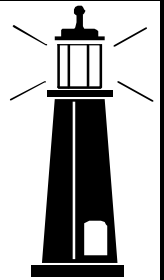


The Berryville church of Christ

Bible Beacon

"Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)



Volume 2, Issue 38

September 28th, 2003

"The Truth About Men" Is All a Lie

Kevin Cauley

Perhaps some of you have heard the recent country song by Tracy Byrd titled, "The Truth About Men." The song claims to speak for all men and touts several aspects of the male gender such as eating potato chips, watching football, looking at the tools at Home Depot, hunting, golfing, playing guitars, watching action movies, working on cars, etc. However, the song also depicts men as being beer guzzling fools, lying, cheating, cussing, and sex-crazed. As a man myself, I personally am offended by this song. I do not guzzle beer; I do not lie; I do not cheat; I do not cuss; I am not sex-crazed. However, the thing about this song that offends me the most is the statement, "We ain't wrong; we ain't sorry, and it's probably gonna happen again." This statement lies at the heart of what it means to be a sinner--impenitence.

"We ain't wrong."

Today, many readily admit that they are in sin and commit sin on a daily basis. The song testifies in its own behalf in this regard. However, the real problem lies in the fact that many do not recognize the wrongness of sin, as stated in this song's lyrics, "We ain't wrong." This is the bigger issue--that is, convincing me that I am wrong in my sin. The fact of the matter is, that if we love sin, then we are wrong (period). We read in 2 Thessalonians 2:11 "Therefore God sends them a strong delusion, so that they may believe what is false, in order that all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness."^{ESV} Those who take pleasure in unrighteousness (i.e. those who fail to admit its wrongness) will be condemned for not believing the truth. We need to recognize the sinfulness of

sin (Romans 7:13)! **Real men** recognize the sinfulness of sin and will admit its wrongness.

"We ain't sorry."

The song also touts an additional element of impenitence in society today--sorrow. One may get a person to admit the wrongness of their sin, but then he or she may not be sorry for it. That is, they may think that being wrong is no big deal and hence, why should I be sorry for something even though I am wrong? The Bible teaches that we ought to be sorry for our sins. Psalm 38:18 says, "For I will declare mine iniquity; I will be sorry for my sin."^{KJV} Sin separates man from God (Isaiah 59:2). That is truly something for which to be sorry. Sin is also what put Jesus on the cross (1 Corinthians 15:3). That is also something for which to be sorry. When we fail to be sorry for our sins, we fail to recognize our tremendous failure in our relationship with God. When we fail to be sorry for our sins, we fail to recognize the price that God had to pay to bring us back into a right relationship with him. **Real men** are sorry for sin!

"And it's probably gonna' happen again."

We see yet a third opponent to repentance--the unwillingness on the part of the sinner to change. One may admit that sin is wrong; one may even be sorry for it, but then when it comes down to it, one may simply continue to practice the sin that one is in. As the song states, "And it's probably gonna' happen again." The Bible, however, teaches that once one has repented of sin, one should not continue within it. The apostle Paul wrote to the church at Rome, "Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?"^{KJV} Those who have repented of sin should stop committing sin. The apostle Paul's words regarding this aspect of repentance are recorded for us in Acts 26:20. He says that he

preached to all "that they should repent and turn to God, doing works worthy of repentance."^{ASV} So many simply wish to acknowledge wrong, say they are sorry, then engage in the same sin in which they were formerly involved. This is not the way of the gospel. Those who repent must do works worthy of repentance. **Real men** stop committing sin and do works worthy of repentance.

Repentance is not some trivial matter that makes for amusing song lyrics. It is something upon which our very salvation depends. It is critical that we recognize what repentance is and that we implement it in our life. When we recognize the sinfulness of sin, are sorry for it, and make the commitment not to let it live in our life any more, then we have experienced what the Bible describes as repentance. Notice 2 Corinthians 7:9, 10 "Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death."^{KJV} Godly sorrow, the recognition of sin and proper remorse for it, brings repentance that leads to salvation to our lives. For many today, true repentance stands between them and heaven. God does not want any to perish, but one must repent to avoid eternal condemnation (2 Peter 3:9). The truth about men may be the truth about sinful men, but it is not the truth about those who want to be eternally saved in heaven with God. If you would be a **REAL MAN**, a **NEW MAN** (Colossians 3:10), let repentance live in your life and in your heart. And that's the truth about **REAL MEN!**

Kevin's Korner



September has about come to a close and October is knocking on our door. Oh how the days fly by. The cooler weather seems to be here now and we have been experiencing some cool evenings and mornings. The weather man was recently discussing the possibility of a frost! We are blessed to live in a world with changing seasons.

This week seems to have gone by rather quickly. Bill's surgery this past Monday took us over to Eureka to visit him. We also went to the Smith's house and let our dog run around the yard a little. (Ask Kendra what she thought about the dog chasing the rabbit.) Tuesday night at the community center we worked with the Cub Scouts to plant a garden in memory of Dr. Spurlin. Wednesday brought bible classes for ladies and for all. Thursday afternoon, we traveled up to be with Jerry and Carolyn Roller at the Mill Creek camp ground in Missouri. We had a wonderfully enjoyable time visiting and eating. Our thanks to all who fill our life with wonderful joy and fellowship.

It is a joy to be a member of the Lord's church. Mark 10:29, 30 teach us that by following Christ we will receive all of the things that we have forsaken to enter the kingdom by being part of the kingdom. I have always believed that Revelation 7:14-17 is speaking regarding the wonderful blessings that the saved receive in the church. It says, "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun light on them, nor any heat. For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Why would anyone not want to be within God's kingdom?

