

Is the one who **compliments** false doctrine, not the one who **censures** it (Tit. 1: 9-11).

Is the one who **cheers** false teachers, not the one who **checks out** false teachers (1 John 4:1).

Is the one who **chooses to sit at the feet** of false teachers, not the one who **calls the names** of false teachers (2 Tim. 2:17-18).

Is the one who **comforts** the false teacher, not the one who **cautions others** about the false teacher (Mat. 7:15; 2 John 9-11).

Is the one who **calls** the false teacher "sound," not the one who **calls upon** the false teacher to give an account for where he stands (1 Pet. 3:15).

— Dave Dugan
Lawton, OK

THAT YOU MAY KNOW...

Let us pray for...

Sheila Beauchamp — recovering from shoulder surgery

Tonya Thatcher — pregnancy difficulties

Kathy Tigner — recovering from surgery, following a fall (Kourtney's mother)

Megan Zies — pregnancy difficulties (Tonya's friend)

Alice Haddon — fighting cancer (Sheri's friend)

Judy Reid — continued recovery auto accident (sister in NJ, planning to move here)

Don Smith — faithful brother in Ohio prison who is teaching fellow inmates daily

Lester Kamp — fighting prostate cancer

Mike Mallett — fighting leukemia (faithful brother in Evant, TX)

Ann Henderson — fighting cancer (Sheri's aunt)

Brian Ritter — fighting rare autoimmune disease (son of Rick Ritter, Gospel preacher)

Tim Smith — fighting chronic physical problems from auto injuries (Gospel preacher)

Samuel Bagsangi — Gospel preacher in Philippines we help support

Joshua Aidoo — Gospel preacher in Ghana we help support

Records you helped make last week...

Bible Classes	18
Sunday AM Worship	18
Sunday PM Worship	17
Wednesday PM Bible Class/Worship	16
Contribution	\$1,150.00
Contribution average (2015)	\$877.50

Internet Sermon broadcasts...

Both sermons each Sunday are broadcast, beginning at approximately 10:45-10:50 a.m. and 1:12-1:15 p.m., via Internet through our Website, www.northpointcoc.com.

Preacher, *The Lighthouse* editor

Dub McClish

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Sunday
Bible Class 9:30 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 1:00 PM
Wednesday
B.C./Worship 7:00 PM



The Northpoint Lighthouse

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History Repeats

A century and a half ago, a few brethren who were determined to have what pleased them in religion were willing to sacrifice respect for both the statement and the silence of Scripture in order to have their idols (primarily musical instruments and separate evangelistic organizations). By the beginning of the past century that element had captured most of the congregations and schools then existing. Those "loving liberals" forced out brethren who were determined to observe the limits imposed by the law of Christ. In very many cases, the Truth-loving remnant (15% of the once united brotherhood) was driven from the congregations (and buildings) they had helped build. These had to begin all over again by meeting in homes and rented or borrowed facilities.

The Lord designed His church with no human head or board over it. Therefore, universal, simultaneous apostasy and division did not (cannot) occur in the church of Christ. Thus the digression-driven division gradually occurred over almost half a century, church by church. The 1906 US census recognized the church-wide division. Those who drove this wedge of division were initially progressive brethren, but within a generation they had morphed into two distinct denominations (the Independent Christian Church and the Disciples of Christ). Brethren today who refer to these sects as "brethren" err greatly. These denominations are not digressive or apostate "brethren"; they long ago became "plants" that God did not "plant," and we ought to "let them alone" (Mat. 15:13-14).

A century after the foregoing digression was beginning (i.e. the 1960s), the cancer of liberalism again began eating at the vitals of the Lord's body. Only those abysmally ignorant or blindly unrealistic will deny it. Liberals (many of them disgustingly elitist, impudent, and irreverent) have come out of their "closets" in droves in recent decades. Their aim has been/is so to blend the Lord's church with the denominations so as to make them and us indistinguishable. They have brazenly announced their intent to stay among us and adulterate as many as possible with their heresies. They have been effective in large part because of the prevalent Biblical illiteracy in most congregations.

