

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence **2Peter 1:3**

## Store In My Heart

### 2Samuel 5:4-5

David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months, and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

The first book of Samuel recorded the rise and fall of Saul, the first king of Israel. David was prominent in that record as well because God chose him to replace Saul.

The second book of Samuel continues this record and tells us the story of Israel under the rule of David. In this record we see both triumph and failure in the nation, its king and many of those around him. Internal and external fighting are a common thread throughout this book. Though David sought to serve God, he was not perfect and much of his reign was spent in fighting and unrest because of his sin.



# How Important Is The Silence Of God?

Glenn Melton

*"The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law"*

**Deuteronomy 29:29**

God has not revealed everything He knows, but has revealed *"..all things that pertain unto life and godliness..."* **2Peter 1:3**. How important is the silence of God? An illustration will be helpful, *"For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood"* **Hebrews 7:14**. The tribe of Levi was the priestly tribe. Moses did not have to name the other tribes and tell the Jews that no one in those tribes could be priests. God just specified the tribe from which priests would come and that settled the matter. A stranger, one of another tribe, could not draw near to offer offerings to the Lord. Remember King Saul (**1Samuel 13**) and King Uzziah (**1Samuel 26**)? The silence of God is important and must be observed by men.

*"And certain men...taught the brethren...Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved"* **Acts 15:1**. These Jewish teachers were trying to bind part of the law of Moses on Gentile Christians. They were violating the silence of God. The Holy Spirit was silent about sinners being circumcised to be saved.

## Contact Us

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

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## For Our Information

Joyce Venable was in the hospital for a few days last week.

Paula Laubach has had some increased pain in and around her knee.

Ruben Keisler goes back to the shoulder doctor this week.

Amy and Gracie Simpson are out of town this weekend.

Tonight we start our study in 1Samuel 3:15 at 5 pm.

Wednesday we will begin our study in 2Corinthians 8.

**Pray for safety, courage & healing.**

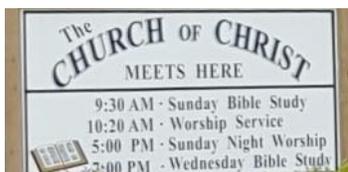
The Holy Spirit has specified that Christians break bread (**Acts 20:7**) and lay by in store (**1Corinthians 16:2**) on the first day of the week. He has been silent about Christians breaking bread and laying by in store on any other day of the week. Because of this silence we conclude that to break bread and lay by in store on any other day than the first day of the week is sinful.

The inspired apostle Paul specified "...singing..." in **Ephesians 5:19**. God has been silent about the use of mechanical instruments in worship. They are not named anywhere in the New Testament. For man to introduce them into worship to God is to violate the silence of God.

The New Testament requires that Christians "...lay by in store, as God hath prospered..." them (**1Corinthians 16:2**). Tithing, giving a tenth, has not been authorized by God as a requirement for His children. A person may give a tenth if that is according to his prosperity, but to teach that each one is to give a tenth is to violate God's silence, to speak where God has not spoken.

God has been silent about one church sending money to another church to preach the gospel. So why do churches do it anyway? It is the wisdom of men and the doctrine and commandments of men (**Matthew 15:9**). God's silence is important!

(Many of the innovations that have infiltrated the Lord's Church seek to find authorization in what God has not said in His Word. This type of attitude toward the Word of God will not lead to practices that are pleasing to Him. We must seek to make certain that God has given His authorization for every action. Too often the things seeking to 'slide in' through the 'silence' argument are more focused on pleasing men than doing God's Will. I learned as a young fellow that trying to use "but you didn't say not to" as authority lead to more punishment than praise. If we just follow God and His Word we can be certain that He will be pleased with our work. Silence does not equal consent in most any area of life. Why would we think it would be what God desires? Keep focus on God's Word. Study with careful concern for Truth. Pray with confidence. Work with diligence. Please God in all things. DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!