



UNTHANKFUL!

Romans 1:21 "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened."

One of the hallmark traits of those who would reject God in their knowledge is that they become unthankful. It was, therefore, with great interest that I read from the *Disaster Relief Effort News* a report that according to an article by David Streitfeld of the *Los Angeles Times*, Katrina relief workers say, "We don't want any more used clothing." The article goes on to say, "There is also a moral component: Just because someone is homeless doesn't mean he or she should be wearing hand-me-downs." Is there something wrong with saying, "We don't want any more used clothing"? Not if one has enough. But to say, "We don't want any more used clothing because used clothing isn't good enough" and "it is morally wrong to expect someone to wear used clothing" is completely unacceptable. My mother used to have a saying, "Beggars can't be choosers." It's really a fact of life. If one is in need and someone offers something to them that satisfies that need, then one ought to be thankful for having that need satisfied. To complain and say, "This isn't new so I'm not going to wear it" is simply being unthankful.

Now, I'm certainly not talking about used clothing that is worn out. If clothing is old and unusable then obviously one ought not to expect another person to accept it; it would defeat the whole purpose. However, if the clothing is in good condition and can be worn, then why would one turn one's nose up to such? Let us consider the many people who shop garage sales and purchase used clothing on a regular basis. If used clothing is



good enough for them, then shouldn't it be good enough for those who are homeless? Consider also those who shop at stores such as "Good Will" or some other thrift type store. If the clothing in those stores is good enough for them to purchase, then why wouldn't it be good enough for someone who is homeless to accept? Certainly, it would be. So what causes people to have such an attitude of unthankfulness? The fact of the matter is that there are many in this nation who are spoiled. They simply won't accept used clothing when they ought to be thankful

that they have someone who cares enough about them to give them something.

I make no exception for myself. On occasion I purchase new clothing, if the price is right. However, I don't turn my nose up to used clothing simply because it is used. There have, on occasion, been several who have given me used suits or other clothing that I can use. I go through it; if it is my size, then I will wear it. If not, then I try to find someone else who can wear it. I'm thankful for those brethren who consider me in that regard. I'm also thankful for those who give old children's clothing to me. Some have recently done that. But were I to say to them, "I'm sorry, but your used clothing isn't good enough for me", then I would be no better than those who made the statement above. There is nothing immoral about expecting someone who is looking for clothing to accept used clothing! So there is certainly nothing immoral about expecting someone who is homeless to accept used clothing!

I dare say that any individual who came out of the depression would have turned their nose up at used clothing. Those individuals knew what it took in order to survive. Not only did they accept used clothing, but any scrap of cloth upon which they could get their hands. They used that cloth to

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Who Would You Follow?

Who would you rather follow,
The one who will show us the way,
Or the one who will lead in darkness,
The one who will lead us astray?

The one says the road is narrow,
And the path to destruction is wide.
The other one says "don't believe Him,"
Come over and be on my side.

The One will always be there to help,
And hear us when we call.
The other will always be there to devour,
And wait for us to fall.

The choice will be up to you, my friend,
To choose Jesus who'll always receive,
Or to follow the ways of Satan,
Whose plan it is to deceive.

Wilma Morris



"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." (Matthew 7:13-14).

"Are we, in this country, not currently fulfilling the exact same words as the Gentiles of old?"

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stitch together clothing that would work. They were thankful for every single bit they could get. Why? Because they knew that they may not have the opportunity to get a bit the next day. What would this generation say regarding the generation that turned down what they valued? They would rise up and call them by what they are, unthankful!

What does the rest of the Romans chapter one say about those who are unthankful? "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four footed beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves..." (Romans 1:22-24) Are we, in this country, not currently fulfilling the exact same words as the Gentiles of old? Awake to righteousness, dear friend.

Kevin Cauley



Bible Studies for the week of December 18th, 2005

- AM Sermon.....Beatitudes—The Pure in Heart
- Scripture Reading.....Matthew 5:1-12
- PM Sermon.....How Heaven is Like the Grand Canyon
- Scripture Reading..... John 14:1-3
- Sunday ClassThe Book of Matthew
- Wednesday Class.....Minor Prophets: Haggai

Kevin's Korner

I hope that you will read my "editorial" in today's bulletin (on the front page). It is of great concern to me that we have become a society of "wasters" and are rapidly progressing down the path of becoming more wasteful every day. There are people in this world who literally would sacrifice their children (i.e. send them over here) in order to have what we have and it seems that we can't get our heads out of the sand long enough to wake up and realize what is going on in the rest of the world sometimes. It's galling!

