What Kind of Fool?

By Joe Slater

I was seven years old when Perry Como wistfully sang, "What kind of fool am I?" It seems romantic love escaped him (according to the song, anyway). I can't solve his problem, but I'll borrow his question!

Scripture speaks of several kinds of fools. For now, let's consider three. First is the fool who denies God's very existence. David wrote, "The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God'" (Psalm 14:1). That absurd remark fits both facets of the Biblical word "fool." First, it shows a total lack of understanding of the abundant evidence for God's existence. "Since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Deity, so that they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20). But the Bible also uses fool to describe one who behaves immorally. In candid moments, some have admitted that they reject God's existence because they want complete sexual freedom.

A materialistic fool may "believe" in God, but his behavior doesn't show it. The rich fool (Luke 12:16-21) stored up wealth for himself but was "not rich toward God." He lived with this earthly life as his only concern. Another rich man in Luke 16 behaved similarly and ended up in torment when he died. A fool indeed!

Rather than being a materialist fool or a fool who denies God, let me encourage you to be "fools for Christ's sake" (1 Corinthians 4:10). Unbelievers, and even marginal believers, look upon dedicated Christians as fools. "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing" (1 Corinthians 1:18). But take heart! "Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?" (v. 20).

Trust Christ! Obey Christ! Be a "fool" for the sake of Christ!



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840 (570) 886-1838 Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732 Paul Cowles, Evangelist- (607) 592-8091 July 18, 2021

WELCOME!

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.
Worship- 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study-6:30 p.m

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

<u>Today's Sermon</u>: What is God's Picture of Paradise?

Arthur will be preaching today.

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 13:12-17

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website. Bulletins are archived on the website. **valleycitieschurchofchrist.org** Find us on Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc</u>

Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS…

- Sunday Morning Bible Class: Paul will be continuing his lessons on the Psalms and stopping to sing a song from our songbook when appropriate.
- Wednesday Evening Bible Class: July 21st, at the building,
 6:30pm- Arthur will be continuing his lessons on the book of Matthew. Come at 6 and bring something to eat with us before the lesson if you like.
- ✤ Next Potluck: August 15th.



BAPTISM! Paulette Frycek was baptized into Christ on Friday, July 2nd! Continue to pray for Paulette as she begins her walk with Christ.

- There is NO POTLUCK TODAY! Very sorry for the sudden change, but we wanted to make sure our newly painted floor in the fellowship room had plenty of chance to cure before we all walk on it!
- Please take the time to check out our new, beautiful floor downstairs! Thank you, Paul, and Arthur for painting it!

PRAYERS

- Pray for **Paulette**, our new babe in Christ.
- Dan Myers, Paulette's friend, needs prayer for multiple health problems, including an aneurism near a stent and needs a biopsy on his kidney.
- Pray for **Zachary Cowles** as he has been deployed with the army for the next two years. Pray for his safety and for God to look after his children while he is gone.
- Jackie is currently in Packer Hospital because she is retaining too much fluid, causing her kidneys not to function properly. Please pray for her.
- Pat Gutherie from Kittanning has lung cancer.
- Please pray for **Gail Westerhold** as she is possibly facing another kidney surgery to remove more cancer.
- Pray for Linnett Short, a former coworker of Paul's. She has stage 3 lung cancer.
- Arthur's younger sister, Sue, has metatastic breast cancer and his brother Chris in England has Alzheimer's Disease. Please pray for their health and for their souls.
- **Don Myers**, former preacher for the Elmore, AL church, will be visiting a neurologist in Mobile for an evaluation about Parkinson's tomorrow.
- We are thankful that Ted is all recovered from his bout with kidney stones.
- Amy Connor's friend Denise Whitfield has colon cancer and will soon have surgery.
- Please pray for **Nancy Holcomb** from the Horseheads church as she is suffering from dementia and pray for her daughter **Sarah** as well.
- **Pray for Dawn's sister Alice, who** is in the final stages of cancer and in hospice care.
- **Nancy Black,** who is a good friend of Ruthie's is suffering from complications of diabetes. She is an amputee.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at <u>barncat7237@gmail.com</u> or text or call (607) 261-0911.