

News and Notes

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Sandy Craig** - Sissy reports that Sandy is doing well, for which we are thankful.
- Jo Ann McLerran** - Confined to home and not doing well.
- Dub McClish** - Home and doing well following a stent implant.
- Glenda Marble** - Faithful Christian at Lexington, Okla. Heart problems.
- Debbie Post** - Wife of Doug Post, preacher in Salisbury, MD. Cancer.
- David Brown** - Spring, Texas preacher. Blood clots in his leg.
- Sissy Craig** - For spiritual and emotional strength.
- Charles and Linda Pogue** - Congestive heart failure.
- Nancy Verkist** - Ellensburg, Washington. Suffering from Von Hippel Lindau disease.
- Don Smith** - Faithful brother in Christ persecuted for teaching fellow inmates in an Ohio prison.

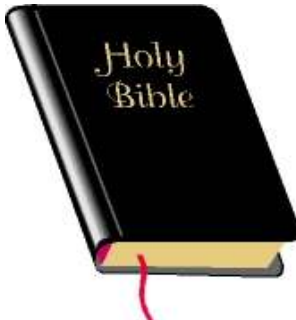
KENYA REPORT - Benard and Veroon were in Ugoro this week in a gospel meeting. He reports three rerstorations in that effort. Several of the "preacher boys" I taught are with them in that meeting and Benard says, "Our preacher boys are here with us going door to door teaching. This is the greatest work they're to do in their lives."

BELLVIEW LECTURES - Jerry and Sherlene will accompany Jess Whitlock to Pensacola, Fla. in June where Jess and Jerry will speak on the Annual Bellview Lectureship, June 9-13.

Preaching On The Worldwide Net
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjd5rSEV1vXCNx52ouOrXoQ>
<https://www.facebook.com/nechurchofchristecok/>
<https://www.necocec.org>

<p>Those Who Serve Sunday Morning, April 30, 2017 First Prayer - Jerry Brewer Closing Prayer - Dylan Brewer Communion - Patrick King Offering - Landry Brewer Sunday Afternoon, April 30, 2017 First Prayer - Patrick King Closing Prayer - Earl Reed</p>	<p>Records - April 23 Attendance Bible Class.....12 Morning Worship.....15 Afternoon Worship.....13 Contribution.....\$187.00</p>
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Weekly Meeting Times	
Sunday Morning Bible Classes.....	9:30
Sunday Morning Worship.....	10:30
Sunday Afternoon Worship.....	5:00



Sound Doctrine

“But speak thou the things that become sound doctrine” (Titus 2:1)

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That “Difficult” King James Version

Bill Jackson (Deceased)

Those in love with the modern-speech translations (and some of them do not even come near being translated) very often speak of the King James Version, and how so very difficult it is to comprehend. It’s really too bad that Great Grandpa and Great Grandma, who had very little formal education, didn’t know that the volume couldn’t be understood.. They did the best they could in obeying God’s will, living the Christian life, bringing up children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, worshiping according to the New Testament pattern, and teaching and baptizing their neighbors into Christ.

And it’s too bad that the pioneer preachers didn’t know the King James (all they had) couldn’t be understood. With their “lack of knowledge,” all they did was live by truth, preach the truth, and convert people from sectarianism as they took the King James and put the denominational doctrines to flight in debate!

Many in our time have turned their children away from the truth in urging upon them some wild version because they, “can’t understand that old King James.” Yes, those very youngsters who can understand chemistry, biology, zoology, calculus, geometry and physics. It must really “blow their minds” to run into a word like “charity” and then have to see that “love” is the modern day word. And look at some of the preachers! All they have is a high school education, and perhaps four years of college, or two years of preacher training, including a study of Greek, and then they cannot comprehend the King James Version.

Brethren, let’s face it. It is the “love of the new and different, even if it’s harmful” that is behind the craving of these new and wild productions. One need not be very bright to see that!

The Gospel And Subjectivism

Dub McClish

Religious convictions based solely upon feelings and experiences characterize our times. These traits have always been trademarks of Pentecostalism and Holiness groups, but they now affect all of the sects. Most religionists trust their eternal destiny to a mere hunch or feeling. Mormons give their sincere, but misguided, “testimony” concerning Joseph Smith and his Book of Mormon because they prayed about it and God confirmed it by a “burning in their breasts.” All such things are only as certain as the feelings, emotions, and moods of those who “testify” about them. Is there anything more fickle than human feelings and emotions?

