

Words of

# Truth & Reason

Acts 26:25

MAY/JUNE 2013 – VOL. III, NO. 3

CHURCH OF CHRIST—QUAIL VALLEY

## ONE WOMAN WONDERED ABOUT WORSHIP

*Do you have questions about worship? This woman did.*

After Jesus identified her adultery, a woman asked Him about worship. *Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship* (John 4:20). Worship on that mountain was based on family tradition. Is that good enough for God? Is family and tradition the basis of your worship?

Jesus said her worship was based on ignorance and true worship was offered in Jerusalem (v22). Jesus spoke quite plainly about adultery and false worship. This is love.

In verses 21 and 23, Jesus told her that changes were coming. The rest of

the New Testament show us those changes: public worship is not only in Jerusalem but is anywhere saints gather in one place as a church (1 Cor. 11:18), eat the Lord's Supper each week not Passover each year (Acts 20:7; Col. 2:16), sing and make melody in your heart not play a melody on a harp (Eph. 5:19; Heb. 8:6).

Today, many people make the same mistake as the woman—they worship the way “our fathers worshiped” without knowing God has revealed another way. Don't follow your fathers, follow Jesus.

### IN THIS ISSUE:

- **One Woman Wondered About Worship**
- **Sabbath-Keeping**
- **God Loves**
- **God Hates**

Author & Editor: David Halbrook

---

## SABBATH-KEEPING

Recently I attended a religious debate. Have you ever heard of this? Two preachers who believe opposite ideas, met to publicly defend their beliefs. (Would your preacher do this?) Both men showed courage by this though only one man taught the truth. The subject was whether God expects us to keep the Sabbath or the first day of the week.

God *wiped out the handwriting of requirements, so let no one judge you ... regarding ... sabbaths* (Col. 2:14-17). The *handwriting of requirements* is the law and commandments God gave Israel by Moses, including those written on stones, the ten commandments (read 2 Cor. 3:7-16).

Today, we follow Jesus not Moses (Heb. 8:1-6). In His new covenant, we learn not to steal or murder (Eph. 4:28; Gal. 5:21). The new covenant does not tell us to keep the Sabbath. It teaches us about the Lord's Day (Rev. 1:10; day of Jesus' resurrection Lk. 24:1), the first day of the week when disciples eat the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20, 26). When do you thus eat to remember His death?

[Copies of the debate are available free of charge. Contact us for more information.]

# GOD LOVES

It is important to know that God hates and loves. God's love is not just how He **feels** but is also how He **thinks** of and **acts** toward us. For example, God loves the world (sinners; Jn. 3:16). God does not **feel** "giddy and warm" about sinners, but He **thinks** about their needs and **acts** to provide what is best. So, He sent Jesus to die, live, and rule.

Our feelings (emotions) often conflict with God's thoughts, and we must choose which will direct our actions. Jesus said to love our enemies (Matt. 5:44). This is not how to *feel* about them but how we *think* of and *act* toward them. If they are hungry—feed them. If they are lost in sin—teach them. If they are teaching error—rebuke them. YES, rebuking error is the result of the love of God, and Jesus and His apostles did it (Matthew 15, 23; Colossians 2). That is why these articles often warn of modern error. If you believe error, we want you to escape it through God's truth. If we are in error, we hope you will tell us. This is God's loves in action. Call or write us with comments or questions

*Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.*  
(1 John 2:3)

You are invited to:  
Sunday AM Bible classes:  
**10:00AM**

Sunday AM Worship:  
**10:45AM**

Sunday PM Worship:  
**5:00 PM**

Wednesday Bible Classes  
& Worship: **7:00 PM**

---

# GOD HATES

More people talk and think about the love of God and neglect to learn that God hates. Solomon learned about the love of God from his father's psalms (like Psalm 23). He also learned that God sometimes hates for he said, *These six things the LORD hates, yes seven...* (Prov. 6:16-19).

On **Wednesdays at 7PM**, we are learning what God hates. Some of them are obvious, and all of them apply to you and me. Many of the things God hates are things we write about in these articles. For example, God hates *haughty* (arrogant) *eyes*. It takes arrogance to make a human idea equal, or superior, to God's ideas. Back in December, we warned you of people who make "Christmas" equally as important as the first day of the week, though only one of those is a day given by God (Lk. 24:1; Acts 20:7; Rev. 1:10). God also hates hands that shed innocent blood. Recent attention on murders in various abortion clinics are a reminder that God hates these hands. Future studies include verses which show God hates idolatry, discord, and divorce. You need to learn what God hates, so please come join these studies. As always, call or write us with comments or questions.

-----  
We invite you to our booth at the Independence County Fair (**July 16-20**). We'd like to meet you and hear your thoughts of these articles. The next week (**July 22-26; 7 P.M.**) is our Summer Bible Series, when we offer nightly Bible classes for all ages (adults included). Our theme is "God Saved By Water."

## Questions from this issue's articles:

1. Did Jesus say this woman's worship was insincere? What did He say was wrong with it?
2. What did God do with the law that taught Sabbath-keeping?
3. How is God's love different from the "love" presented in modern romance books and movies?
4. Knowing God includes the understanding that He both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

\* Mail your answers to the church of Christ in Quail Valley 4104 E. Harrison St, Batesville, AR 72501  
OR, e-mail your answers to **TruthAndReason@suddenlink.net**

\* If you have a comment or question, call (793-6700; 569-4491) or visit our website **WWW.QVCOC.COM**

\* All past and current issues of *Truth and Reason* are available at our website—tell a friend!