

For Our Information

Brenda Keisler is feeling some better. It will be a few more weeks before she can get treatment for her neck pain.

Ricky Ragsdale had chemo treatments last week. This will be an every other week series for him.

The Simpson Family is out of town this weekend.

Remember, every season has distractions that can draw us away from serving God. Though at times we may be hindered by things beyond our control, we must be diligent to put God first in all things. We must remain vigilant at all times.

Keep your brothers & sisters in mind

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ

1512 Tanner Street

Malvern, AR 72104

(501) 332-8806

preacher@tannerst.com

Visit us on the web at

tannerst.com

Seeking His Righteousness

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That Was Paul Said That! Wasn't It?"

Fred Shewmaker

Many years ago black brethren in Los Angeles conducted a tent meeting with brother G. P. Holt of Indianapolis doing the preaching. Back then black brethren conducted gospel meetings in a little different manner than that which is familiar to many of us today. If you never have attended such a meeting, you have missed a very enjoyable experience.

Sitting on the front row would be a number of brethren with Bible in hand. Those brethren were readers. Any time the preacher referred to a passage of scripture each reader would try to be the first one to find it and be the one ready to read it aloud, when the preacher would say, "Read it."

As a reader read, the preacher would repeat the words of the passage. Sometimes instead of



*If anyone thinks
he is a prophet
or spiritual, let
him recognize
that the things
which I write to
you are the
Lord's
commandment.
1Corinthians*

14:37



1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

Meet With Us

Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

TannerSt.com

A Couple of Observations

Our article this week speaks of those who want to reject the teaching of Paul. This is similar to some I hear today who only give attention to the "red letter teaching" of the Bible. Teaching regarding the sinfulness involved in divorce, sexual immorality, homosexuality, etc is often answered with "Jesus didn't say anything about that." Often it can be shown that Jesus did teach on such things, but sometimes a "red letter teaching" is not available. This is not an acceptable argument. The teaching of the Apostles and inspired writers are the "Lord's commandments" just as much as the statements of Jesus in the Gospels.

This article also highlights that our way of doing things is not the only way, but no matter what method we use to teach and worship, it must remain in accordance with Scripture.

repeating what had been read the preacher would substitute another word, phrase or clause. Whenever that would happen the reader would reread the portion for which the substitution had been made and the preacher would emphasize that the passage did not say that which he had substituted. If the preacher wanted to especially emphasize that a certain passage does not say the thing he had substituted, he would, as though arguing with the reader, repeat the substitution two, three or maybe four times and the reader would reread the portion as many times. Then the preacher, as though defeated in argument, would admit that the passage said the thing the reader had been reading.

Another difference in the meetings those brethren conducted back then was their openness. It was not unusual for the preacher to be interrupted by a member of the audience speaking up in disagreement with what the preacher had said.

One night of the meeting to which I made reference, the preacher was interrupted four or five times. The most memorable of those was when a lady arose and expressed disagreement with some point that had been made. The preacher replied that in the assembly women are to be silent. The woman responded, "That was Paul said that! Wasn't it?"

At that point R. N. Hogan arose and read 1Corinthians 14:37 *"If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord."* Then he asked the woman, "Will you acknowledge that the things Paul wrote are the commandments of the Lord?" When the woman's reply showed that she intended to completely ignore the question, he repeated it and the woman walked out of the tent.

Before the woman reached the opening in the tent wall, the preacher remarked, "That is why God has

Store In My Heart

Romans 3:23

For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and are falling short of the honor and glory which God bestows and receives.

This quote is from the Amplified Version and includes the end of the previous verse. I quote the AMP because it shows the ongoing nature of our need for God.

Not only is there no perfect person, each of us continues to "fall short" of what God desires. Everyone is in need of redemption through Christ. On our own we will continue to engage in activity that keeps us from the honor and glory of God.

While Paul deals with Jew and Gentile in this text, we must know God makes no distinction between men even today.

men to run the church; women just can't take the pressure." Whether we agree or disagree with his remark, we must acknowledge that what Paul wrote was commanded by the Lord.

It is reported that in a unity forum a famous singer-actor who formerly was a member of the church, but has turned pentecostal (Foursquare, I think) remarked, "When it seems that Paul and John disagree, you should rely on John every time." It seems to me, that statement reveals the reason that man turned to pentecostalism. He rejected *"the commandments of the Lord"* which were written by Paul.

It appears that there is a growing number of people who deny the truth because they have rejected the things written by Paul. This rejection of Paul's writings has resulted from an assertion that his writings are in conflict with the other New Testament writings. This assertion has given rise to the expression, "Pauline Theology," meaning that Paul's teachings differ from the teachings of the rest of the new Testament.

Having studied the word of God most of my life and having preached for more than 15 years, I must still confess total ignorance of the alleged difference and conflict. In that I have not been able to find these, I am led to believe that the allegation arises out of simple rebellion against the plain will of God. As Mark Twain is reported to have said, "When a fellow ain't going to do a thing, any excuse will do." I believe many today who "ain't going to do" the commandments of God are excusing themselves by saying, "That was Paul said that! Wasn't it?" They will be surprised in the day of judgment when the Lord reveals to them that the things which Paul wrote are the commandments of God and that they must stand condemned for rejecting God's commandments.

Written in January 1976