

News and Notes

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Pat Miller** - Wife of Jim Miller, Gray, Maine preacher/In therapy from auto accident.
- Dennis Dillon** - Preacher, Parkview church, Odessa, Texas - Esophageal Cancer.
- Nancy Reed** - Various health issues.
- Patrick King** - Hemiplegic Migraine.
- Sandy Craig** - Ongoing kidney problems.
- Jo Ann McLerran** - Back problems/COPD.
- Glenda Marble** - Lexington, Okla. - Heart problems.
- Debbie Post** - Wife of Salisbury, Maryland preacher Doug Post - Cancer.
- Sissy Craig** - For spiritual and emotional strength.
- Charles and Linda Pogue** - Congestive heart failure.
- Nancy Verkist** - Ellensburg, Washington. Von Hippel Lindau disease.
- Chuck Verkist** - Ellensburg, Washington. Undergoing treatment for Prostate Cancer.
- Don Smith** - Faithful brother in Christ persecuted for teaching fellow inmates in an Ohio prison.


ADULT BIBLE CLASS - The adult Bible class continues its study of the book of Revelation. This week, we are in chapter eight.

SYMPATHY - Our sympathy is expressed to the family of Carol Tomlin who passed away this week in Purcell. Her husband, Bill Tomlin, is Sherlene’s cousin. Funeral rites are Monday, Jan. 8 in Purcell.

A PLEA FOR AID - Dennis Dillon who preaches for the Parkview church in Odessa, Texas., has esophageal cancer. His son, Bret, reported last week that he is mostly in bed and too weak for treatment. His Medicare will not cover the high cost of his medical bills. Brother Dillon is worthy of our aid. His address is, Dennis Dillon, 1706 Rosewood Ave. Odessa TX 79761.

KENYA REPORT - Recent contributors to the Keny fund are the Parkview church of Christ, Odessa, Texas; Ron Skinner, Lexington, Okla.; and Gary and Jacque Rogers, Quanah, Texas.

Website - www.necocelkcity.com Face Book - www.facebook.com/nechurchofchristecok You Tube - www.youtube.com/channel/UCjd5rSEV1vXCNx52ouOrXoQ	
<p style="text-align: center;">Those Who Serve Sunday Morning, Jan. 7, 2018 First Prayer - Earl Reed Closing Prayer - Jerry Brewer Communion - Earl Reed Offering - Dylan Brewer Sunday Afternoon, Jan. 7, 2018 First Prayer - Landry Brewer Closing Prayer - Patrick King</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Records - Dec. 31</p> Bible Class.....9 Morning Worship.....17 Afternoon Worship.....15 Contribution.....\$178.00
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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Moses Was An Unbeliever

Jerry C. Brewer

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink. And Moses took the rod from before the Lord, as he commanded him. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts *also*. And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them (Num. 20:7-12).

The point to be made from the above account is God’s statement that, “...ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel...” God called Moses an “unbeliever” and, by extension and implication, He considers anyone an unbeliever who fails to obey His word, whether he is a Christian or an alien sinner.

Moses failed to sanctify God in the eyes of the children of Israel by disregarding what God told him—“speak ye unto the rock”—and striking it with his rod. The word “sanctify” basically means to make holy or set apart. It is from the Hebrew, *kawdash*, and is defined by McClintock and Strong as, “A primitive root; to be (causatively make, pronounce or observe as) clean (ceremonially or morally): - appoint, bid, consecrate, dedicate, defile, hallow, (be, keep) holy (-er, place), keep, prepare, proclaim, purify, sanctify...wholly.” Moses

was told to speak to the rock, but failed to set God apart in the eyes of Israel as the One from whom the commandment came. He ignored God's command, making God common in Israel's eyes instead of the Unique Holy One whom He is. In a fit of pique, Moses substituted his own action for that which God had commanded and sanctified *himself* in Israel's eyes, taking glory and honor from God. Did Moses believe *in* God? Of that, there is no doubt. His problem was that he did not *believe* God, which unbelief was manifested by his substitution for what God had commanded him. That scenario is seen around the world in our day among those who believe *in* God, but are unbelievers who fail to obey His commands.

Liberalism is a philosophy that looses commands which God has bound. An example of that is by observing the Lord's Supper on a monthly, quarterly, or yearly basis, or on another day of the week than the first day. The Bible plainly sets forth the approved apostolic example that the Lord's Supper is to be observed "upon the first day of the week" (Acts 20:7). The church at Troas came together on the first day of the week, as did the church at Corinth (1 Cor. 16:1-2) and Paul regulated the Lord's Supper in that assembly (1 Cor. 11:17-28). To refuse to observe it on the first day of every week is unbelief, and a refusal to sanctify God in the eyes of the people. Liberalism, then, is a system of unbelief.

Another example is the denominational practice of sprinkling water on a person and calling it "baptism." The word, *baptize*, means to immerse, and the inspired Paul described it as a burial (Rom. 6:3-5). Most Methodists will stoutly affirm that they believe *in* God, but they do not *believe* God and are, therefore, unbelievers. Baptists teach the correct "form" of baptism, but deny it is "for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38). They will also say they believe *in* God but they too, are unbelievers because they do not *believe* God. Methodist and Baptist doctrine also teach salvation by "faith only" clearly contradicting the Scriptures (Jas. 2:24). Thus, these two man made religions refuse to sanctify God in the eyes of the people.

Rick Atchley and members of the Richland Hills church in Ft. Worth are also unbelievers. By including mechanical instruments of music in their worship, they fail to believe and sanctify God. Do Atchley and his bunch believe *in* God? They will affirm that they do, but they do not *believe* God and are, therefore, unbelievers.

No one, sanctifies, honors, or glorifies God who does not obey God's word. In His last hours in Gethsemane, Jesus prayed, saying, "I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work thou gavest me to do" (John 17:4). God is glorified when His work is done according to His word, without substituting man's decrees for His.

"For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness" (Rom. 4:3). Abraham didn't just believe *in* God. He believed God's word. One who changes God's decrees for his own is an *unbeliever*. Regardless of how much he professes to believe *in* God, he does not *believe* God.

There Is No Such Thing As Same-Sex Marriage

Dub Mowery (Deceased)

God established marriage at the beginning of time (Gen. 2:18-25). He provided a mate for Adam in the person of Eve, not Steve. During the personal ministry of Jesus Christ He spoke of the Heavenly Father establishing marriage. The Son of God declared:

And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder (Mat. 19:4-6).

Notice His emphasis upon male and female: not male and male, or female and female. In fact, the apostle Paul speaks of such intimate relations between those of the same-sex as "vile affections." Those who become homosexuals or lesbians have departed from God.

Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet (Rom. 1:24-27).

Whether or not a government official recognizes the so-called same-sex marriage it remains an abomination to God. He destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah because of that heinous sin (Gen. 19). A nation or a state might recognize the relations between two people of the same-sex as a marriage, but God does not. The apostle Peter emphasized when laws of an earthly government conflict with God's laws then we are to obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29). Just because a society and/or government recognizes a particular thing does not mean God approves of it.

Even though Herod had married his brother's wife according to the laws of his government, it was not a marriage in the eyes of God. This is pointed out in the following passage: "For Herod himself had sent forth and laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife: for he had married her. For John had said unto Herod, It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife" (Mark 6:17-18).

Thus, in the eyes of God there is no such thing as a same-sex marriage. **(Via, Beacon, Bellview church of Christ, Pensacola, Fla., Aug. 13, 2012)**