Such experiences and feelings leave men with no standard. The insincere imposter can claim experiences equal to or even better than those of the most sincere devotee. Pentecostals who do not accept Joseph Smith and his Book of Mormon are obligated (to be consistent) to accept the Mormon “testimony.” (In fact, such religionists who claim to believe in Christ, if they are consistent and fair, must accept the Hindu who sincerely feels that his salvation rests upon Pagan rites and deities.) While not impugning the sincerity of anyone, it must be a very convenient form of religion that rests on “it is so because I say so or I feel so.” This philosophy is correctly called “subjectivism” (“a doctrine that individual feeling...is the ultimate criterion of the good and the right,” *Webster*). Only by following such a doctrine could one smite his breast and declare, “I wouldn’t trade the feeling I have right here for a stack of Bibles”!

Neither the Lord nor His apostles ever rested the salvation they offer upon subjectivism. Nor did they ever count mere feelings or emotions as evidences of salvation. The authority from which their Gospel (the Gospel, Gal. 1:6–9) sprang was not from the imaginings, “hope-so’s,” “think so’s,” or personal feelings of anyone—themselves or others. Their message was not, “Look what we are doing for Jesus,” but “Look what Jesus has done and can do for you.” The message they preached was objective (as opposed to subjective), for it was the Truth, an objective, inflexible standard independent of their own thoughts and feelings. The Gospel of Christ, faithfully communicated to us in the New Testament, is God’s thinking, not man’s (John 16:13; 1 Cor. 2:13; Gal. 1:6–12; et al.). When men wanted to be saved, they were not told to pray till they “felt” a certain way, but to obey the Gospel commands that would put them in touch with the cleansing blood of Christ (Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3–4; et al.). Only by obeying this objective Gospel can one who believes in Christ know that he is saved.

Using Common Sense In Religion

Jerry Brewer

Sincerity is one of the greatest virtues a person can possess, but it is not all-sufficient in any phase of our lives. Sincerity has never made a wrong way right.

Honesty and sincerity are probably more appreciated in people than any other characteristics and the Bible demands those things of every child of God. But many people think that’s all God requires. So often, we hear people say, “Just so a person is honest or sincere, he is saved and will make it to heaven.”

Most people use common sense in every phase of life, but when it comes to religion they toss reason out the window. Religion is the only thing in this world in which people believe that their sincerity, instead of God’s word, makes them right. For instance, a traveler wants to go to a certain place and honestly and sincerely thinks he is on the right road, but he’s going in the wrong direction. I’m sure most of us have been in that situation at one time or another. Does anyone really think that the traveler’s sincerity will bring him to his desired destination? I don’t believe they would.

Why would anyone expect this rule to work in religion when it will not work anywhere else? That’s just not good reasoning. There are many examples in the Bible of people who were sincerely mistaken in what they believed. We also find in those examples that dire consequences follow mistakes, even though a person may be sincere in his belief.

One example is that of the young prophet in First Kings 13. He was an honest and sincere young man and proved to be so when he went from Judah to Bethel at God’s command to denounce Jereboam for his idolatry. God had commanded the young prophet not to eat or drink or dwell in the land, and to return by another way than he came to Bethel, and the young man was sincerely determined to follow God’s instructions. But when he had done what God commanded and was returning home, he met an old prophet who lied to him.

The old prophet told him that God had changed his orders and that the young prophet was to return to Bethel and eat with the old prophet. The young prophet sincerely believed that lie, and lost his life because he failed to obey God. The young prophet was sincere in believing an angel had spoken to the old man, but he was sincerely wrong.

Nothing is more reasonable than true religion and the fact that God has revealed His will in the Bible is proof positive that sincerity alone is not enough to please Him. If sincerity in religion is the standard of right, then the Bible is worthless, for it reveals the right way to heaven and no other way will take us there, even though we may sincerely believe another. Religious lies are abundant and one of the most dangerous is that sincerity alone will save.