

GOD WANTS NO PART OF YOU

Arthur Barry

Those are words we do not like to hear from anybody. Can it be true of God that He wants no part of me? The expression would usually mean that God wants nothing to do with me. I, however, am using it to emphasize God's desire to have *all* of me and not just *a part* of me. With God it is all or nothing, so if I am inclined to offer Him only part of myself then the original meaning of this phrase may very well apply to me.

God is not in the business of saving part of anything. If He saves me then He saves me completely. If I serve Him, I must serve Him completely.

He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Luke 10:27)

When God provided for the propitiation of sins, He provided for absolutely everyone. (1 John 2:2).

He provided for every part of everyone.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1Thessalonians 5:23)

How would we like it if God decided to save only part of our bodies? He might also have a whim to save only a certain age group from within the church. So, if you are in the 18-42 years old group, then God might promise to save your left knee cap. God does not work that way, does He? Yet many times we seem to operate based on partial service to God. We give part of ourselves on a part-time basis but expect to be fully rewarded, forever. It might seem ironic to call on Jesus' words in Matthew 5:29 here as He teaches that we should pluck out our right eye if it causes us to sin. We should prefer that to having our whole body thrown into Hell. Hmm...so, God would accept a less-than-complete "me" rather than have the complete "me" in Hell?

I think the message is that Satan, also, wants the whole me. He knows that if he can get a part of me then he gets all of me. So, he is quite happy letting me think that I am basically a good person with just one or two small parts that do their own thing. It does not bother him at all if I sing praises to God on Sunday as long as I still entertain anger or covetousness or lust in my heart. God, on the other hand, will not tolerate any part of me being given over to Satan's will.

If it were not for Jesus, we could all say goodbye to our bodies, not just parts of them. In our English language the word "whole" can mean healthy. Jesus went around making sick people whole. The King James Version of Luke 5:31b reads, *"They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick."* Jesus repairs the damage done by sin. We will see that someday, when He comes, and we see that our bodies look like His! Meanwhile He enables me, as He did Caleb (Joshua 14:8) to "wholly follow the Lord my God".



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838
Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

November 12, 2023

All the Churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m. on Zoom

Today's Sermon: Pray Tell Me Your Prayer

Scripture Reading: Jude 17-25

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

Notes for Sunday morning and Wednesday evening classes are available on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ❖ **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** 6:30pm November 15, on Zoom, Arthur will be continuing a study from G.R.O.W. We will be in the 7th chapter on W (work).
- ❖ **Ladies' Class –Tuesday, November 14. We will begin our study of Micah.**
- ❖ **Thanksgiving Dinner- Saturday, November 18, 5pm, here at the building. Please invite guests to this dinner.**
- ❖ **Next Potluck & Bring-a-Friend Sunday – November 19.**
- ❖ **Next 5th Sunday Singing-** March 31 at Horseheads.



- ✓ **Thinking about ways to use our building for outreach...**
 - Please pick up an idea list today and pray about things we can do with the resources we have.
- ❖ **We are beginning to explore the disciplines of prayer and fasting for inspiration.**
- ❖ **Make plans to attend the Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday at 5pm! Our brethren from the church in Kittanning will prepare and serve the meal as has been their custom for the past several years.**



PRAYERS

- **Please pray for Steve's brother Chris** who is suffering from depression, and for **his other brother Brian** who has prostate cancer.
- **Miki's brother-in-law Dennis** in CA had a stroke recently.
- **Darlene** will be having **an upper endoscopy with chip** on Friday, November 17. Please pray that she can learn how to treat her irritated throat and esophagus.
- **Paulette Frycek** is showing signs of improvement with her back pain. She is still unable to go to work, however.
- **Bonnie's brother Greg** needs hernia surgery and is not yet fully recovered from his prostate surgery.

Continue to pray for these people:

- **Monique (Miki's friend)-** needs pain relief
- **Pat Gutherie-**he has lung cancer, stage 4, wife Robin
- **Mike Walls,** frontal lobe dementia, wife Carrie
- **Sue Barry-** stage 4 breast cancer. (remission)
- **Brian,** who was injured by a falling log and is in a rehab center near Albany. Making slow progress
- **Nancy Black-** diabetes-related trouble with leg
- **Jim Sexton-** on Hospice care for esophageal cancer, wife Debbie
- **Steve Burger-** lung cancer, immunotherapy treatments, wife Judy

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.