This past week we had a holiday lunch at the Berryville community center with the various different volunteers that work there on a regular basis. The lunch was delicious and I was very thankful that we had that opportunity. John Gass was also present at the luncheon.

I do want to offer a word of thanks to the elder-

ship as well as all who helped get together the fruit baskets for the nursing home. You may have heard in our announcement this past Wednesday night that in addition to the fruit baskets for our members we prepared an additional twenty-five for the nursing home. This fruit baskets will go a long way toward cheering some of the residents there. Several of them don't have friends or family to come visit them during the holiday season and every little act of kindness means so much to them. I know that they will be appreciative and there is no doubt that such a work has Divine approval. Consider James words in James 1:27, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Pure religion — now there is something we need MORE of in this world!

Again, I want to remind everyone that the Cauley family will be taking vacation time beginning on the 22nd and we will be back home on the 30th, Lord willing and, believe it or not, that is THIS week. I am very grateful that we have this blessing to be able to spend time with our families. It really means a lot to them and to me as well.

Due to the upcoming holidays the next bulletin will be published on January 1st, 2006. I suppose then, that this is the last time to wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy New Year, at least, in print! I do hope that everyone has a delightful holiday season and that we are refreshed and renewed as we enter into the year 2006 which, as the New Year, holds tremendous promise and opportunity for us! Of course, there will be more on that subject next year! See you, by the way, next year!



Thanks to all who helped with the fruit baskets both for our members and the nursing home!

Records for the week of December 11th, 2005

Sunday Bible Class	60
Sunday AM Worship.....	69
Sunday PM Worship.....	51
Wednesday Night Study.....	51
Contribution	\$1402.81
Budget.....	\$1662.00



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Praises, Prayers, and Proclamations

Announcements

- We are thankful to God for this new Lord's Day. It is the day we honor His Son and the Love that He has shown us through Him. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!
- Please remember in prayer: Arlis Eddings, Justina Goucher, Brain Guess, Opal Hull, John Stuckey, Julie Thompson, James Tabor, Rocky Whitely Sr., the Grantham family, those serving, and those traveling this week and next.
- Our monthly potluck is scheduled for this afternoon. We hope that everyone will be available to come and enjoy a meal with us.
- There will be no Bible study at the nursing home during the next three weeks.
- If you would like to add some additional items to the pantry, the children's home will be coming to pick them up soon! Let's stock up!
- There will be no bulletin next week (12/25) due to the holiday.
- There will be no ladies Bible class for the next two weeks due to the holidays. We will resume on January 4th.
- Our pantry item is: Pancake Mix.

God's Salvation Plan

1. **Hear** the Gospel—Romans 10:17
2. **Believe** on the Lord & His Word—Mark 16:16; John 8:24
3. **Repent** of your sins—Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30
4. **Confess** Christ—Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9
5. **Be Baptized** for the remission of sins—Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27
6. Live a **faithful**, dedicated life—Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 1:5-10

Welcome!

Visit our web site: <http://www.the-churchofchrist.com>

Family Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:20 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	6:00 PM
Ladies Bible Class:	10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class:	7:00 PM

Serving Each Other

	18 December 2005	25 December 2005
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Ken Smith	Bill Fort
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Bob Deffenbaugh
Opening Prayer:	Glenn Williams	Ken Smith
Scripture Reading:	Ray Duncan	Jerry Roller
Lord's Table	Dan Hand	Glenn Quigley
	John Gass	Leon Duncan
(assist)	Jerry Roller	Jack Gentry
	Brandon Foster	Perry Foster
Closing Prayer	Clay Bozarth	Leon Duncan
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Glenn Williams	Bruce Foster
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Bob Deffenbaugh
Opening Prayer:	Leon Duncan	Dan Hand
Scripture Reading:	Perry Foster	Dale Pinkley
Lord's Table	Clay Bozarth	Ken Smith
	Michael Morrell	Ray Duncan
Closing Prayer	Ervin Hand	Rusty Windle
Wednesday		
Songs:	Rusty Windle	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Glenn Williams	Rusty Windle
Invitation:	Bill Fort	Bruce Foster
Closing Prayer:	George Eddings	Ray Duncan

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