

The REMINDER

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX

Volume XXXII

July 28, 2013

Number 30

A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MY PEOPLE AND YOUR PEOPLE

When God brought the ten plagues upon Egypt to cause Pharaoh to let Israel go, God's purpose was not to punish Israel, but to convince Egypt. Therefore, it is specifically pointed out in the record of some of the plagues that they were intended for Egypt only, that Israel would not be the recipient of those plagues. When God through Moses warned Pharaoh of the coming plague of flies, he said, "I will make a difference between My people and your people" (Ex. 8:23). God made a difference between those who were His people and those who were not. Those who were His people received His mercy and blessings. Those who were not His people received punishment. There is a difference between those who are God's people and those who are not. They are different both as to their present condition and their future destiny.

Present Condition - Those who are God's people have "redemption through Christ's blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace" (Eph. 1:7). God's people have "the peace of God, which passes all understanding" (Phil. 4:7). His people have been blessed "with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 1:3). Those who are not God's people are different. They are still in their sins, and in that condition are spiritually dead (I Tim. 5:6). While in sin, one has "no hope and is without God in the world" (Eph. 2:11). Those who reject the opportunity to become children of God do not have the redemption, peace, and spiritual blessings possessed by God's people.

Future Destiny - There is also a difference regarding future destiny. "For wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many are they that enter in thereby. For narrow is the gate and straitened the way that leads unto life, and few are they that find it" (Matt. 7:13-14). God's people have the promise, "And he shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and death shall be no more; neither shall there be mourning nor crying, nor pain, any more" (Rev. 21:4). But those who reject God's message and invitation to man, there remains "a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and a fierceness of fire which shall devour the adversaries" (Heb. 10:27).

God's invitation is open to all, but man must respond in order to change our state from an enemy of God to a child of God. Don't wait till it's too late.

Bulletin Board

Sermon Notes:

AM Lesson - Steve - "Building Marriages That Last - God's Message to Wives" (Part 2)
 PM Lesson - Jack - "A Distinct People" (Part 3)

NEWS AND NOTES: Health wise, we're mostly doing well. Many remain on the long term sick list. Most of that goes out on Monday via email. Shannon did suffer a fall this week. Hope she is mobile enough to make it out today.

Many will be out of town today. Not sure who has gotten back, who is still gone and who leaves today. Maybe we can catch up on that during announcements today.

There are several "youth lectures" and gospel meetings in the area. Check the bulletin board for details.

"The best argument for Christianity is Christians; their joy, their certainty, their completeness. But the strongest argument against Christianity is also Christians - when they are somber and joyless, when they are self-righteous and smug in complacent consecration, when they are narrow and repressive; then Christianity dies a thousand deaths. When the joy, the completeness, and the beauty of a Christian is cultivated and communicated, evangelism is a glorious result."

(Life-style Evangelism, Joseph Aldrich)

Satan's Beatitudes

"Blessed are they who are too tired and busy to go to church on Sunday, for they are my best workers."

"Blessed are they who are bored with the minister's mannerisms and mistakes, for they get nothing out of the sermon."

"Blessed is the church member who expects to be invited to his own church, for he is part of the problem instead of the solution."

"Blessed are they who gossip, for they cause strife and divisions that please me."

"Blessed are they who are easily offended, for they soon get angry and quit."

"Blessed are they who do not give their offerings to carry on God's work, for they are my best helpers."

"Blessed are the troublemakers, for they shall be called the children of the devil."

"Blessed is he who has no time to pray, for he will be easy prey."

"Defending our faults indicates we have no intention of quitting them."

"The only way to judge the future is by the past, but if some people are judged that way, they won't have any future."

"Parents are people who bear infants, bore teenagers and board newly-weds."

Assignments for today

Sunday, July 28, 2013

Morning Service

Announcements.....Jesse Knapp
 Hymn Director.....Robert McDonald
 Scripture Reading.....Matt. 16:21
 Scripture Reader....Lee Williams
 Opening Prayer.....Rudy Black
 Closing Prayer.....Jesse Knapp

Evening Service

Hymn Director.....Michael Robinson
 Opening Prayer.....Alex Morolez
 Closing Prayer.....Jesse Knapp

BELLAIRE church of Christ

8001 South Rice Ave • P.O. Box 1029

Bellaire, Texas 77402

713/668-4810

<http://www.bellairechurchofchrist.org>

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

9:30 AM Worship
 11:00 AM Bible study
 5:00 PM Worship

Wednesday:

7:30 PM Study and Devotional
Minister and editor
 Jack Smith and Steve Garrett

The Reminder is published weekly by the church of Christ in Bellaire