

## Heavenly Discrimination

Arthur Barry

“You are not welcome in here!”  
Have you ever been told that?

When we were kids we built club houses and it did not feel good to be told you could not come in. Kids are fickle in their friendships and can be cruel to each other. Who has not been hurt by a friend or group of friends at school? Even if you were one of the popular kids you would not be immune to occasional, random rejection.

In any culture, whether it is a nation or just me and my cronies, all members understand this ebb and flow of acceptance, and we all find ourselves on both sides of the gate at any time. When we were on the outside we knew that we would eventually be welcomed in again as long as we played our cards right. This usually meant bringing some goodies to share.

I cannot imagine what it would be like to have an entire culture completely and permanently reject me, no matter what goodies I offered to share with them. Racial discrimination has done that to people, and it is a sin. Our God, who created us all, does not recognize ethnic differences, but He does exercise discrimination when it comes to those whom He welcomes into His presence.

*“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.” Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’ Matthew 7:21-23*

Many will approach Jesus thinking they have the right goodies to win His favor, but He says only those who actually do His Father’s will are welcome. Do not make the mistake of thinking that because racial discrimination is wrong, all discrimination is wrong, and that God does not practice Heavenly discrimination. If you are rejected from His presence you will never, ever be welcome. That is an awful thought.  
Are you doing God’s will?



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838

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September 25, 2016

### WELCOME!

#### Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

#### Tuesday

Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.

*After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands.* Revelation 7:9

**On this day in history (1957).** Under escort from the U.S. Army’s 101st Airborne Division, nine black students enter all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.



### Today’s Sermon: *The Big Story*

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

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**Scripture:** Revelation 1:1-3

**Hymns:** TBA

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Next potluck: October 16<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Ladies Class: 10am, Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.** We are using **Human and Holy by Michelle Goff.** We are preparing chapter 3 for Tuesday.
- **Midweek Bible study @ McElhaney's Thursday nights at 7pm.** Coffee and dessert is usually served. All contributions gladly accepted!



### CALLING ALL LADIES!

- **Ladies Class here at the building Tuesday mornings @ 10am.** Let someone know if you need a ride.
  
- **Be sure to check whether anyone needs a ride to or from worship if you are blessed with a vehicle.**



THERE IS NO HAPPINESS IN HAVING OR IN  
GETTING, BUT ONLY IN GIVING.

It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20:35b

## PRAYERS...

- Emily Barry was in an accident Wednesday morning as she drove her truck to work. She is pretty bruised and stiff, but generally well.
- Molly Rivera's father-in-law, José "Kiko" Rivera, of Orlando, FL, passed away on Thursday from a massive heart attack. Molly's husband, Pancho, has driven down there to be with his family.
- Remember to pray for Lori Kashorek, wife of Doug, the preacher at the Massena, NY church who has lung cancer.
- Ted and Ethan Chacona were under the weather last week with coughs and sniffles. Their dog, Miley, has lost the use of her hind legs and had to be taken to Cornell last week. Please pray for their recovery as well as that of their beloved pet.
- Please pray that Felicity Hicks can find a place to live.
- Pray for Claire Albro, Patty and Ruthie's stepmom who has cancer in several organs and is being treated with chemo. Claire is in a lot of pain and has been given an estimated 6 months to a year to live.
- Remember to pray for Lori Johnson, mother of Veronica who came to VBS. Lori has brain cancer.
- Jerry Lowe is recovering from the infection in his blood that he suffered from during the last couple of weeks.
- Remember to pray for Matthew Lowe, Rhonda's brother and Jerry's son.
- Remember to pray for Richard Beiber, Darlene's father, of West Palm Springs, FL.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry

**barncat7237@gmail.com** or text or call (607) 261-0911.