

The Old Becomes New

Arthur Barry

It is a biblical promise that “all things are made new” (Revelation 21:5; 2 Corinthians 5:17)

We know that God is capable of making whatever He wants out of nothing, but He also chooses to “remake” things out of what already exists. I believe that is because He pronounced everything He made out of nothing as being “good” (Genesis 1:31). When faced with a choice of replacing or reforming what He has already made God is not willing to scrap any of His works. Even though sin has caused so much destruction among mankind, God’s remedy is to heal mankind rather than destroy them and create a new population for Earth. We see that in His dealings with the Hebrews. In Numbers 14:12 God offered to destroy them and make another nation out of Moses. Moses dissuaded God from doing that because the Egyptians would think He was not able to do what He promised to do with the Hebrews (vv.13-16). Even when God finally judged the Hebrews for rebelling against Him, and offered His grace to all nations, He still built the Church on the foundation of the Jews. (Ephesians 2:17-22).

When dealing with traditions of men Jesus was treated as “the new kid on the block” and was soundly rejected by the status quo. It is an irony that, even though He has been doing it for thousands of years, God’s work of recreation always makes Him look like the newcomer. This can be seen among the traditions of men that are called churches today. Have you noticed that those of us who just want to be Christians and who take seriously the Bible teachings about church and salvation often are looked upon as some strange new group?

When Paul was in Athens he was called to the Aereopagus to speak to the people and they asked him “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?” (Acts 17:19)

Things have changed very little 2000 years later and again there is irony in the fact that by going back to the Bible to restore the original Church we become the new kids on the block. Those who trace their heritage back to recent movements of men are soon convinced that they are the gatekeepers of God’s truth and do not much like this new idea of doing the things the old way. Many denominations with names that glorify men instead of Christ have found confidence in uniting under the banner of Evangelicalism. This is an 18th century movement and therefore has not been around anywhere near as long as the Church of Christ. Yet they usually look at us as being newcomers and are often afraid to even enter into meaningful discussion about our beliefs.

It has to be said that the true Church of Christ is comprised of souls who respond to God’s eternal and original Word and who find constant, new joy from searching the scriptures, because they are God’s eternal and original Word. How new is that?



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

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June 12, 2022

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today’s Sermon: The Book of James

Paul will be preaching today

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 4:11-16

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Paul is starting a study of the book of James.
- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** June 15th, on Zoom, 6:30pm- Arthur will begin Chapter 10 of Hebrews.
- ❖ **Next Potluck and Bring-a-Friend Sunday** July 17th.
- ❖ **Ladies' Class -Tuesday June 14th. Lesson 9, Day 2.**
- ❖ **Next 5th Sunday Singing- July 31st.**
- ❖ **Sojourners here- July 30th – August 11th**



MAGI BOXES

Expect to see a list of items needed posted downstairs in the Fellowship Room next Sunday. Consider donating money to cover costs of things that we order in bulk, such as T-shirts, soap boxes and toothbrush covers.

Today is Potluck Sunday! Please stay and enjoy a special time of fellowship and great food.



Jennifer was in ICU last Saturday and Sunday with extreme intestinal distress requiring emergency treatment. She is better now and back to work.

PRAYERS

- **Pray for the people of Ukraine!** Also pray for those who are helping them. There are also Christians in Russia who need prayer.
- **Dan Myer** will be having SBRT (radiation) on his lungs after he has a PET scan. If it has spread, he will need chemo.
- **Pray for Mike Walls to be diagnosed with reversible dementia in place of the irreversible frontal lobe dementia that he is currently diagnosed with.**
- **Arthur** asks for prayers for a lady he visited as chaplain on Thursday night. She just found out she has cancer in several organs.
- Pray for:
 - **Linnett Short** (lung cancer, tumor on liver)
 - **Deb Barnhardt** (lung cancer)
 - **Pat Gutherie** (lung cancer, chemo)
 - **Gail Westerhold** (problems with remaining kidney, back problems)
 - **Zachary Cowles** (deployment with the Army)
 - **Sharon Morningstar-lupus**
 - **Arthur's brother Chris**-(Alzheimer's)
 - **Darlene's friend Connie** (stage 4 lung cancer)
 - **Doug Elsbree's friend Dave Merrill**- liver cancer
 - **Jim Sexton** (stage 4 esophageal cancer)
 - **Jerry Lowe** (recovering from heart attack)
 - **Mary Wallenbeck**- Parkinsons and Leukemia

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