

## News and Notes

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**


- Doyle Harris** - Former gospel preacher. Pneumonia, congestive heart failure. In Baptist Hospital, OKC.
- Paul Brantley** - Elder at Bellview, Pensacola, Fla. Heart damage and constant pain.
- Earlene Holley** - Sherlene's mother. On hospice care In Elkwood Assisted Living.
- Janice Ruffner** - Roelf Ruffner's wife, Columbia, TN. Blood clots, Fibromyalgia, Lung problems.
- Nancy Reed** - Various health issues.
- Patrick King** - Hemiplegic Migraine.
- Sandy Craig** - Ongoing kidney problems.
- Jo Ann McLerran** - COPD.
- Glenda Marble** - Lexington, Okla. - Heart problems.
- Paul Marble** - Glenda Marble's son. Recurrence of cancer, now doing well.
- 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** - Brother in Christ persecuted for teaching fellow inmates in an Ohio prison.

**GUEST SPEAKER** - Pat Craig, who preaches for the Eastside church in Lexington, Okla., will speak in Jerry's absence on June 10 while the Brewers are at the Bellview Lectureship.

**KENYA REPORT** - Recent contributor to the Kenya Fund was Ronald Skinner, Lexington, Okla. Thank you to all who support of this good work.

**BUSY MONTH OF JUNE** - The 43rd Annual Bellview Lectureship in Pensacola, Fla. is slightly more than a week away, set for June 8-12. Theme is "The Church" and Jerry will speak three times. Benard Kagaga will attend from Kenya and report on his work during the Open Forum at 3 p.m., Saturday, June 9, and speak on the topic of, "What's Right With The Church" at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, June 11. Lectures will be live streamed on Bellview's website at [www.bellviewcoc.com](http://www.bellviewcoc.com). The Brewers will be accompanied by Dub McClish, leaving June 6 and returning on June 14. They will then go to Texas for a wedding June 15 and return June 16, and to Denison, Texas June 22 for the Morton St. Lectureship June 23-24. They will stay with Jess and Terry Whitlock and Jerry will preach three times on Sunday, June 24.

<p><b>Website - <a href="http://www.necocelkcity.com">www.necocelkcity.com</a></b>  <b>Face Book - <a href="http://www.facebook.com/nechurchofchristecok">www.facebook.com/nechurchofchristecok</a></b>  <b>You Tube - <a href="http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjd5rSEV1vXCnx52ouOrXoQ">www.youtube.com/channel/UCjd5rSEV1vXCnx52ouOrXoQ</a></b></p>	
<p><b>Those Who Serve</b>  <b>Sunday Morning, May 27, 2018</b>                  First Prayer - Landry Brewer Closing Prayer - Jerry Brewer                  Communion - Earl Reed Offering - Dylan Brewer  <b>Sunday Afternoon, May 27, 2018</b>                  First Prayer - Dylan Brewer Closing Prayer - Earl Reed</p>	<p><b>Records - May 20</b>                  Bible Class.....17                  Mornng Worship.....16                  Afternoon Worship.....17                  Contribution.....\$191.00</p>
<p><b>Weekly Meeting Times</b></p>	
<p>Sunday Morning Bible Classes.....9:30                  Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30                  Sunday Afternoon Worship.....5:00</p>	



# Sound Doctrine

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

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## Memorial Day

**Earl D. Reed**

Memorial Day is upon us. The day that began as a memorial for those soldiers fallen in war has expanded to include *all* those loved ones who have gone on. Just as night is the conclusion of day, so death is the end of life. All who live will die (Heb. 9:27; Eccl. 3:20). There is no other path to follow in this world.

As we remember those we have loved in this live, the questions that are forefront in our minds are most likely: “Will I ever see them again?” “Where will we be?” “What will it be like?” The answers to these questions, as they relate to ourselves, are some of the most important we will ever ask.

**First**, will I see them again? Yes, we will see *everyone* who has died at the Judgment Day (John 5:28-29). *All* must appear before Jesus to be judged (Rom. 14:10-11; Acts 17:30-31). We will most assuredly recognize them also. The Bible teaches that we remain *ourselves* after we die (Luke 16:19-31; 1 Sam. 28:3-14).

