Good News from Chardon

January 7, 2018

Church of Christ 128 Maple Ave. Chardon, OH 44024 440-286-5505 Chardochurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services:

Greeting: Tom

Song Leader: Mark

Opening Song: 421 Where the Gates Swing Outward Never

Opening Prayer: Dale

Hymn: 414 Shall We Gather At the River

Scripture Reading: Larry John 12:44-50

Hymn: 310 Gethsemane

Lord's Supper: Ray & Ron

Hymn: 229 Victory In Jesus

Sermon: Tom

Invitation Hymn: 622 Soul, A Savior Thou Art Needing

Closing Hymn: 342 When He Comes In Glory By and By



Chardon Church of Christ

Issue 1

Who's to Say What's Right?

By Joe Chesser

We live in a land of freedom. We have the freedom of religion, the right of free speech and the right to bear arms. We have the right to a speedy trial and protection against cruel and unusual punishment. These, among other things, are specified in our nation's Bill of Rights. We are an independent people. We have the right, within reason and law, to do whatever we want whenever we want to do it. As Americans, we can believe what we choose, vote the way we choose, and live the way we choose.

Unfortunately, many have allowed these freedoms to permeate the way they view God and the Bible. Many have put themselves in the place of God to determine what is right and what is not. The freedom to choose how we live as citizens of the United States has, for many, become the same standard used in deciding how we are to live as citizens of God's kingdom.

For example, let's consider sexual morality. In America, anything is OK as long as it is right for you and doesn't harm kids or pets. If teenagers want to have sex, who's to say that it's wrong for them to do so? If people want to live together outside of marriage, who has the right to say that they shouldn't? If people want to marry others of their own gender, who has the right to oppose it? If people want to get a divorce because they don't like their spouse any more, who's to say that's wrong? In fact, those decisions may actually be very good ones, they may be the best choice under the circumstances – at least from a human perspective.

But, is what we think is good and right necessarily what God thinks is good and right? Many have become so accustomed to making their own choices that they have come to believe that whatever they think must also be what God thinks. They have, in effect, imposed their views upon God. They have decided that if they think something is good (i.e. sex outside of marriage) then God must also think that it is good. How can God condemn something that is good?

Cunningly, Satan has persuaded us to become our own god. We have begun to judge God by our own goodness rather than judging ourselves by God's standard – His Son Jesus and the words of Jesus, the Bible. God is our standard. His word is our only way of determining right and wrong (John 12.48). Let's not get sucked in to the way of thinking of those around us. Let's not judge God by ourselves, but ourselves by God. Let's take on the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5).

Joe Chesser preaches for the Fruitland Church of Christ, Fruitland, MO

PRAYER LIST

*Pat is having breathing problems.

*Jack, Tom & Nina's 3 year old nephew is in the hospital with breathing problems. *Rebecca visited her parents and they seem to be doing well.

*Dale, his mother and his cousin Jayna and her family. *It's nice to have Myron and Carole back with us. *Tom & Nina's son-in-law, Chris, is looking for work. *Juanita, her sons, Dale and Ron and her daughter Debbie. *Ron, Pat, and their great grandson Bryan..

*Ray, Rebecca, and Steven. *Ruth and her brother George.

*Our Congregation

CALENDAR

Jan. 7—Bible Study 10 am, Dale Jan. 7—Worship 11 am & 6 pm Speaker: Tom Jan. 7—Business Meeting Jan. 13-b. Cindy Jan. 14—Bible Study 10 am, Dale Jan. 14—Worship 11 am & 6 pm Speaker: Tom Jan. 14—Potluck Jan. 15—a. Tom & Nina Jan. 21—Bible Study 10 am, Dale Jan. 21—Worship 11 am & 6 pm Speaker: Tom

> IVIE Should not ablae in darkness. into the world, that whoever believes in Answer to Puzzle: I have come as a light

Walk in the Light Scripture Reference: John 12:44-50

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Ours is the age that is proud of machines that think and suspicious of men who try to. (H. Mumford Jones)

SUNDAY: Bible Class — 10:00 am; Worship — 11:00 am; Evening — 6:00 pm