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Lilbourn Church of Christ
P.O. Box 270
Lilbourn, MO 63862

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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.



Website:

Our website can be found at:
<http://www.Lilbourncofc.com>

E-mail Bulletin:

We have now been putting out an e-mail edition of our bulletin for the past few months. If you are interested in receiving our bulletin via e-mail instead of through USPS, **please contact us**. You can also send us e-mail addresses of those whom you think would like to receive it.

Would you be interested in a **'FREE' Bible Study** through the mail? If so, please send your name and address to the address on the left. You can also send me an e-mail with your information to:

shanewms@sheltonbbs.com

There is, of course, no cost or obligation to you!

The Lilbourn Light



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



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Quick Fix

Some people pray only after a catastrophe. This "quick fix" mentality sees God mainly as a problem solver. When solutions come, God may or may not be thanked. After that, He is more or less forgotten until the next crisis.

Psalm 106 contains a serious warning against dismissing God from our lives— as if that were possible.

Israel had a tendency to take the Lord's mercies for granted. God called this action "*rebellion*" (v.7). The Psalmist then talks about what happened after God had done such wonderful things for them (parting of the Red Sea, defeating their enemies, etc.)

Ps 106:13-15, *"They soon forgot His works; They did not wait for His counsel, 14 But lusted exceedingly in the*

wilderness, And tested God in the desert. 15 And He gave them their request, But sent leanness into their soul."

They ended up with malnourished souls because they chose to ignore Him (vss.13-15). What a lesson for us!

We should anticipate great things from God, but don't expect Him to just be there when you are having a difficult time. Instead, we should be the ones who are eager to fulfill His will.

God is not one that we simply dismiss when our needs are met, like a slave. He is NOT there to serve us. Rather we are here to serve Him. Let us cling to Him as if our lives depended on it because, in fact, they do!

— Shane Williams

Rebellious Children

The prophet Isaiah emphasized the rebellious behavior of the people of Israel in the first chapter of his book.

Isaiah 1:2-4, *"Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: "I have nourished and brought up children, And they have rebelled against Me; 3 The ox knows its owner And the donkey its master's crib; But Israel does not know, My people do not consider." 4 Alas, sinful nation, A people laden with iniquity, A brood of evildoers, Children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, They have provoked to anger The Holy One of Israel, They have turned away backward."*

He said that even an ox recognizes his owner and the stubborn donkey knows enough to come home to his own stall (vs.3). Yet Israel ignored God's nourishing care and eventually provoked Him to anger (vs.4).

The people of Israel turned away from the Lord like unruly children. Their worship and sacrifices became an abomination to God, for their hearts were far from Him (Isaiah 29:13; Matthew 15:8-9). They resisted His warn-

ings and finally experienced divine judgment. The beautiful land of milk and honey was looted and ransacked before their very eyes.

As Christians, we should be fearful at the thought of being His children and acting in a way contrary to His desire.

The people of Israel turned away from the Lord like unruly children

Thinking of God's great mercy and grace, how could we consider all the blessings we have and rebel against Him?

When we sin, we must repent. You cannot continue in it. The Lord went

on to tell the people what they must do: **Isaiah 1:16-20**, *"Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, 17 Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow. 18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. 19 If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land; 20 But if you refuse and rebel, You shall be devoured by the sword"; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."*

— Shane Williams

All Dressed up and No Place to Go!

You probably heard about the atheist who put on his tombstone: *"All Dressed Up and No Place to Go!"*

Don't you know he was surprised! It's true that people are put in their best clothes for the casket. However the Lord made it undeniably clear that at death there IS somewhere to go (Jn. 5:25-29).

The Lord made it undeniably clear that at death there is somewhere to go.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear shall live. 26 "For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself; 27 and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man. 28 "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs shall hear His voice, 29 and shall come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment."

When Christians die, their bodies are put in the ground but their souls go to be with the Lord. Paul made the point that when he would be absent from his body, he would be home with the Lord (II Cor. 5:8).

Unbelievers will be resurrected one day but it will be to stand before Christ in judgment. If an individual's name is not found in the Book of Life, he or she will be sent to what the Bible calls the "lake of fire," which is also called the second death. **Rev. 20:14-15**, *"...This is the*

second death, the lake of fire. And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire."

There they will endure "everlasting punishment" (Mt. 25:46).

All dressed up and no place to go? No! It will be heaven or hell, depending on whether or not we have followed Christ our Savior. Are you following the Lord?

— Shane Williams

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)
- ⇒ Live Faithful (Heb. 10:35-39)