

How To Be A Great Servant Of God

How can I be a great servant of God? How can I be God's kind of elder in the church of the Lord? How can I be an evangelist that will bring honor to the Master? How can I be a godly deacon in the church of our Lord? How can I be the Christian God wants me to be? How can I be a strong Bible class teacher? These questions are all answered by three simple but amazing statements found in James chapter four.

Submit to God: "Submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (James 4:7) The idea is that of unconditional surrender to the Almighty. We must get ourselves "in rank" with God and with the faithful people of God. It is impossible to submit both to God and Satan! None can serve two masters. (Matthew 6:24) Joy, peace, usefulness and real hope are found only through our submitting to God. Those that wish to be great servants of God must, "Submit to God."

Draw near to God: "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." (James 4:8) The idea of nearness to God involves "likeness" to God. When we sing of being "More like the Master" or being "Nearer my God to thee" we are in fact singing the same sentiments. To be more like the Master is to be nearer the Master. Those that wish to be great servants of God must, "Draw near to God."

Humble yourself before God: "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up." (James 4:10) When we empty ourselves of pride and haughtiness of heart then we can become useful in God's kingdom. Psalm 34:18 says, "The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." If you wish to be a great servant of God you must, "Humble yourself before God."

(copied from The Northside Anchor, Calhoun, Georgia)

The Influence of Evolution

Ben Jones

Charles Darwin's theory of evolution seemingly has become one of the most universally accepted ideas of our time. Debates on the subject have highlighted the alleged conflict between science and faith, although capable men and women have shown the two disciplines to be compatible. Unfortunately, evolution's influence permeates everything today from textbooks to television to children's toys. As a result, this theory can have a dangerous affect on the way people think about important spiritual matters.

Evolution and the Purpose of Life

The Bible reveals God's purpose for man, both in creation through Adam, and re-creation through Christ. God's power is displayed by man's weakness (Exodus 9:16), while man's potential is realized in Christ (Ephesians 2:10). By contrast, evolution essentially teaches that the purpose of life is simply to exist. The weak die; the strong adapt and survive. In effect, this way of thinking is the ultimate form of materialism. However, a man's life consists neither in the abundance of his possessions, nor the superiority of his genes. Long life, good health and a large family may all be desirable, but they do not commend men to God. In fact, the absence of these things may well teach men to depend on God for their strength (2 Corinthians 12:10). "And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

Evolution and the Value of Life

Long before Thomas Jefferson wrote that all men are created equal, the apostle Paul proclaimed that "God has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth" (Acts 20:26). However, the principle of natural selection demands that all men are not equal, and the removal of inferior traits is necessary for the good of the species. This sort of warped mindset has influenced entire cultures (including our own) to accept the atrocities of slavery, eugenics, ethnic cleansing, euthanasia and abortion. Evolutionary thought places value on human life based on a given set of characteristics considered desirable at the time. The Bible places value on every human life because it is created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27), it is very good in God's sight (Genesis 1:31) and it is the motivation for Christ's death (Romans 14:15).

Evolution and the Existence of Morality

The Apostle Paul quoted a poet who wrote, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons" (Titus 1:12). Today, some men still behave like beasts. The Bible defines this behavior as willful ignorance and disobedience, which will be punished at the Judgment (Romans 1:18-32; Acts 17:30-31). Evolutionists, however, try to explain man's behavior as the result of primitive survival instincts, which have no intrinsic moral value. A Natural History of Rape, published by MIT Press, is one such so-called scientific attempt to explain a heinous act as the byproduct of natural selection. God will ultimately require accountability even if men do not (2 Corinthians 5:10).

Evolution and the Inspiration of the Bible

During the infamous Scopes Monkey Trial, William Jennings Bryan was forced to admit his doubt in the biblical account of creation. The inability to reconcile the millions of years necessary for evolution to occur with a literal account of creation has since caused many other Bible readers to doubt the credibility of the Scriptures. Several theories have been devised to allow the seven days of Genesis to be interpreted figuratively, but the notion of theistic evolution has only served to further weaken the conviction that the Bible is the fully inspired, authoritative Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16).

