

**November 10, 2008**

## **SERMONS FOR SUNDAY**

**November 16, 2008**

a.m. *"The Gift of the Sabbath"*

Scripture: Mark 2:23-27

p.m. *"Spiritual Architecture"*

Scripture: Ephesians 2:11-22

### **Spiritual**

Don Hatch

**Spiritual corresponds** to being capable of displaying attributes of the Spirit. The word has reference to the essence, character or a moral equivalent. In a comparative way it demonstrates the difference between moral and immoral, good and wicked, godly and ungodly. Being spiritual is the antithesis [direct opposite] of physical. Spirituality springs from God who imparts a certain nature. Spiritual presupposes that there is a standard of what will be called spiritual. Spiritual overrides the notion of mere instincts because it can be lost and renewed. Spiritual describes a person who is guided by principles derived from God. The spiritually minded person is led by the Spirit through the word (1 Cor 2:6-13). It must have authority for actions and deeds.

The realm in which a spiritually minded person lives is the expression of moral purity coupled with integrity of mind, soul and spirit. The highest plain to which a person can aspire to is spiritual. The spiritual person seeks influences that emanate from God and abide in His principles for such a life. It is rightly understood that the maintaining of spiritual living is distinctive from a degenerative moral nature.

**The state of being spiritual** is the highest word used to describe one who has been regenerated, sanctified, redeemed, holy and reconciled to God by Christ. Spirituality covers a wide range of man's behaviors, his faculties, intellectual endeavors, feelings, will and attributes. The will can be divorced from aspects of the spirituality but the spiritual can not be divorced from intelligence. If one is to be spiritual the intelligence is touched by the word of God and the mind comes under its control. There is a mental quickness wherein the inner being is alive to what God requires. The will of God must work on the mental facilities by adjusting reason and preferences enabling one to think and discern the ways of God. Broadly the spiritual concept is to amend one's will to be in harmony with God's. Every realm of mental activity such as science, art, philosophy, commerce, law or religion is subjected to finding the spiritual inclination which will benefit the soul of man. Spiritual growth implies a favorable condition of the soul of man with God. Growth is natural, gradual, requires effort and activity needful to perfect character. Spiritual education is not cramming of the mind with different ideas, but developing capacities of real character which demonstrate the highest purposes for a life to accomplish. It is a metamorphosis like a caterpillar to the butterfly (Rom 12:1-5). Spirituality is a great change facilitating, bringing about a new creature. Each should educate

the character and develop full conformity to the will and purpose of God. Conforming to His likeness and growing in spiritual knowledge is a high calling.

**The rewards of being spiritual are enormous.** The Lord Himself is the rewarder (Col 3:23-25). He who inhabits eternity gives every spiritual blessing (Eph 1:3). Not everyone will have these riches (Mat 7:15-23). Accounting one's self to be spiritual is not comparable to having the Lord pronounce it so. The earnest seeker is a careful worker of righteousness, sowing seeds of righteousness (Prov 11:18; Rom 8:1-10). Spiritual people humbly submit to the will of God and are steadfast believers who have complete confidence in God. Each individual's works will be manifested as to what sort it is (1 Cor 3:10-15). The reward will be openly given for works secretly known only to God. The pure in heart know God's will and adjust their lives to be pleasing unto Him. Such adjusted reasoning thinks on God's thoughts and discerns His purposes, nature and will. Harmony of man with God is manifested in the state of the soul setting the individual to seek God's divine will.

**The spiritually-minded individual** is one whose will is unrelenting in seeking a moral fiber which strengthens the ethical being under the guidance and authority of the word of the Lord. There is an estimation of worthiness and desire to follow a true course necessary for a spiritual person. Under the sway of the divine mandate a state of voluntary and joyful surrender to God's will focuses on divine results revealed within the Bible. There is absolutely nothing in the carnal mind which pleases God. The carnal mind is not a passive part of life but is the worst which man can develop called "enmity against God" (Rom 8:6, 7). A corrupt being cannot produce good fruit as seen in the comparison made by Jesus of a tree and its fruits (Mat 7:15-23). The spiritually minded individual has clear evidence of bearing fruits of light because they have no fellowship with works of darkness (Eph 5:3-14). They yield their members to God as instruments of righteousness (Rom 6:11-13).