Apostates have for some time controlled almost all of the universities and graduate schools begun by brethren. Those not completely “gone” have made major compromises and will only go further. They have been the major fountain-head in the latter digression. Hundreds of churches have been captured (all of the larger ones in metropolitan areas). Leopards will more likely become spotless than that apostate schools or churches will repent. As in apostolic times, so now: “Evil men and impostors shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived” (2 Tim. 3:13). Cowardly and/or doctrinally weak elderships have forfeited their oversight, forcing faithful brethren either to compromise or to depart.

In yet many other cases, the “yeast” of liberalism has gradually, but surely, had its leavening effect. Schools of preaching began springing up a few decades ago because of obvious digression in the colleges. Now most of the preacher training schools have trended in the same direction. Compromises with error and its proponents are rife. Brethren, who a decade ago were stalwart in maintaining Scriptural fellowship boundaries demanded by Ephesians 5:11, 2 John 10-11, and like passages, are now drawing their “circles” ever larger.

“Formal” division such as that of 1906 has not yet come from this Satanic rape of the bride of Christ, but it already exists in fact. The Lord’s church will be better off when this deviation has run its full course and the division/apostasy is so complete that any deniers appear dense or dishonest. Those who stand for the Truth are decidedly in the vast minority again, but it has been thus all the way back to Noah. It will be a relief to be fully detached from the detractors and the turmoil they have caused for so long. In the meantime, our duty is clear:

Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord (1 Cor. 15:58).

Dub McClish
Denton, TX

An Open Letter

Brethren:

It is with the utmost humility that we inform you of a change of worship practices. Be assured that we bring about this change only after much prayer and study. We have recently concluded an in-depth study of the Law, and have decided to bring about a change in the type of fire used in our worship.

We are aware that there is a standing tradition of using only one source of fire for our burnt offerings, but we, as priests, do not feel obligated to blindly follow tradition. Numerous polls indicate the overwhelming opinion that worshipers do not care where we get the fire. We are in agreement with the majority, as we cannot see how a change in fire will affect anything in the least about our sacrifices. Besides all this, nowhere in the Law does the Lord forbid the use of what some

detractors have referred to as “strange fire.” We feel that the lack of such a restriction was meant to give us freedom. Is there any place in the Law that tells us we cannot do something the Lord has not seen fit to condemn? Where are other fires explicitly condemned?

Also, Israel is the only religious group that limits itself to one kind of fire. We have become a laughingstock and have been ridiculed openly by many other groups. We are in great danger of appearing distinctive. This self-righteous, *only-one-fire* policy/practice has alienated us from everyone else. We believe this change will open up many fellowship opportunities.

Now, to set the minds of some of you at ease, we will continue to offer a traditional service using the old-fashioned fire, along with a progressive service that will feature the new fire. This approach will also make it possible to appeal to a younger audience as we discover more entertaining ways to “light the fire” of our assemblies.

For those who still oppose the use of new fire, we ask you not to be judgmental. We also hope you will not use this change as an excuse to divide our people or stir up trouble. We remind you that this has been well thought out and the majority of priests have signed on with us.

We are all very much looking forward to our first *new fire* service. God will be watching, and we anticipate that His joy over seeing His people take a great step toward throwing off the burden of binding tradition will be an electrifying experience. Our new contemporary worship service will no doubt make it easier for us to really be on fire for the Lord!

Please come and enjoy what we know will be an illuminating experience for all of us. See you there ... we think this new practice has the potential to spread like wildfire.

For freedom’s sake!
Your faithful priests,
Nadab & Abihu

P.S. Future plans include the ordination of women priests, inter-idol fellowship activities, and a special service called, “It doesn’t have to be Passover to celebrate Passover.”

— Author unknown

The Troublemaker...

It is the one who **conforms** to false doctrine, not the one who **ceases** it (Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 5:19-23).

It is the one who **commends** false doctrine, not the one who **condemns** it (Eph. 6:10-17).

It is the one who **condones** false doctrine, not the one who **cries out against** it (Acts 20:27-31).

It is the one who **covers up** false doctrine, not the one who **corrects** it (2 Tim. 4:24).