Conclusion

Evolution is simply an idea, but ideas have real consequences. They influence decisions, and eventually they shape the values of a society. Surely the danger can be seen in a valueless society shaped by the folly of evolution. via Gospel Gazette Online

NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)
Remember in Prayer:

Please check the bulletin boards for updates on Prayer Request Lists. Please update us if needed. Also please pray for those directly and indirectly affected by Covid-19, and please keep us updated.

In Other News:

The Friend of Truth



Greensboro Road church of Christ
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405

(870) 932-3920

“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

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KeeNotes

Satan works in so many devious ways to undermine the unity and fellowship of the local church. He puts on the robes of an angel, as if he is only wanting what is best for us and uses our personal thoughts and convictions in matters of judgment to divide us. The old restoration preachers of the 19th century had a slogan they tried to live by. It said something like this, “In matters of faith, unity; in matters of judgment, liberty; and in all things love.” So, as we face matters of faith, we are all in agreement. We are not arguing about the essentiality of baptism, the one church, the use of mechanical instruments of music in our worship or any number of other such things. No, Satan cannot get an advantage over us in these matters, so he comes at us in another way.

Satan uses civil government to try to discourage us from coming together and worshipping. This pandemic is causing civil leaders to discourage gatherings, even for worship. Then Satan uses language and words to confuse and discourage us. Is there a difference in a mandate and a guideline? When local news reports confuse the words and say a mandate has been required for churches, when plainly the governor said he was only offering a guideline for churches and believed in the separation of church and state and did not want to try and mandate what churches must do, Satan uses this to his advantage. Do we let this separate us and divide us? Or, do we see what is happening and draw closer together and more determined not to let Satan gain an advantage over us?

Are the things surrounding this pandemic a matter of faith or a matter of judgment? How likely is it that we will all be of the same judgment in these matters? If this is not a matter of faith, should we let this divide us? If all these things are matters of judgment then let us all love one another. After all, is it not by this that all men shall know we are disciples of Jesus? “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one to another” (John 13:34,35). Let our love for the Lord and one another far surpass and override any personal judgments that might ever cause any doubts to creep into our fellowship and unity.

SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols
Randy Oden
Jody Pickens

DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard
Jerry Dodson
Mike Felts
Jason Garland
Marshall Lands
Mark Wooten

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

MISSIONARIES

Michael Hughes
Samrit Kammanee
Arnold Kelley
Guyana, South America
Warren, PA

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God
Romans 10:17

Believe the Word of God
John 8:24

Repent of your sins
Luke 13:3

Confess your faith in Jesus
as the Son of God
Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for the
remission of your sins
Acts 2:38

Live faithfully
Revelation 2:10

“Where there is no vision,
the people perish...”
Proverbs 29:18

God Give Us 2020 Vision
in 2020

Those Privileged To Serve November 22, 2020

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader: Ben Johns
Opening Prayer: Mark Wooten
Closing Prayer: Craig Nelson
Bible Reading: Logan Snyder
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

LORD’S TABLE

Presiding: Jerry Dodson
J. L. May James Johnson
Reginald Read Scottie Blanchard
Gerald George Jack Johnson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jody Pickens

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader: Noah Flanrey
Opening Prayer: Hal Baugh
Closing Prayer: Kevin Roush
Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

November 25, 2020
Song Leader: Scottie Blanchard
Opening Prayer: J. L. May
Closing Prayer: Scott Pratt

DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER

November 25, 2020
Dan Nichols

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK Week Of November 15, 2020

Sunday Bible Study	86
Sunday AM Worship	105
Sunday PM Worship	87
Wednesday Bible Study	82
Contribution	\$4943

“The sluggard will not plow
by reason of the cold;
therefore shall he beg in
harvest, and have nothing.”

Proverbs 20:4