

**May 3, 2009**

**SERMONS FOR SUNDAY**

**May 10 , 2009**

a.m. *"The Blood of the Covenant"*

Scripture: Matthew 26:26-30

p.m. *"What We Are and What We Shall Be"*

Scripture: 1 John 3:1-12

**Man Is Different From All Other Creation**

Don Hatch

**Basically the Bible is a consistent** revelation of God's will and man's application or misapplication of this will. When the Bible teaches about man it is based upon what God says about him. Man was created by God and his nature was also created by God. Viewing man from this relationship it is hopeless to take man's viewpoint of what he must be. Man as a creature has certain inclinations which make him man. The inner man was designed to rule the outer man (Gal 5:16-24; 2 Cor 4:16-18; 5:1-10). God made man in His image (Gen 1:26-27). The Genesis account identifies man as a creature and not an animal. Man has a soul whereas animals do not. This makes a great difference. God took the dust of the earth, formed it and breathed into that which had been created the breath of life (Gen 2:4-16). Moreover, man was created to have dominion over the other things which God created. The two first beings were male and female. Without the female, Eve there has been no replenishing of mankind. The special image of mankind is likeness to God. God is spirit and man has within him a spirit like God (Jn 4:23; 1 Cor 15:35-49). Man is not just physical but a spiritual being too. The moral nature, intelligence and special qualities wherein the God-like character can be developed are not found in animals. After all the occasions when man has caused sorrow to his Creator through disobedience God still bountifully blesses His self-marred sinning creature. It would be a dismal world if God abandoned us. Man is God's masterpiece of creation, yet has brought untold misery into the world. God provides and graciously loves His creation, man.

**Generations of men manifest** that there is of no other order which possess abilities that are so extraordinary. No beast can equal them. Man can see and enjoy the handy-work of God because what is known of God is manifested in them. God shows man the invisible things of Himself from the creation of the world (Rom 1:18-20). Man can trace the works of God from generation to generation (Psm 104:24). Man can marvel at the greatness of God's creation (Psm 150). Man can appreciate the goodness and righteousness of God (Psm 33:5). Man is neither nature's mistake nor a freak of nature. Man is a created being unique in countless ways. Man was placed in this world to exemplify the greatness of his God. Man is like a "monarch" and "sovereign" over all the other parts of God's creation. Elements of nature are to be used by him. Man was formed with deliberation (Gen 1:26). God began His creation with the less noble and progressed each until man was created. Man is God's masterpiece. The solemn council of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit made this rare and wonderful creature. Man has qualities unknown in the animal world.

**The evolution of man from a lower beast** is to be totally rejected. There are clear boundary lines between beast and man. The mental and moral aspects of man gives concrete evidence that

protoplasm could not have been in the lineage of man, neither could an ape. The distinction between man and animal in moral and mental abilities is not one of degree or gradual improvement in the life and style until man ultimately became what he is. The differences are not subtle but unmistakably different. Man, can be educated; beasts have limits. One of the most marked distinctions between man and beast is expression through articulation. Certain birds can imitate man's voice but they are not speaking with understanding. Man is the speaking part of God's creation. Man can not only speak, he can transcribe that which he speaks and others can be educated to speak what is written. It is an absurdity to try and teach an animal to understand and translate an original book like the Scriptures.

**Man can find value in religion** and respond to the religious impulses he encounters. Man alone profits from religion and can understand the spiritual concepts of religion. God gave man a countenance to exalt God and contemplate heaven. Where is there found an ape with such concepts of right and wrong? Man is the only part of creation with the moral quality to discern the difference between right and wrong. Can anyone demonstrate that an ape has become a preacher of righteousness? The Bible is a book composed of every kind of literature from poetry to logic, from eloquence to common language of the people. The Bible is sublime and wise. No ape could have created it.

**Man can note the smallest inflection** in the spoken word and write it into the manuscripts he creates. Man is the master of all parts of the animal kingdom. All animals are dumb before grave crisis and matters of life. Animals may have instincts but man has intellect to guide him in important decisions. It is often said that the Chimpanzee is related to man. With new studies of the DNA of created beings it is found that the organs of chimpanzees are quite different. No doctor would dare use organs from a chimpanzee for transplants. The chimpanzee has 48 chromosomes and humans have 46. It has been proven that the Chinese muntjac [small deer] has 46 chromosomes but is still not related to man through DNA. The reason man is different from the animals is that God created all, making man different. No know chimpanzee can write, read or comprehend the subtleties of language. Listening to the slander of God, doubting His word, lusting for what God prohibits, disobeying God's commands and rebelling against God are steps towards man's fall. Man is better than what he acts like. He is different from the animals.

