

Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4:21-24).

Notice the woman acknowledged that they worshipped differently than the Jews did. We understand from reading the Bible that the Jews were to worship God from Jerusalem. When Jesus responds to her statement, He informs her that in the future true worshippers would not worship from a mountain or even from Jerusalem, but rather the true worshippers would worship Him in spirit and in truth. He further emphasizes this point by stating, "...they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). Hence, it is imperative to worship God pleasingly and acceptably; we must worship in (1) spirit and (2) in truth. If these two ingredients are not present, one's worship will not be acceptable to God. In spirit means to worship God with the right attitude.

An example of this can be found in 1 Corinthians 11 pertaining to the taking of the Lord's supper. "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (1 Cor. 11:27-29). The word "unworthily" is a reference to our attitude when partaking of the Lord's supper, i.e., what is our mind centered on

and are we doing this because it is a tradition or are we thinking about these that are pertinent to what we are doing?

The second part of John 4:24 deals with the concept of truth. Truth in the context refers to the word of God; Jesus said, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" John 17:17. He further stated, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). Hence, truth is knowable, and we are sanctified through His truth. Truth is found only in God's word, and when it relates to our worship, the Bible is clear about how God wants us to worship Him. I Corinthians 11-16 teaches us what God would have us engage in when we worship Him. The Bible teaches that we must do all things by His authority and build according to the pattern. "Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount" (Heb. 8:5). The tabernacle was a type of the church; if they were to make all things according to the pattern, then why would we think we can do differently? God has never left it up to man to decide how to worship Him.

Yes, if one does not worship God in the manner God wants, then one's worship will be rejected by God. Therefore, it is an absolute must that we worship our heavenly Father in the way He has set forth and not deviate from it.

# Bellevue Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-mail: [jjscaggs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjscaggs@sbcglobal.net)  
2214 Bellevue Road, Dublin, GA. 31021  
478-272-7515

Jan. 7, 2024

**BELLEVUE ROAD  
CHURCH OF CHRIST  
2214 Bellevue Road  
Dublin, GA. 31021**

[www.dublincoc.com](http://www.dublincoc.com)

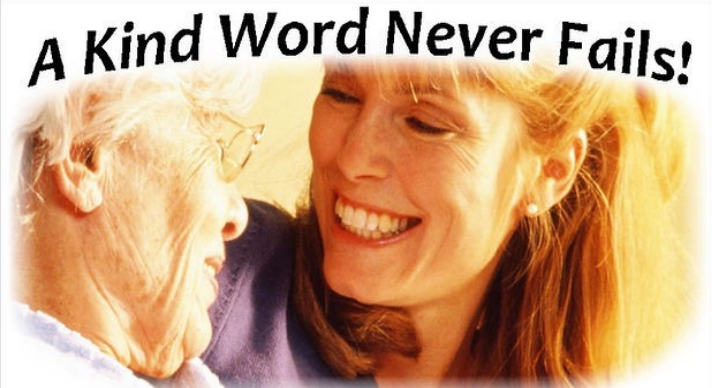
**Church Office  
478-272-7515**

**EVANGELIST  
Johnie Scaggs, Jr.  
478-279-0754**

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

Sunday Bible Classes.....10:00  
Morning Worship .....11:00  
Evening Worship..... 6:00  
Wednesday Classes.....6:30

Free Bible Correspondence Course to all who ask. Please call us or write to us and we will help you get started.



A kind word spoken in faith always gives joy!

It is the little things that encourage others-- your kind words, your gentle ways, your patience, and your meekness -- that gives others peace, that gives them the strength to carry on!

For these are the fruits of the Spirit. This is loving one another. This is abiding in Jesus, and knowing that He is abiding in you! Then think before you speak. See the good in others. Look for the opportunity to say something nice. A smile, a loving touch, a kind word ...

