

Warners Chapel Church of Christ

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Youareimportant.net



“The churches of Christ salute you” Rom. 16:16

A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU

SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

Undefined Religion

James 1:26–27 (NKJV) — 26 If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one’s religion is useless. **27** Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

We have so many in the religious world today who claim to be truly religious people. We even have a lot more in the church that claims this, but what defines true undefiled religion? Is it how WE want to view it? Is it what WE think pure religion is? Is it making sure that you are there at every worship service and Bible class and giving every Lord’s day to the contribution or is it a lot deeper than that?

I love how James begins with the thought of anyone THINKING he is religious. This is key for understanding because it is negating the thought that being religious is actually OUT OF OUR THOUGHTS. We see this because he follows that statement with the statement “is useless”. There is another source that is judging what is religious and what’s not. He states that a person can claim to be religious, BUT if he doesn’t show that in language and his heart is deceived, then the religion is useless. Our actions must be able to confirm what we are claiming to be or else it’s pointless to even state that we are religious. The fact is that we may be able to deceive other people around us, but we can NEVER deceive God because He knows EVERYTHING, even the intent, and heart of an individual (Heb. 4:13).

He goes on to state that true religion is that which GOD says pure and undefiled religion is. We need to understand what these two words mean. Pure is defined as being clean or free of adulterating matter. This means that this has not been altered in any fashion. Undefiled is defined as free from contamination. This is the status of purity that has not been changed in the slightest sense. He then states three areas that show OUTWARDLY and PROVES what it means to be a Christian in the sight of God: Visit the orphans, visit the widows, and keep oneself unspotted from the world.

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Let's talk about orphans and widows. Orphans and widows have always had a special place in the heart of God. The reason is that God has a heart of compassion and He hates people being vulnerable to being mistreated and taken advantage of. You see God's compassion for both the orphans and the widows in Exodus 22:22 -

Exodus 22:22 (NKJV) — 22 “You shall not afflict any widow or fatherless child.

You can also see this deep, special care that God has for them in Deuteronomy 24:17-21.

Deuteronomy 24:17–21 (NKJV) — 17 “You shall not pervert justice due the stranger or the fatherless, nor take a widow's garment as a pledge. **18** But you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt, and the Lord your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this thing. **19** “When you reap your harvest in your field, and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it; it shall be for the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. **20** When you beat your olive trees, you shall not go over the boughs again; it shall be for the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow. **21** When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you shall not glean it afterward; it shall be for the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow.

Since God cares so much for these groups, He wants us to share WITH HIM in this compassion. It's all involved in becoming HOLY and GODLY as a Christian. This is what the word “VISITING” actually means. It is helping, taking care of, and looking out for another.

To keep oneself unspotted from the world means that you keep yourself PURE amid a corrupt and defiled world. You choose to put forth your effort in a way that is determined to not be stained by the ways of the world. You don't get yourself involved, practicing, and living in sin but work diligently to keep yourself pure. If we do this, we can have a religion that is not just talking, but is pure and undefiled before God in words and action!

Is our religion pure and undefiled?

Wes Garland



READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2022

Sept. 18 - 2 Cor. 11:1-15
Sept. 19 - 2 Cor. 11:16-33
Sept. 20 - 2 Cor. 12
Sept. 21 - 2 Cor. 13



Sept. 22 - Gal. 1
Sept. 23 - Gal. 2
Sept. 24 - Gal. 3

OUR SICK

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Madelene Holbrook, Don Minor, Pat Grady, Perry Cooper, Ingrid Mock, Tish Clarke, Randy Clemmons, Rosemary Clemmons, Mickey Parsons, Toni Lucas, Cheryl Culler, Tish Clark, Mickey Parsons, Toni Lucas, Cheryl Culler, Nicole Roy, Mike Ford, Sharon York, Abbie Little, Sherrill Stewart, Patricia Wood, Val Giff's father, Lauren Krell, Roger Allen's mother, D.J. Harrison, *Cleave Binkley, Trooper Josh Church, Jack Piper, Sandy Smith, Ronnie Knost, Elwood Flinchum, Kathy and Wayne Hutchins.*

Adventures of Betty and Brad Hoots: Just want to update on Brad: He went to the ER 2 weeks ago with a Gall Bladder attack and found out Thursday he will have his Gall Bladder removed on Thursday, September 27th. **Betty** fell down in a camper this past weekend and broke her wrist and will have surgery on Tuesday, September 20th. Please keep us both in your prayers.

