support it during these weeks, and they show no sign of shame when they return. They just sit down at the Lord's table and start eating again with no word of apology or explanation.

ARE YOU GUILTY OF THIS???

Read Matthew 25:35-40

Is Time Running Out?

Professor Alexander Tyler, nearly 200 years ago, while our 13 original colonies still belonged to Great Britain, wrote of the fall of the Athenian republic of over 2,000 years before:

“A democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover that they can vote themselves largesse from the public treasury. From that moment on, the majority always votes for the candidates promising the most benefits from the public treasury, with the result that a democracy always collapses over loose fiscal policy, always followed by a dictatorship.”

“The average age of the world’s greatest civilizations has been 200 years. These nations have progressed through this sequence:

1. From bondage to spiritual faith;
2. From spiritual faith to great courage;
3. From courage to liberty;
4. From liberty to abundance;
5. From abundance to selfishness;
6. From selfishness to complacency;
7. From complacency to apathy;
8. From apathy to dependency;
9. And from dependency back again into bondage.”

In a few years, the United States will be 200 years old. It seems to me that the American people are now taking steps six, seven and eight! Can we avoid the final step?

And you know that which is true of nations is true of God’s people. Israel followed the same steps from bondage into bondage again. During the restoration era, the church fought for its existence. It became strong and courageous. Then it became proud and wealthy. The larger congregations became selfish and complacent, and turned their work over to human institutions, thus becoming dependent upon others. Now many of them are soft and compromising – and headed into apostasy again! It seems that about the only thing we learn from history is that we don’t learn from it.

NOTES & NEWS:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

“...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16