**Never Fails!**

Poem by Ken Pilcher, Jr. © All Rights Reserved/ [www.faithclub.org](http://www.faithclub.org)

# WILL GOD REJECT ONE’S WORSHIP?

**Johnie Scaggs, Jr.**

Is it possible to worship God in such a manner as to cause God to reject my worship? How can I know that my worship is pleasing to God and approved by Him? As one thinks about worship, these questions and others like unto them must be considered. I want to know that when I come before the throne of God, that the fruit of my lips is coming before Him in such a manner as to please Him, (Heb. 13:15).

We find many examples of those who attempted to worship God, but God was not pleased with their worship and rejected it. For example, Cain’s worship was not pleasing to God, and therefore He rejected it. Moses wrote, “But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell” (Gen. 4:5). Abel’s worship was pleasing to God (v. 4), but not Cain’s (v. 5). We must ask the question, why? What was different about their worship? It is evident that one (Abel) worshipped God according to God’s instruction and one (Cain) did not.

After Moses led God’s people out of Egypt, it wasn’t long until they attempted to worship God by building a golden calf. Moses wrote, “Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation” (Ex. 32:10). In their attempt to worship, they find themselves in a position against God and deserving of the wrath of God.

Nadab and Abihu attempted to worship God, and their worship was also rejected. As a result, they experienced the wrath of God because they abused God’s law. “And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD” (Lev. 10:1,2).

What about God’s words to the children of Israel, written by the prophet Amos. “Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, And trust in the mountain of Samaria, Which are named chief of the nations, To whom the house of Israel came!” (Amos 6:1). Much of the book of Amos is about their abuse of God’s house and how they had perverted their worship to God. God was not happy with them at that time, and He most certainly will not be pleased with those today who pervert and abuse His teachings on how we are to worship today.

In the New Testament, Jesus spoke of the Pharisees and called them hypocrites, and stated, “This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men” (Matt. 15:8,9).

When Jesus was speaking to the Samaritan woman in John 4, she stated that they (Samaritans) worshipped in this mountain, and He (the Lord) taught that Jerusalem was the proper place where men ought to worship (4:20). Jesus responded by saying; ...Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at

# FAMILY MATTERS

## ONGOING HEALTH PROBLEMS

### SICK:

Pat Joiner, Leslie Guevara, Letha Angst, Gracie Pope, Michael Baugh, Melba Wilkins, Brenda Rogers, Jackie Flowers, June Breazeale, Sharon Joiner’s mother, James Parlor, and Gail Brown, Jeff’s brother wife. Please pray for Tim Franks, friend of Jeff Brown’s and his cousin Jan Moses.

## LOCAL NEWS

### PANTRY ITEMS FOR THE WEEK:

When buying items for the Pantry, try to buy canned goods that have a top on them that can be opened without a can opener.

**Peanut Butter and Jelly.**

### NEW YEARS PARTY

On the 9th of February at 6:00 pm we will have a new years party. We will be having hamburgers and hotdogs.

### AREA-WIDE SINGING:

The Area-Wide Singing will be here next Sunday the 14th at 3:00 pm

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARY FOR THE MONTH OF JAN.

- Joe & Maryann Blackburn .....1/4/1966
- Jeff Brown .....1/25/1962
- Peyton Dennis .....1/16/1999
- Shawn Hickman .....1/10/1973
- Olivia Sage Morgan .....1/11/2019
- Amberly Dixie Rose Morgan .... 1/21/2021
- Crystal Pierce .....1/29/1973
- Martha Robinson .....1/14/1950
- Flora Shepherd .....1/15/1956

Jim Dearman and the TV program “Good News Today” airs on Macon TV every Sunday morning at 6:30 A.M. on WGXA-ABCTV16 both on Cox Cable and over the regular airwaves and may be picked up on an antenna. You can even download an app and see the programs any time you wish. See the website at <http://gnttv.org/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Good-News-Today-TV>.

### SHUT-IN:

Sonny Teagle, Mary Harris

Welcome to the Bellevue Road Church of Christ. If you are a visitor, you are our honored guest. Please sign the guest book in the foyer.