

Those to Serve

(B) Keith Stifflemire
(FV) Mike Mallett
(O) Doug Pruett
(A) Jorge Garza
1st prayer Jack Wall
2nd prayer Kevin Grant
Announcements: Calvin Burks
Singing: Judd Wall

Sentence Sermons

- When you try to get “even” with someone, you will probably soon be at “odds” with them.
- Master your thoughts and habits before they master you.
- Don’t fill up on the world’s crumbs; fill up on the Lord’s living bread.
- If you don’t stand for something, you’ll fall for everything.

Prayer List:

David Jones
Virginia Lovell
Janell Houts Hall
Odell Mallett
Dora Martinez
Mona Lancaster
Willis Hughes
Letha Sheldon
Ruby Jones
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

March 20th

Spring Begins

March 28th

Noon Fellowship

April 4th

Mission Sunday

&

Easter

Happy Anniversary

April 1st

Calvin & Tammy Burks

April 18th

Jack & Cindi Wall

Happy Birthday

Dennis Sheldon March 30th

Doug Pruett April 1st

Steve Sugg April 6th

Emma Burks April 28th

Connie Mallett April 30th

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

March 21, 2021



Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."

Sunday Worship:

9:30 am Bible Study

10:20 am Worship

12:30 pm Afternoon

Wednesday Night

6:00 pm

Will Vann, Preacher

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Why Believe A Lie?

Religious confusion and its assorted contradictory doctrines prove that the devil and his servants are effective deceivers (John 8:44). Since God is not the author of confusion (1 Corinthians 14:33), the many false doctrines taught in various denominations today do not come from God. It is no surprise that the same evil one who has been perverting and denying the words of God since the Garden of Eden is still sowing seeds of deception. He even finds pastors ready to serve as his accomplices in preying upon weak little lambs (Acts 20:28-30).

But why would anyone allow himself to be deceived? Paul offers an explanation of the motives for believing lies in 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12. The people deceived by Satan's craftiness "did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved." It is not sufficient to know the truth. We must love the truth. There are many people who study the Bible for curiosity, or vanity, or for academic reasons, but who do not approach the Scriptures with the humility necessary to allow the Lord to change them and mold their character. They don't love the truth, and are thus easy prey for the devil.

Paul mentions one other factor: they "had pleasure in unrighteousness." When a person

wants to find an excuse to justify sin in his life, he will not study the Bible with the honest and open heart necessary to understand it. You can often hear this attitude in the comments of those who want to defend their sinful practices: "Where in the Bible does it say that I cannot ..." The proper attitude is not defensive of evil, but asks: "What does the Lord want me to do?" People who are determined to justify their sins will not understand the truth. Their minds are carnal and incapable of discerning the spiritual richness of God's message (1 Corinthians 2:14).

Why would anyone believe a lie? Because the truth often demands painful transformations that most people are unwilling to make. The way of the Lord is difficult and lonely, but it leads to eternal life (Matthew 7:13-14).

-by Dennis Allan

Stuff About Things

Robert F. Turner

In one Texas county the Judge was formerly a merchant, and well known as "one of the boys." An elderly citizen told me it was difficult to think of him as "Your Honor," for he remembered the prankster years. The old timer gave me this "ferinstance."

In the days when country people churned and traded butter for "storeboughten" things, a woman brought a pound of butter to the store. She explained that a mouse had gotten into the churn and drown, but "what folk don't know won't hurt them" so she would like to trade her butter for a pound brought in by someone else. The former merchant, now Judge, agreeing that "what folk don't know won't hurt them," took the contaminated butter into the back room, changed the wrapper on it, and brought it back to the delighted woman. If that Judge would change parties I'd vote for him.

But he was wrong about "what folk don't know won't hurt them." After a four-year intermission I returned to a church for another meeting. On the first day I nervously walked down the aisle, trying desperately to remember names of people I was supposed to know. Then I spotted a woman whom I recalled had the same name as mine. As I approached she arose, extended her hand, and said, "Do you remember me?" Confidently I replied, "Indeed I do; you have the best name in _____."

She said, "It stinks.!" and sat down abruptly. Don't tell me "what you don't know won't hurt you." What I didn't know was that her husband (bearing my name, but no kin) had run off with another woman.

Of course, what you do know may also hurt you, but an intelligent effort can be made to avoid known pitfalls. When we have the capacity and the opportunity to learn, and just "cop out" on the game, we have no one to blame but ourselves.

And in the service of God, the lack of interest in truth may be the greatest "cop out" of all. There are many who studiously avoid Bible information on certain subjects, apparently thinking, "what I don't know won't hurt me." They ignore their obligation to "prove all things," and "grow in grace and knowledge." More than that, it seems they **do know** to avoid the study of topics about which they evidently have some doubt. Such self-deception is hypocritical, and produces the worst hurt of all. We must "know the truth" if the truth is to make us free (John 8:32).