Our Record

Week of 9/21

Sunday Class.....	56
Sunday A.M.....	59
Sunday P.M.	54
Wednesday.....	62
Contribution.....	\$1743.50
Budget.....	\$1760.00

Times of Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:.....	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	6:00 PM
Ladies Bible Class:.....	10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....	7:00 PM

Editor's Selections

The Lord's Popularity

It has been said that the attendance at the Sunday morning worship services tests the popularity of the congregation; the attendance at the evening worship services tests the popularity of the preacher; and the attendance of the Wednesday night services tests the popularity of the Lord.

I believe there is a lot truth in this statement. Is the Lord popular to you? Is He important to you? As each day passes I pray that the Lord will be the most popular person in your life, and that you will show others how popular He is to you by attending ALL of the worship service assemblies.

Friends, God is now "looking down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that seek after God" (Psa. 14:2).

From The Preacher's PC, Malvern, AR

"Praise the Lord!"

There's a little old Christian lady living next door to an atheist. Every morning the lady comes out onto her front porch and shouts "Praise the Lord!". The atheist yells back, "There is no God". She does this every morning with the same result. As time goes on the lady runs into financial difficulties and has trouble buying food. She goes out onto the porch and asks God for help with groceries, then says "Praise the Lord". The next morning she goes out onto the porch and there's the groceries she's asked for, of course she says "Praise the Lord". The atheist jumps out from behind a bush and says, "Ha, I bought those groceries - there is no God". The lady looks at him and smiles, she shouts "Praise the Lord, not only did you provide for me Lord, you made Satan pay for the groceries!!"

Selected

Sunday's Sermons

For September 28th

Morning.... The Work of the Holy Spirit

Scripture John 14:26

Evening..... What is Water Baptism?

Scripture Matthew 28:19-20

"Little Ones"

Kevin Cauley

"God is light" and "God is love."
These are messages from above.

As signified in form of dove.
"God is light" and "God is love."

"God is love" and "God is light."
With Him our path will be bright.
Our eyes be filled with heav'nly sight.
"God is love" and "God is light."

"God is light" guides our way.
Walking constantly in day.
Keeping sinful ways at bay.
"God is light" is our stay.

When we walk in light above.
Fellowship with him we have.
Should dark paths be our trod
Fellowship with him is naught

Doing righteously we find
Fellowship in heart and mind
Doing wickedness we see
Fellowship with him can't be

"God is love" brings us near.
Shedding from our eye a tear.
When we see the Savior dear.
"God is love" begs us "hear!"

Loving brother shows in us
Love for God in whom we trust.
Hating brother we will gain
Brotherhood with Satan's kin.

Loving and believing true
Demonstrates the birth that's new.
But when we walk in ways of woe,
'Born not above, but from below.

Little children do you know
That knowing you can love him so?
That commandment keeping is also
The way that we our love do show?

"God is light" and "God is love."
These are messages from above.
"God is love" and "God is light."
With Him our path will be bright.

Elders: Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster,
Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley

Deacons: Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.

Preacher: Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

News, Notes and Prayer List



- We thank God for this new and wonderful Lord's day. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

- We extend a warm welcome to our visitors. We ask that you please fill out a visitor's card so that we can have a record of your attendance. Please also stay and get to meet us after services.

- Please remember the following in your prayers: Michael Collins; Bill Fort, Curtis and Opal Hull, Preston Jones, Travis Jackson.
- We express our deepest sympathies to Helen Swink in the passing of her son, Charles.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- Our gospel meeting begins next week with John Stuckey! Are we inviting? Have we invited any to come? I hope that we are all doing what we can to make this effort a great success. Invite someone today!
- Next Sunday night we will have our youth devotional here at the building. Larry and Susan Elliott will be our hosts. They ask that we bring chips, drinks, and anything that goes with fried chicken.
- Please let us know ASAP if you are interested in going with us on the trip to Costa Rica. We need to get a head count so that we can get everything in place for the trip. This will be a memorable experience for all who go!
- Next months assignments will be: Announcements, Matt Bassing; Prepare Communion, Pam Pinkley and Debbie Smith; Carry Communion, Leon and Ray Duncan; Worship Coordinator, Ken Smith.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Paper Cups.



Those to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sunday Morning:	September 28th, 2003	October 5th, 2003
Song Leader:	Larry Elliott	Larry Elliott
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	John Stuckey
Opening Prayer:	Leon Duncan	George Eddings
Scripture:	Brandon Foster	Clyde Atchley
Lord's Table:	George Eddings	Clay Bozarth
	John Gass	Glenn Quigley
(assist)	Perry Foster	Brent Moore
	Raymond Kimes	Ray Duncan
Closing Prayer	Ray Duncan	Ken Smith
Sunday Night:		
Songs:	Clay Bozarth	Clay Bozarth
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	John Stuckey
Opening Prayer:	Dale Pinkley	Rusty Windle
Scripture:	Brent Moore	Dale Pinkley
Lord's Table:	Ken Smith	Brent Stevens
	Bob Moore	Larry Elliott
Closing Prayer	Glenn Quigley	Bob Moore
Wednesday		
Songs:	Bruce Foster	Hugh Atchley
Opening Prayer:	Leon Duncan	John Gass
Invitation:	Bill Fort	John Stuckey
Closing Prayer:	Matt Bassing	Ray Duncan
Monthly Assignments		
Announcements	Larry Elliott	
Worship Coordinator	Bob Moore	
Communion Prep	Trish Foster	Debbie Duncan
Communion Carry	John Gass	Rusty Windle

The "Berryville Bible Beacon" is published by the Berryville church of Christ. Please contact Kevin Cauley at work at (870) 423-3068 or at home at (870) 423-6707 or e-mail bvcc@alltel.net to contribute information.

For questions or comments, please call (870) 423-3068 or write us at:
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