Derek Elam has come down with Shingles which is very painful and sometimes difficult to get over. Please pray for Derek that the doctor has prescribed a good medicine for him, to help him get over it in a short time.

Gene Southern is at home recovery from his recent surgery on his Achilles Heel. He will have to be careful for a number of weeks to protect the surgery by not being on his feet.

Ingrid Mock is very fortunate to have not had any problem after having a stroke. The hospital was very fast in treating her and she is doing well without any other problems.

Pat Grady, Kathleen Warner's father had an accident injuring his right hand. Please pray for him and Brenda, his wife. The address is: 3667 Frye Bridge Road, Clemmons, NC 27012.

Erica Stewart's father has Colon Cancer and is taking treatments at this time. Please put them on our prayer list and send cards. Address: Gene & Ilene Hackney, P.O. Box 63, Lewisville, NC 27023. Thank you. - Sherrill Stewart

Welcome

WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING. WE INVITE YOU TO RETURN THIS EVENING AT 6 P.M. FOR THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE AND AT 7 P.M. EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING FOR THE MID-BIBLE STUDY.

EVENTS AT WARNERS CHAPEL:

November 5 - Warners Chapel will have our yearly Chicken Stew in the Annex.

November 27-30 - Gospel Meeting at Warners Chapel. The speaker will be Eric Owens. More information later.

Next three Fridays: The students of NCSBS Will be preaching beginning at 10 a.m. in the Auditorium. Will be graded.

AREA EVENTS:

Sept. 16-17- Free Seminar – Sept. 16, 6-8pm p.m., Sept. 17– 3:30-7:30 (meal included) American Legion Cone Post 386, 1206 American Drive, Greensboro. Gary Hill is currently an instructor at the Nashville School of Preaching. He is a member of several organizations for Bible Archaeology. Tel. 336-457-1095 or check with Facebook page for more information.

Sept. 18-21 - The Abilene Church of Christ will hold a Gospel Tent Meeting. "The Message of the Early Church." The speaker will be Josh Blackmer, from West Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ in Florida. The address of Abilene Church is 120 Bell Farm Rd., Statesville, NC 28625. Phone # (704-872-7082). At 10 a.m. - service in the church building. There will be a meal provided after morning services in the fellowship hall. All invited to stay for good food and fellowship. 3 p.m. Afternoon Tent Service. (Mon.-Wed.) - Tent Service each evening at 7 p.m.

October 1 Ladies Day at the Lexington Church of Christ. Speaker: Wanda Cline. Theme: "Working For The Lord" **Registration: beginning at 10:00 am, Refreshments and Coffee, - (10:30am - Program), (12pm - Lunch.) Address: 1330 Piedmont Drive, Lexington, NC.**

October 10 - Charlotte Avenue Church of Christ, Rock Hill, SC. (More information to come.)

SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

SEPTEMBER, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY: CARL COOPER

COMMUNION FOR AUGUST: DC MOCK

DEVOTIONS FOR: SEPTEMBER

SCRIPTURE

SONG LEADER

PRAYER

Sept. 4 - Rodney Brown

Wayne Allen

Todd Hinson

Sept. 11 - Randy Warner

David Shoaf

Mark Minor

Sept. 18 - Gene Ruark

Gene Southern

Mike Glenn

Sept. 25 - Al Lawson

Justin Little

Jim Harrison

OPENING PRAYERS FOR: SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY A.M.

SUNDAY P.M.

WEDNESDAY

Sept. 4 - Allen Knight

Wayne Allen

Sept. 7 - Jim Harrison

Sept. 11 - Johnny Spillman

Clayton Workman

Sept. 14 - Adam Warner

Sept. 18 - Mark Roy

Randy Warner

Sept. 21 - Andy Santiago

Sept. 25 - Tim Allen

Mark Clemmons

Sept. 28 - David Moore

SECURITY AND GREETING: RODNEY BROWN & GENE RUARK

“GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE” at 10:30 p.m. each week night on Cable 8

WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST

8999 LASATER ROAD

ELDERS

DEACONS

Tim Allen

Randy Warner

Gene Southern

Todd Hinson

Keith Warner

Shawn Thomason

Steve Tesh

Mark Minor

Mark Roy

Andy Santiago

Jody Everett

Adam Warner