**Spiritual lives are needed.** Such lives impart wellbeing to an individual which cannot be derived from the world or worldly living. The spiritual life fulfills the purposes of God and benefits mankind. Only a spiritual life can claim redemption in Christ. Its eternal worth is established now and in eternity God will be glorified for its benefits. As "...more than conquerors" the power of our conquest is the aggressive action taken by God to separate us from sin and our willingness to submit to God's will and do His appointed "spiritual service" (Rom 12:1). The sacrifice of Jesus for us demands sacrifice on our part to insure the greater blessings. A life of surrender to God is the only reasonable life which properly adjusts our relationship with eternity. Being spiritual is a noble trait!

## **FAMILY CARE**

### **A Message from Our Shepherds**

The elders are pleased with the great response of those willing to share their love and support to our missionaries. These are the match-ups that we have so far:

Ty and Samantha Harvey - Oleg and Natasha Yakimenko, St. Petersburg, Russia

Rob and Michelle Farmer - Glen and Kuin Tattersall, Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

Brandon and Kenica Thomason - Gary and Nadya Workman, Ukraine

Ilene Ashworth - Charlie and Mary DiPalma, Kangayang, India and Malaysia

Marjorie Bennett - Ivy Paul, Bitragunta, India

Melvin and Evelyn Armstrong - Roland and Rose Mohsen, Paris, France

Jerry and Laquita Baker - Terry and Pam Laurence, Bear Valley School of Preaching, (Navajo Nation, Arizona)

Stan and Doris Selby - Dennis and Beth Johnson, Chennai, India

Letitia Beverly - Ian and Mabel McPherson, Devonport, Tasmania, Australia

Richard and Carolyn Renfro - Ted Lingren, Sisophon, Cambodia - Wil and Telanda Sadler, Military Missions Europe

Please contact or email me [renfro.richard@att.net](mailto:renfro.richard@att.net) , if you are interested in participating in this program. We are sure that all will truly enjoy the experience of uplifting one another with these notes of encouragement.

Go to our webpage <http://www.beltlinechurch.com/> for our missionaries' email addresses. "This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men." Titus 3:8. Have a wonderful week in the Lord.

~ Richard L. Renfro

### **Deliverance From Sin**

One of the wonderful aspects of Christianity is deliverance from sin. Souls which have been delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of the Son of God's love are delivered from sin (Col 1:13). Jesus Christ is their spiritual Savior and Emancipator.

By submissive faith and reliance on Christ, individuals become children of the living God (2 Cor 6:1-18). After one has complied with the first principles of the oracles of God he can appeal to Him on all matters great or small. Christian blessings are a result of being saved, not the cause. Spiritual affirmation of blessings from God is to have an imposing spiritual life of faith.

Fellowship with God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are spiritual persuasions to act responsibly as children of God. In partaking of spiritual blessings the requisite is that we add items of intrinsic worth to our lives. These are faith, virtue, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and love (2 Pet 1:1-11).

~ Don Hatch; article to appear in the November 13, 2008 issue of the Dallas Morning News

### **'Tis Joy To Die**

Why should I dread to pass the silent portal  
That opens up the pathway to the great beyond,  
To tread the road proclaimed for every mortal  
When unshackled spirit burns its earthly bond?  
Do I not know that when this life has ended,  
And every shadow of its care has fled,  
When all we love, with whom our souls have blended  
Have sunk to rest with "those whom we call dead",  
That in that land, beyond the mystic river,  
Absolved from error and devoid of strain,  
Blessed by the bounty of the mighty Giver,  
A brighter life shall dawn for us again!  
That there the wounded heart that well nigh perished  
Beneath its load of suff'ring and of wrong,  
Sustained by faith and by affection cherished,  
Shall thrill the heavens with its grateful song.  
That there the stricken souls who vainly waded  
Tumultuous waters in life's stormy sea  
Shall know at last a peace that's unabated  
Through endless ages of eternity.  
No longer, then, will doubt's destroying power  
Obscure the radiance of the future's sky,  
But let me wait in patience for the hour  
That kindly teaches me. "'Tis joy to die.?"

~ J. H. Gray

### **GREETER ASSIGNMENTS**

#### **Sunday, November 16, 2008**

**Front foyer:** Ilene Ashworth, Carol Swinney; Robert & Cathy Taylor

**Back foyer:** JC & Dessie Ross

#### **Sunday, November 23, 2008**

**Front foyer:** Mike & Elizabeth Garrison; Thomas Rathbun

**Back foyer:** Nancy Pond; Roberta Price

## Family News:

### MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

### MENS' GATHERING/DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** gathering will meet at 6:00 a.m. in the Annex.

### SINGING SESSION

The Sunday afternoon singing session will be held at 5:15 p.m. in room #116.

### LADIES

The **Sunday afternoon** Ladies' Class will meet in room #107 at 4:45 p.m.