## **FAMILY CARE**

### **A Message from Our Shepherds**

A special "THANK YOU" to Jerry, Richard, Don & Letitia for all the extra work they did during my surgery & recovery period.

Joy and I want to thank everyone for the special support and love given to us over the past three months. We never know when our health will suddenly change, so having caring Christian brothers and sisters makes all the difference in world. We really don't know how people cope with ill health without Christian love and support. We are truly thankful to our God daily for blessing us with good doctors, nurses and the prayers of the saints. We have been encouraged and uplifted by all the many acts of kindness from each one of you.

Jesus teaches us that there must be submission in our hearts to receive the true blessing from God. We must pray that God's will, not ours, be done "in earth, as it is in heaven." It has been told to us by many faithful brethren that "nothing lies outside the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God". Faithful brethren never want their will done when it stands outside the will of God. Our heavenly Father will never be a part of anything that harms His children. Everything that is in harmony with God's will, will always work for our good (Rom. 8:28). We depend upon God for the necessities of life, therefore we should all pray to the One who "giveth to all life, and breadth, and all things" (Acts 17:25). All of the true blessings of God should be received with thanksgiving (1 Tim. 4:3-4: 1 Thess. 5:18)

Pray for all of our sick & shut-ins this week. Have a great week Serving God!

~ Dean Webb

"I will bless Jehovah at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in Jehovah: The meek shall hear thereof, and be glad. Oh magnify Jehovah with me, and let us exalt his name together. I sought Jehovah, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. They looked unto him, and were radiant; and their faces shall never be confounded. This poor man cried, and Jehovah heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles. The angel of Jehovah encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them. Oh taste and see that Jehovah is good: Blessed is the man that taketh refuge in him. Oh fear Jehovah, ye his saints; for there is no want to them that fear him. The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger; but they that seek Jehovah shall not want any good thing. Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of Jehovah. What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; Seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of Jehovah are toward the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry. The face of Jehovah is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth" (Psalm 34:1-16).

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the vain glory of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever" (1 Jn 2:12-15).

It is of vital importance to the New Testament Church that they learn what to love. The things which are loved are always the most important to us. There are degrees of love. However, John tells us not to love the world. The things in the world are perishing with their use. Cravings for the world do not come from the Father of light. Wisdom from above is spiritual and that which is of the world is sensual and devilish (Jas 3:15). John spells out these cravings of a sinful man. Lust of the eye and boasting of what one has or does is comprehensive in its scope. It is important for one to understand that these are evil desires which are sinful. Many loving, kind and godly desires are also discussed in the Bible. The eye is the channel to the soul. If the eye is evil the whole body will be evil (Mat 5). The braggart or imposter is arrogantly violent in actions toward others. Individuals filled with these lusts seek an advantage and status over others.

The three vices (craving, lusting and boasting) do not originate with God. Man needs to look at the perishing nature of the world, its pleasures and desires. They are here today and gone tomorrow,

in stable and cause stumbling in darkness of sin. Casting lots with the world is summarized by saying, they perish. The child of God is secure that Jesus has procured eternal life for him and loving the things of God maintains this relationship. Not everyone who says they love the Lord is sincere (Mat 7:21; 1 Pet 4:2). When the will of man is in harmony with God there is fellowship and favor (2 Cor 6:14-7:1). As pagan societies encroach upon the church they can thoroughly corrupt it. Marked immorality and vice never dignify a people. The church must remain an influence on society by example virtue and morality which respect life and property. History is replete with examples of individuals who have sided with the world by compromising the moral high ground. In a sense the world differs from that of the days of John. Robbery, murder, violence and immorality are still prevalent. John warned the believers to never compromise or adopt the lifestyle of the world. The church has been bought with a price and has been marked out as the saved. They keep themselves holy unto the Lord and live unspotted by the world. We are in the world but not of the world. For if we were of the world we would not be of the Father. Thus John gives us the hope of eternal life with God through our obedience and faithfulness to Him who saves us by His grace (Eph 2:1-10). Our work is to save the world by teaching the truth which can make them free.

~ Don Hatch

### **GREETER ASSIGNMENTS**

#### **Sunday, May 10, 2009**

**Front foyer:** Roberta Price; Nancy Pond

**Back foyer:** Robert & Cathy Taylor

#### **Sunday, May 17, 2009**

**Front foyer:** Ilene Ashworth; Carol Swinney

**Back foyer:** Robert & Betty Ruckman

## **Family News:**

### **MISSION PRINTING**

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

### **SINGING SESSION**

The **Sunday afternoon** singing session will meet at 5:15 p.m. in room #116.

### **MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL**

The **Monday morning** gathering will meet at 6:00 a.m. in the Annex.

