

Leoni
Church of
Christ

Light for Leoni and the World

*"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path"* (Psalm 119:105)



Jack Honeycutt

You are cordially invited to attend a
GOSPEL MEETING
LEONI CHURCH OF CHRIST
(6818 McMinnville Hwy, Woodbury, TN 37190)

April 7-10, 2019

Theme: Six Blunders Of The Modern World

The lessons are available on both CD and DVD for FREE.

Sun. 9:00am — There Is No Absolute Truth

9:45am — You Have Plenty Of Time

7:00pm — Don't Judge Me

Mon. 7:00pm — All Roads Lead To Heaven

Tues. 7:00pm — One Church Is Just As Good As Another

Wed. 7:00pm — Grace Covers My Disobedience

Jack is married to the former Becky Judd. They have two grown children (Heather and Heath) and seven grandchildren.

He graduated from the Nashville School of Preaching in 1987 and earned his Bachelor of Ministry from Theological University of America in 1999. He was also selected in 1987 for the "Outstanding Young Men of America" award.

He has been preaching the Gospel since 1984 and is the full-time coordinator for the Andhra

Pradesh, India, Mission Work overseen by the Willette church of Christ in Macon County, TN (near Red Boiling Springs).

Jack leads mission teams into India to conduct evangelistic campaigns and to conduct lectureships for the native preachers. He conducts 12 to 15 Gospel Meetings each year and is a frequent speaker on various lectureships and other mission works. He has also participated in two debates with a Baptist preacher.

PREACHING THE WORD

The world needs the Gospel of Christ. The world has had too much philosophy and not enough Gospel. The fundamental duty of the church is to preach the Truth of Christ.

The church is a preaching institution. But most people have forgotten this — if they ever knew it. With some, the church has become nothing more than a bazaar for the distribution of food and clothing. With some, it is no more than a soup line, existing for the sole purpose of meting out “loaves and fishes.” With some, it is an institution for the promotion of selfish interests. But with the Lord, it is the institution burdened with the responsibility of preaching the Gospel of Jesus.

Jeremiah 23:29 declares the Bible to be a “hammer and a fire.” Paul declares it to be a “two-edged sword” (Hebrews 4:12). A hammer has power to break, a fire consumes, and a knife cuts. These figures accurately describe the power of the Word of God over sin. But too many people want a hammer that taps softly, a fire that won’t burn, and a knife too dull to cut.

The word of the Gospel is powerful when employed correctly. The Gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16). Perverted, it becomes a potion of death and destruction.

A fearful responsibility rests upon the church as it preaches the Truth. Falsehood never liberated a single soul from the bondage of sin. One can’t wrap falsehood up in enough sincerity to save a single soul. The truth of Christ is not compatible with error. Where truth is planted, error is uprooted. There is too much preaching “about” the Bible and not enough preaching “from” the Bible.

An old preacher once said to a younger preacher, “Abe, when you preach, always use a long text; that much of your sermon will be right, whether the rest is or not.” And friends, all too often, about the only meat a congregation receives is the long text the preacher reads, and many don’t even like to hear a long text anymore!

Human hearts still cry out for the “bread of life.” Many have cried out for the “bread of life” only to receive a serpent. God’s Word, the New Testament, is sufficient. It is all the human heart needs for its present and eternal satisfaction. The word is not a dead letter as some claim. It is alive and active. It is sufficient for *conversion* (Psalm 19:7). It furnishes unto all *good works* (2 Timothy 3:16-17). It gives us *all things* that pertain unto *life* and *godliness* (2 Peter 1:3). We

must neither *add to it nor take from it* (Deuteronomy 4:2; Proverbs 30:6; Revelation 22:18-19). It is truly the creed that needs no revision. It meets the needs of the whole world (Matthew 28:19). It is pure (Psalm 119:140). It is perfect (Psalm 19:7). It is enduring (Luke 21:33). And, we will be judged by it (John 12:48).

Our objections to human creeds are many. They are: 1) not inspired of God, 2) do not meet the needs of the whole world, 3) are not perfect, 4) must be revised every few years, 5) we will not be judged by them, 6) they make void God’s Word, 7) they teach things contrary to the Word of God, and 8) they are the main instruments in keeping religious people divided. We plead for the complete acceptance of God’s Word.

It will be a dark day when Gospel preachers, true and faithful preachers, substitute book reviews, current events, science, philosophy, or anything else for the Word of the Living God.

In many pulpits in days of old, the admonition was, “Preach the Word.” Daniel Webster said that when a preacher took his text from the Bible and preached from the newspaper, he preferred to stay at home. Might this not be the cause of so many empty pews today?

— Jack Honeycutt

THE CHURCH THAT CHRIST BUILT: IS IT A DENOMINATION?

Most in the religious world never contemplate this question. Many assume any and all religious groups are pleasing to God and have the

concept that, “We’re all just trying to get to Heaven; we are just taking different roads to get there.” Is there anything wrong with this mentality? Let’s con-

sider, from the Scriptures, what Jesus said about the nature of His church.

Jesus promised to build His church. He said to Peter,

“Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18). Since Christ was the builder of His church, it was built according to the divine pattern. We read in Psalm 127:1, *“Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.”* Jesus said, *“Every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted up”* (Matthew 15:13). The church of the New Testament is exactly as the Lord would have it.