**Second**, Where will we be? At the judgment we will be before Jesus, giving an account of what we did in this body (Matt. 12:36; 25:31-32; Rom. 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10).

After that, *where* we are will depend on *what* we did in this life. *If* we had obeyed the gospel of Christ (Rom. 6:17; 10:16; 2 Thess 1:7-9) and lived faithful to Him (2 Tim. 4:6-8; Rev. 2:10), we will be in heaven with God and all the saved (Matt. 25:46; Rev. 21:3).

*If*, on the other hand, we never obeyed God's commands required to be saved (Rev. 22:14), or if we did those things and were not *faithful* to Jesus, we will be with the devil, his angels, and all the lost (Rev. 21:8). Entering either place is for eternity (1 Thess. 4:17; Rev. 20:10-15).

**Third**, What will it be like? As the Bible describes it, heaven is a place of light, of peace, of beauty. It is a place of comfort, of joy, of love. It is a place of no regrets, no pain, no night (Rev. 21:4; 22:1-5). Although using figurative language, John assures us that this

place is *real*.

Conversely, hell is a place of darkness, restlessness, of horror. It is a place of torment, of misery (Rev. 21:8; Jude 6, 13). It is a place of remembered opportunities rejected, of hope lost, of salvation refused (Luke 16:25). It is a place of pure, total, and eternal pain. It is a place without light, without love, without God.

So, as we gather around our loved ones' graves this month to place flowers and remember their lives, we must also contemplate that one day others will bring flowers for us. On that day, where will we be?

## How Does God Define “Nakedness”?

*Author Unknown*

In the beginning God created mankind. They sinned and realized they were naked. They covered up their loins, but they didn't cover all their nakedness. God would soon cover the nakedness of both man and woman. There was no “*cultural definition*” of nakedness. What God established from the beginning is the definition of nakedness for all time. What God covered them with was a “coat”. By definition, such an article of clothing begins above the shoulders and would go below the loins. This means chest, stomach, and back were also covered as being naked. However, this term “coat” is not the same as the jacket we know today. It was much longer. By God's definition of nakedness, the coat would cover *from the neck to the thigh going all the way down to the knee* (Ex. 28:42). Now we know God's definition of nakedness.

Now—please ask yourself the following questions, and be honest:

1. Does what I am wearing meet or exceed God's standard for being modest? (Gen. 3:21; Ex. 20:26; 28:40-43).
2. Is it appropriate and respectful? (Gen. 41:14; Matt. 22:11-14) When I dress, would someone think I was going to a picnic or other social activity or can they really tell I am displaying my best in service and worship to God? (Ex. 20:26).
3. Is it too short? Sit down, cross your legs, bend over, reach up and squat down. At any time, does the garment reveal any of your leg above your knees? (Ex. 28:42) With tops and blouses, is your midriff showing at any time? (Gen. 3:21).
4. Is it too tight? Am I revealing my body form which highlights or emphasizes my sexuality?
5. Is it too sheer? Can I see my skin or undergarments through the material? (undergarments exposed=naked in God's eyes John 21:7).
6. Is the neckline too low? Sit or bend over. What can you see? Are your undergarments visible?
7. Does what I am wearing say that I am dressed to be *chaste* (pure and holy) or *chased* (worldly)?
8. Because of how I am dressed, would someone mistake me for a worldly person—a harlot? (Prov. 7:10; Gen. 38:15).
9. Because of how I am dressed, will it encourage others to lust after me? (Rom. 14:13; 1 Cor. 8:9; Matt. 5:27, 28).
10. Will what I'm wearing help or hurt my influence for Christ? (Rom. 13:10; 15:3; Phil. 2:3, 4).
11. Will what I am wearing today bring God glory (1 Cor. 10:31; Ex. 28:40, 43; Isa. 61:3) and

portray me as a godly person? (1Tim. 2:9,10)?

When it comes to the clothing you wear, are you concerned about what God's word teaches on the matter? Are you concerned about bringing shame and reproach upon the Lord's church when you choose to dress immodestly? We all need to think seriously about how we cloth ourselves in public. (*The Northside Anchor, Calhoun, Georgia, May 27, 2018*)

## 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. During the personal ministry of Jesus Christ He spoke of the Heavenly Father establishing marriage. “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.