

“BUT I JUST FEEL LIKE...”

Isn't it amazing that most people have more confidence in their feelings than they do the Word of God? It is also amazing that most folks own a Bible and yet they do not have a clue as to what the Bible says. Is it not strange that many people will acknowledge the deity of Christ and yet question His commands?

Jesus teaches that if one loves Him that one will keep His commandments (John 14:15). The majority of people who profess to be religious allow themselves to become convinced that keeping the Lord's commands is legalism. Where in the Bible does it state that one is legalistic who obeys the Lord? The Scriptures again declare, *“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous”* (1 John 5:3).

Friends, those who love the Lord will obey Him. The writer of Hebrews states it best in saying, *“though he was a Son, yet learned obedience by the things which he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became unto all them that obey him the author of eternal salvation”* (Heb. 5:8-9). One will not be saved just because he feels like he is saved, but because he trusts and obeys the Lord's will.

Jesus teaches that all people must obey the gospel to be saved. It is understood that small children incapable of believing and adults who are not mentally competent are excluded from this command. The Bible warns that those who *“know not God”* and those that *“obey not the gospel ...shall suffer punishment, even eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might”* (2 Thess. 1:8-9). Obeying the gospel is not **thinking** and **saying** that you accept Jesus Christ as

your personal Savior. Where in the Bible do you read that this is what one must do to obey the gospel?

Faith does come by hearing the Word of God (Rom. 10:17). Belief in Christ as the Son of God is necessary or one will die in his sins (John 8:24). Repentance from one's sins (turning from and ceasing to participate in the sin) is required **before** one becomes a New Testament Christian. A willingness to confess Christ as God's only begotten Son is a part of the gospel plan of salvation. Baptism (immersion, not a sprinkling) is the final act of obedience that puts one **into** Christ (Gal. 3:27). Baptism, thought by so many to have nothing to do with one's salvation, washes away sins confessed and repented of (Acts 22:16), and allows one to be raised to *“walk in newness of life”* (Rom. 6:4).

One who refuses to obey the gospel is not saved just because he feels he is saved. Remember Solomon's wise statement: *“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man; But the end thereof are the ways of death”* (Prov. 14:12).

Jesus teaches that one can live in sin. The apostle Paul warns the Colossian brethren, *“Put to death therefore your members which are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry; for which things' sake cometh the wrath of God upon the sons of disobedience: wherein ye also once walked, when ye lived in these things”* (Col. 3:5-7). The Bible anticipates the arguments of those today who contend that one cannot **“live in sin.”** One lives in sin who continues to commit a sin that he will not give up. A person living in sin may say, “I just feel like the Lord has forgiven me,” but where in the Bible does it say that **any** sin is made right in the eyes of God? And where is the

Scripture that states one will be forgiven who refuses to repent (cease) of his sins (cf. Luke 13:3)?

Jesus teaches that a child of God must continue to walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:7). Some do not believe that “going to church” is required to go to Heaven, but the Bible warns that Christians are not to forsake assembling together (Heb. 10:25). The “give me Christ” but “not the church” concept is false! One **cannot** separate the head from the body (Eph. 1:22-23)?

Worship must be *“in spirit and truth”* (John 4:24) and not according to what makes people feel good! Some say that they just know that God is happy and pleased with the worship they are offering Him. Is what you do in worship authorized by New Testament Scriptures, or do you just feel that what you do in worship is okay? Better to trust in a “thus saith the Lord” than in a “this is how I feel!”

One cannot love the Lord and love the world (1 John 2:15-17). A choice must be made as to who one is going to follow – Satan or Christ (cf. Matt. 6:24). Have you truly set your sights on things above (Col. 3:2)? Have you died to self and the ways of the world, and is your life *“hid with Christ in God”* (Col. 3:3)?

Friends, in the Day of Judgment, it will be of no avail to say, “But I just felt like I was forgiven, my soul was okay, and I was going to Heaven.” Be like the noble Bereans who searched the Scriptures to see whether or not what they were taught was true (Acts 17:11), and **obey** God's Word instead of following your feelings!

Marvin L. Weir from Bonham St. Beacon

ANNIVERSARY

Steven and Debbie Schleif, 04-01.

BIRTHDAYS

Clara Scott, 03-29; Debbie Schlieff, 04-01;
Steven Schlieff, 04-01; Brooke Nemechek, 04-03.

ILL

Sunday: Chris Edwards (AM); Millie Robertson (PM);
Tom Tucker.

Wednesday: Janice Carter; Steven and Debbie Schleif.

Tom Tucker continues to have pain in his leg. Millie
Robertson is tentatively scheduled for surgery April 22.

Those battling cancer: Ledgia Campbell, Vic Cuney;
Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in
your prayers.

HOME BOUND

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace
Nursing Home in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home.
Barbara James' aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at the Sweet
Life of Rosehill in Shawnee. Please remember these in
your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

Wilba Hopkins is in Neosho, MO this weekend to attend
a wedding shower for her grandson's fiancée.

POT LUCK DINNER

Our monthly Pot Luck Dinner will be held next Sunday,
April 5, following our AM worship. Plan to come and
enjoy the good food and company!

GOSPEL MEETINGS

There are several Gospel Meetings in our area over the
next few weeks. See the flyers in the foyer for details and
take advantage of these opportunities to hear the Word!

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 42; Sunday PM, 36; Wednesday PM, 27.

Those To Serve

March 29, 2009

BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Thomas

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Joel Nelson
SONG LEADER..... George Thomas
OPENING PRAYER Jared Nelson
PRESIDE..... Jeff Nemechek
ASSIST..... John Cody Carter
ASSIST..... Steven Schleif
CLOSING PRAYER..... Trent Thrasher

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER John Dodson
CLOSING PRAYER..... Chris Edwards
LORD'S SUPPER..... Jeff Nemechek

WEDNESDAY April 1st

SONG LEADER.....Steve Brown
INVITATION Trent Thrasher

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher

Phone: (913) 764-2325

E-mail: olathecofc@sbcglobal.net

CHURCH OF CHRIST

515 WEST PARK

P.O. BOX 482

OLATHE, KANSAS 66051

www.kc-cofc.org/olathe.htm

www.oabs.org/olathe.asp