When Jesus said He would build His church, that excluded any other church (Matthew 16:18). In Acts 2:47, the Lord added to *the church* daily those who were being saved. In Ephesians 4:4-5 Paul reveals that there is *one body* and *one faith*. He also condemned division in 1 Corinthians 1:10, *“Now I beseech you brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be*

no divisions among you....” He scolded the people because there were contentions among them and because they were calling themselves after men such as Apollos, Cephas, and even Paul (v.12). He asked them if Christ was divided (v.13)? Ephesians 1:22, 23 says *the church* is Christ’s body. Colossians 1:18 reads, *“And he (Christ) is the head of the body, the church.”*

But, some contend, “Isn’t Christ the Vine, and denominations the branches? The apostle John penned these words of Jesus (John 15:5-6): *“I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.”* Let’s notice the wording in verse 5. Jesus uses the pronoun “He.” This shows

“individuality.” Also in verse 6 Jesus uses the word “man” which also shows “individuality.” Thus, we as individual Christians are the branches. As much as people may try to show from the Bible that “branches” are denominations, the concept just isn’t there.

Some also contend that it is impossible for us to be able to understand the Bible alike. If this is true, Christ would not have prayed in John 17:20-21 for us to all be “one.” Why did He pray this? That the world may believe. Many today scoff at religion because of the thousands of religious groups who teach so many various and opposing doctrines. If Jesus knows we can be one, friend, it is possible.

Dear reader, we urge you to have the courage to look into God’s Word to find the answers for yourself.

“The churches of Christ salute (greet) you” (Romans 16:16).

— Jack Honeycutt

ELEMENTS OF CONVERSION IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

TEXT	TEACHING	BELIEVING	CONFESSING	REPENTING	BAPTIZING
Acts 2:38	YES	Implied	Implied	YES	YES
Acts 8:12	YES	YES	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 8:13	Implied	YES	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 8:37	YES	Implied	YES	Implied	YES
Acts 9:5ff	YES	Implied	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 10:34ff	YES	YES	Implied	YES	YES
Acts 16:14ff	YES	Implied	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 16:25ff	YES	YES	Implied	YES	YES
Acts 17:32ff	YES	YES	Implied	Implied	Implied
Acts 18:8	YES	YES	Implied	Implied	YES
Acts 19:1ff	YES	Implied	Implied	Implied	YES

WHAT IS YOUR RULE OF FAITH?

Garland M. Robinson

All religious people have a “rule of faith” or set of rules they follow. Denominational churches are often arranged in hierarchical structures. Compliance to “headquarters” is an absolute. They have *councils, synods, conferences* and *conventions*. They have *creed books, manuals* and *disciplines*. With some, the Bible is relegated to 2nd, 3rd or even further down the line of authority.

On the other hand, the Only Rule Of Faith by which all people are to live is The Bible — The Word Of God. The Lord’s people do not have a creed, manual or discipline made by man. Our creed is the Bible and the Bible alone — it is the pattern — the blueprint we are to follow! There is no hierarchy greater than the local church and its conformity to the Bible.

God gave us the Bible. It is sufficient to guide men to heaven — nothing more is needed. *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works”* (2 Timothy 3:16-17). We have been given *“...all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue”* (2 Peter 1:3). Inspired Scripture was given “one time” for “all time” (Jude 1:3). Revelation from God ceased by the end of the first century (1 Corinthians 13:8-11). The Bible is not subject to change and those who do change it by “adding to it” or “taking from it” will suffer eternal consequences. The condemnation of God rests upon those who alter the Bible (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Bible is the book by which we will be judged, not the creeds and disciplines of men. Jesus said, *“He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day”* (John 12:48). Jesus also said, *“...IF ye continue in my word, THEN are ye my disciples indeed”* (John 8:31-32). His WORD is our absolute rule of faith.

Are you ready to study and learn more? We have a free Bible Correspondence Course for you to study. Email us and we’ll send it to you:

contact@leonichurchofchrist.com

BAPTISM STANDS BETWEEN

- SINNER → SALVATION. Mark 16:16
- SINNER → REMISSION OF SINS. Acts 2:38
- SINNER → THE NEW LIFE. Romans 6:4
- SINNER → SIN DESTROYED. Romans 6:6
- SINNER → WASHING. Acts 22:16
- SINNER → CALLING. Acts 22:16
- SINNER → THE KINGDOM. John 3:5
- SINNER → CLEANSING. Ephesians 5:26
- SINNER → DEAD TO SIN. Romans 6:7-12
- SINNER → FREE FROM SIN. Romans 6:18
- SINNER → SALVATION. 1 Peter 3:21
- SINNER → FORGIVENESS. Colossians 2:11-12
- SINNER → CHRIST’S BLOOD. Romans 6:3
- SINNER → A CHILD OF GOD. Galatians 3:26-27
- SINNER → DEATH OF CHRIST. Romans 6:3
- SINNER → NEW CREATURE. Romans 6:4-5
- SINNER → GOOD CONSCIENCE. 1 Peter 3:21
- SINNER → PUTTING ON CHRIST. Gal. 3:26-27
- SINNER → RAISED WITH CHRIST. Rom. 6:4
- SINNER → PUTTING OFF SINS. Col. 2:11-12
- SINNER → SANCTIFICATION. Ephesians 5:26
- SINNER → BODY OF CHRIST. 1 Cor. 12:13

LIGHT FOR LEONI is a publication of the **Leoni Church of Christ**. It is dedicated to teaching the Gospel of Christ. We invite you to read and study God’s Word which is able to save your soul (James 1:21). We stand for the Truth, all of the Truth and nothing but the Truth. The saints at Leoni meet at: 6818 McMinnville Hwy, Woodbury, TN, 37190. We invite you to visit us at any time.
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