



Fairgrounds Road  
C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

# MESSENGER

“And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also.” 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – July 15, 2018

## Heart to Heart...

Paul speaks in Romans 1:23-25 about man, ***“And exchange the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures. Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them. For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.”***

Man tries to stifle God and make Him what we want Him to be. God cannot be changed. Out of man’s stupidity of heart comes all sort of foul things. To make God into the ideas of man is really a crime! Some made a god called Molech which they offered their little children as sacrifices. Man’s religion of their gods where women would lie down in sexual activity with other men and animals. Others made their god based on human sacrifices. All the gods man makes, worships, and sacrifices to are after the image of man’s wicked hearts. How wicked can we really be? In some nations rats are sacred, cows are sacred, snakes are sacred, and even smoke! How corrupt and blind can the heart of man become?

For what are we exchanging the *“incorruptible God”*? You hear it in the Lord’s church that some seem to worship the work of the Lord in nature. Others seem to exchange the *“incorruptible God”* worshipping the Bible. Oh, that could sting, but think about it. Without the Bible there can be no pleasing worship of God or understanding of who He is, but the Bible is no substitute for God! We have the Bible, the Holy Scripture to help us see the *“incorruptible God”* and know how to honor Him. There must be no changing the glory of God into anything else on earth! We don’t gather to worship the Bible, but worship the God and Author of the Bible. Those of us in Christ don’t believe in the cross, but believe in the Christ of the cross, our Redeemer. We don’t believe in the resurrection, but we believe in the resurrected Christ by God Almighty.

The Bible, the cross, the resurrection, and the church only means something special because of WHOSE they are! We need to always remember that. People say they believe in prayer and seem to worship the idea of prayer. Prayer is nothing without the God who is in control. We believe in God, not prayer!! To turn any of these things around is to *“exchange the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man.”* The purpose of the Bible (Scripture) is told to us plainly: ***“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”*** (II Timothy 3:16-17) It’s the God behind it all that makes all things work. Nature isn’t about getting closer to God, but it reveals the God behind it showing His eternal power, His divine nature, and His invisible attributes.

For such exchanges God gives people over to the lusts of their heart and the results are devastating. Bodies become dishonored because of exchanging the truth of God for lies! Just look at mankind: the diseases that have come into our lives because of such dishonoring God. And most of mankind just drifts along and can't figure out why more and more 'dishonoring' of our bodies comes as a result.

In all this, know God! Gain insight to the *"incorruptible God."* Paul spoke clearly to the pagans at Athens: ***"...that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.' Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man. Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent."*** (Acts 17:27-30) Think about it!!!

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