### **CONGREGATION**

Mark your calendar for a congregational fish fry & ice cream supper on **Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>** at the Annex at 5:00 p.m.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Cindy Vaughn has a new great-niece who was born last Monday, 9 weeks early & doing well. She weighed 3 pounds 14 ounces, & was 16" long.

### SUMMERTIME SERIES

The Summertime Gospel Preaching Series begins on **June 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Brother Perry Cotham of Grand Prairie will be the first of 13 Gospel preachers to teach on "The Parables of Jesus".

### VBS

Vacation Bible School for children & adults, Monday – Wednesday, **June 15-17**, 7:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. Theme: "Worship".

### POST-LADIES' DAY

Dear Sisters in Christ: Ladies' ½ Day #8 is now part of our history with an outreach where all were exhorted & edified. As coordinator, I feel that all who worked for and attended this spiritual feast are to be commended. We had wonderful attendance with a final tally of 116 women & 7 children. Bridgewood brought the most with 16, and the farthest attendee was Serena Jacob of San Antonio & visitors from six denominational congregations. May God continue to be glorified by our efforts. Lovingly in Christ, Joann.

### THANK YOU

Thank you to my Belt Line family for all the cards & love for my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. It made me feel so special & it was a big surprise. In Christian love, Mary Lou Tibbetts.

### PRAYER CONCERNS

- Billie Gilliam** was released from the hospital; surgery will need to be rescheduled.
- Linda Matthews** is doing well at home following surgery.
- Beth Johnson** (missionary in India) has been hospitalized.
- Shellie Pearce** underwent a successful procedure on her thyroid today.
- The Prudes** request prayers for AC's difficulties.
- Kathy Bennett** (Marjorie's daughter) will undergo a procedure at Baylor/Irving on Wednesday.
- Rose Mohsen's** (missionary in Paris) medications are working.
- Crystal Vaughan** (Mary Curtis' daughter) is ill at home.

### Continuing Prayer Concerns:

Gwen Bingham, Grady Fowler, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Don & Judy Hancock, Garldean Latham, Everett Newton, Tom Prince, Roy Thomas, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Nancy Bauer (Scott Watson' mother), Charlie & Mary DiPalma (missionaries), Glen Elmore (elderly father of a friend of Garl Latham), Frank Garrett (Fauna's husband), Louise Gierling (former member Tom Gierling's mother), Scott Watson (Jeanene Heilman's friend), Ilya Yakimenko (missionaries in Russia), & our shut-ins.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Be sure and mark your calendar -**

- May 10: Mission Printing in the Jr. Auditorium at 4:00 p.m.
- May 10: Singing session in room #116 at 5:15 p.m.
- May 30: Congregational fish fry & ice cream supper
- June 3: Summertime Preaching
- June 15-17: Vacation Bible School
- July 5-9: Jr. Youth Camp
- July 19-24: Sr. Youth Camp

## **NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

### **Sunday morning:**

- Debra Alonzo

### **Sunday evening:**

- Julie Roses

## **LORD'S TABLE/MORNING**

### **Front Table**

- Purman Cofer
- Jerry Baker
- Dorris Walker
- Marvin Brown
- Mike Garrison
- Bill Matthews
- Ty Harvey
- John Mayer

### **Rear Table**

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Max Melton
- Keith Vaughn
- Bobby Bowen
- Jeremy Hardegree
- Virgil LaFerney
- Derroll Allen

## **SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS**

- Dean Webb
- Denzil Myers
- Harold Head

## **A.M. SCRIPTURE READING**

- Ty Harvey  
Matthew 26:26-30

## **A.M. SONG LEADER**

- Garl Latham

## **SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS**

- Mike Batot
- James Gilliam

## **P.M. SCRIPTURE READING**

- Stan Selby  
1 John 3:1-12

## **P.M. SONG LEADER**

- Jerry Baker

## **LORD'S TABLE/EVENING**

- Glen Kelly
- Bill Matthews

## **COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS**

- Darrell Allen

## **FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET**

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>	
Sun. Class	98	96	93	125	
A.M. Worship	161	148	155	210	
P.M. Worship	85	85	88	112	

Wed. Class	83	74	82	110
Ladies Bible Class	25	-	30	35
Contribution	\$5224	\$6443	\$5529	\$5474

**MISSIONS**

Charlie & Mary DiPalma - India  
 Willie Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa  
 Roland & Rose Mohsen – France  
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine  
 Glen & KuinTattersall – Australia  
 Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko - Russia  
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions  
 Christ’s Haven Children’s Home - Keller, TX  
 Foster’s Home for Children – Stephenille, TX  
 Bitragunta Church of Christ, Bitragunta, India  
 Ian & Mabel McPherson – Tasmania Australia  
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web  
 Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia  
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution  
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Bear Valley School of Preaching  
 Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India