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John did the best he could in physically describing something infinitely spiritual. Golden streets like transparent glass, the pearly gates, and the walls made from precious stones (Rev. 21:18-21). These will be awesome to behold but our anticipation of them pales when compared to our expectation of seeing the glory of God and meeting our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ face to face!

Man's creations can be nice, but often they don't deliver on their promises or they lose their excitement. Not so with heaven. In God's presence, there will be no disappointment.

Who wants to be there? Are you willing to do what God asks to get there?

— Shane Williams

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Times of Assembly:

Sunday:

Bible Class 9:45am
Morning Worship 10:45am
Evening Worship 5:30pm

Wednesday:

Bible Class 7:30pm

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'Lilbourn Light' is published monthly by the Lilbourn Church of Christ. It is mailed free upon request. Send all correspondence or address changes to the address above.

The Lilbourn Light



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



Volume 6

October, 2005

Number 7

No Disappointment in Heaven!

I remember growing up as a child, always looking forward to the Holiday season. Especially the Toy Catalogs that would come in the mail sometime in October. My older sister and I would be deep in thought and study for long periods of time over the next couple months. We had pages folded, notes written, lists compiled all with the hope that we would soon see a few of those items at the end of December.

We would inevitably get a few of the items we selected. No, not the huge items but some that we did want. We were excited about the new toys we had ... that is, for a

couple weeks. Usually the selected items were not as grand and glorious as the catalog made them appear. That joy would fall by the wayside and we were back to business as usual. That is until around the next October!

Many things in life tend to be like that. The buildup is better than the actual experience. There is something, however, we can look forward to that will not disappoint us. There's a place for us and, no matter how high our anticipation, it will not be a letdown. Heaven will be indescribably beautiful beyond our wildest imagination.

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Rocks of Unbelief

What's left of the city of Chorazin? Rocks. That's all that's left! Just the ruin of a few buildings — yet this was once a thriving city on the Sea of Galilee.

Another pile of rocks lies not far from Chorazin — the former city of Capernaum.

The same is true regarding Bethsaida. Once a busy city where men did business, children played, and mothers ran households. Rocks. Nothing but rocks.

When Jesus moved about in the streets of those cities, He knew this would happen. In **Matthew 11:21-24**, He said,

"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles had occurred in Tyre and Sidon which occurred in you, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. 22 "Nevertheless I say to you, it shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment, than for you. 23 "And you, Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You shall descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom

which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day. 24 "Nevertheless I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the Day of Judgment, than for you."

In those cities, Jesus clearly showed Himself to be the Son of God. He was the promised Messiah and could perform miracles. In fact, verse 20 tells us that he did most of His miracles in these cities. However, the people refused to listen to His message. Tyre, Sidon, and Sodom were said to be better off than these other cities in the judgement. In time Chorazin, Capernaum, & Bethsaida ended up as no more than heaps of rocks—*monuments to unbelief.*

The lesson for us today is clear & simple. When Jesus speaks, we must take His words to heart. In fact, all of Scripture needs to be taken seriously. To disregard God's Word shows a heart of unbelief and will leave our lives in ruins. Most importantly, our souls will be lost (Matthew 16:26). Nevertheless to heed its life-giving message brings reward and blessing.

Will you listen to Jesus?

— Shane Williams

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Are You Entertained?

Some people might get the impression that going to a church service is not much different than going to a concert. There are some comparable things: We travel to get there and we assemble with people of a common interest. That, however, is where the similarities should end.

There are many differences. Most significantly is the fact that the purpose of the Church is NOT for entertainment.

The focus of the Church is to be on God. We assemble together to worship Him. How arrogant man is!

Worship has never been about what pleases me or what makes me feel good. It is not about meeting my criteria, my standards or my tastes. Have you ever wondered why different churches are dabbling around with different worship "styles" (modern, contemporary, etc.)? The focus is off God and on them! Worship is for God and it is to God! No human is at the center of worship, only God is (John 4:23-24).

The Psalmist urged people (in Psalm 95), to come joyfully, thankfully, and reverently before the Lord.

Psalm 95:1-7, *"Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the*

Rock of our salvation. 2 Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms. 3 For the LORD is the great God, And the great King above all gods. 4 In His hand are the deep places of the earth; The heights of the hills are His also. 5 The sea is His, for He made it; And His hands formed the dry land. 6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker. 7 For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture, And the sheep of His hand."

Is our motivation pure for coming to the assembly? Let us better understand our purpose in learning more about God, His Son, & the Church.

Only then can we really fulfill our purpose in coming together.

— Shane Williams

Worship has never been about what pleases me or what makes me feel good ... Worship is for God

God's Plan for Saving Man

- ⇒ **Hear** the Gospel (Romans 10:17)
- ⇒ **Believe** the Gospel (Hebrews 11:6; John 20:31)
- ⇒ **Repent** of Past Sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)
- ⇒ **Confess Faith** in Christ (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32)
- ⇒ **Be Baptized** in water (Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16; Gal. 3:27; I Pet. 3:21)
- ⇒ **Be Faithful** until/ unto Death (Rev. 2:10)