The Tuesday morning Ladies' Bible Class will meet in the Annex on **November 18<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30 a.m.

### 39'ers

The 39'ers will meet in the Annex next Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. for food & fellowship. Come join us!

### NEW ADDRESS

Please update your phone directory: Mike & Pam Mathews, 608 Knott Ct.; Euless, TX 76039; phone, same: 817-283-8609. The Prince's will be moving shortly, but not yet...will keep you advised.

### GOSPEL MEETING TAPES

If you requested copies of the Gospel Meeting CD's, they are ready & marked in the sound room.

### A HUGE THANK YOU!

Many heartfelt thanks to all who participated in making the Solo Sister luncheon such a success. Those who were honored were overwhelmingly touched. May the Lord bless you for your love, time & energy!

### IT'S A BOY!

Dorris & Janie Walker are the proud grandparents of a new grandson who was born on Friday (11/7).

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

**Henry & Frances Seidmeyer** celebrate their 54<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary today (11/10). What a milestone; congratulations!

## PRAYER CONCERNS

·**Beverly McKey** is struggling with her health.

·**David Bowman** (Nancy Pond's brother) had successful surgery to remove a cancer on his face & is doing well.

·**Johnny Bowman** (Nancy's other brother) underwent surgery for a cancer on his ear; they've removed part of his ear & will return for reconstructive surgery later.

·**Mary Gough** (Elizabeth Garrison's sister) has a mass & is being tested.

·**Wayne Ruyle** (Ilene Ashworth's son-in-law) will undergo open heart surgery on Wednesday (11/12) in Plano.

·**George Ryon** (Ann's son) remains in Baylor/Irving, CCU #7; he has undergone dialysis & will need gallbladder surgery.

·**Crystal Vaughan** (Mary Curtis' daughter) had successful surgery on the disc in her neck.

Continue to remember those who are recuperating or suffering with long-term illnesses, including: Bob Bingham, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Don & Judy Hancock, Joann Hatch, Jack & Frances LaFerney, Garldean Latham, Tom Prince, Frances Tipton, Thomas West, Brad Anderson (Bill Paschall's friend), Frank Garrett (Fauna's husband), Percy Henry (Hank's brother), Todd Jonas (Charlene Carroll's grandson), Willie Lawson (Shellie Pearce's dad), Mildred Pennington (the Gilliam's sister-in-law), Chelsea Sutton (the Garrison's granddaughter), Crystal Vaughan (Mary Curtis' daughter), & our shut-ins.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Be sure and mark your calendar -**

- Nov 16: Singing session in room #116 at 5:15p.m.
- Nov 16: Sunday afternoon Ladies' Bible Class at 4:45 p.m. in room #107
- Nov 17: 39'ers to meet in the Annex at 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 18: Tuesday morning Ladies' Class at 9:30 a.m. in the Annex

**NURSERY ATTENDANTS**

**Sunday morning:**

- Jamie Little

**Sunday evening:**

- Debra Alonzo

**LORD'S TABLE/MORNING**

**Front Table**

- Purman Cofer
- Jerry Baker
- Dorris Walker
- Marvin Brown
- Mike Garrison
- Stan Selby
- John Mayer
- Ty Harvey

**Rear Table**

- JC Ross
- Robert Taylor
- Max Melton
- Keith Vaughn
- Bobby Bowen
- Jeremy Hardegree
- Virgil LaFerney
- Derroll Allen

**SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS**

- Richard Renfro
- Brandon Thomason
- Harold Head

**SCRIPTURE READING**

- Jeremy Hardegree  
Mark 2:23-27

**SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS**

- Rob Farmer
- Jerry Baker

**LORD'S TABLE/EVENING**

- Robert Ruckman
- Garl Latham

**COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS**

- Mike Batot

**FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET**

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	112	103	95	125
A.M. Worship	162	171	165	210
P.M. Worship	82	92	95	112
Wed. Class	108	97	95	110
Ladies Bible Class	30	20	22	35
Contribution	\$7253	\$5311	\$5412	\$5400

## **MISSIONS**

21<sup>st</sup> Century Global Missions

Charlie & Mary DiPalma - India

Roland & Rose Mohsen – France

JB & Ivy Paul – Bitragunta, India

Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine

Glen & KuinTattersall – Australia

Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko - Russia

Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions

Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX

Foster's Home for Children – Stephenille, TX

Ian & Mabel McPherson – Tasmania Australia

Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web

Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia

Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

Terry & Pam Laurence – Bear Valley School of Preaching

Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India