

A Different Influenza

Imagine being afraid of something invisible. Imagine being so afraid that you wouldn't come out of your house for a week! That's what happened recently in the town of Malad, Idaho. The small community of about 2,000 shut down last week -- no schools were open (they canceled a scheduled wrestling match and their drill team's performance), no churches met, and most businesses closed their doors. They took drastic measures all because of something too small to see, too quiet to hear, and too weak to move about on its own, yet something dangerous, nonetheless. This state of panic was caused by the flu!

Viewed from one point, it would seem foolish to fear something so small and seemingly insignificant. However, knowing the severity with which this flu season has begun, it would seem perfectly reasonable to take every precaution against catching this nasty bug. It would also seem reasonable to warn all others about the dangers of it to prevent it from spreading. Addition-

ally, information is needed about treatment in hopes of limiting the physiological effects and allowing the body's immune system to overcome.

A common name for the flu is, appropriately enough, influenza. This is an Italian word of Medieval Latin origin meaning "influence." It came into being from the belief that epidemics began by the influence of the stars. They believed unseen forces acted among them, producing catastrophic results.

"80,000,000 flu vaccines were distributed in the United States in preparation for this flu season."

How similar is sin in the life of humanity. You cannot see the forces that influence man to sin; you cannot hear them; nor do those forces move about on their own. Sin begins so small--as a seemingly inconsequential influenza--and yet produces catastrophic results where ever it goes. God has warned of its severity (Romans 6:23). God has provided precautions against it (1 Corinthians 10:13). God has provided the remedy (John 1:29).

80,000,000 flu vaccines were distributed in the United States in preparation for this flu season. If

you failed to get one, you are out of luck, because while they are scrambling to make more, that is all there are for now. If you are one of the many more Americans who chooses to ignore the dangers of this virus, even if you contract it, you will probably be all right: the effects are relatively short-lived and usually leave no permanent injury. In contrast, the influences of sin are permanent if left untreated. Don't ignore sin. Seek the remedy which God has provided and enjoy the eternal spiritual health which He can give!

Keith Olbricht



*Berryville Bible Beacon
Berryville church of Christ
Berryville, AR.*

Liledoun Road ANCHOR

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Church of Christ

240 Liledoun RD SW
Taylorsville, NC 28681
(828) 632-2998

churchofchrist@w4aw.org

<http://w4aw.org/church>

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Classes – 10:00 am
AM Worship – 11:00 am
PM Worship – 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Classes – 7:30 pm

Elders

Fred Watkins
632-5542
Ralph Lowtharpe
632-6145

Preacher

Jonnie Hutchison
632-7344

Worshipping or Just Attending Worship

By Neil Richey

Jesus made the following charge: "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is from me" (Matt. 15:8). What an indictment for today's worshipper to consider. "Am I truly worshipping God, or am I just attending worship?" I recall sitting in a Bible class about six years ago when the teacher said, "I used to have pneumonia." He told us that when the doors to the church building were opened, he was there. However, he was not really there because his heart was not in it. Jesus said, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24). The actions of worship are important, yet the attitude in worship is equally important.

Sometimes, one who is just attending worship will stick out like a sore thumb. It is apparent in the fact that they are not participating. A gospel preacher, of which I am, has the privilege of seeing every face in the auditorium. When he preaches he may notice individuals carrying on a conversation with a neighbor. Perhaps a baby is

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News and Notes

To Our Visitors

It is always a joy to welcome visitors to our services. We are thankful for each one who has chosen to be present. A number of tracts and other materials are available in the lobby of the building. There is no charge for any of this material. If you would like to enroll in a free Bible Correspondence Course or an in home Bible study please mark that on your visitors card. We hope you will return and be with us at your every opportunity.



Remember In Prayer



Alvin and Phyllis Bullington, Ethel Watson, Dena Bishop, Sandra Dixon, Philip Bullington, Alex White, Loretta Phillips, Kris Koko, Hubert Keys, Ken Koko, Ann Yates, McKenzie Brunette, Joyce Herman and Ben Alexander. If you know of others who should be added to this list please let it be known.

Upcoming Events

The 6th Annual Carolina Men's Fellowship is scheduled for Saturday March 13, 2004. The theme is "A Way that Is Right and Cannot Be Wrong." It will be held at the Charlotte Avenue building. See bulletin board for details. We en-

courage all the men of the congregation to plan ahead to attend this event. It is always a wonderful period of instruction and fellowship.

Welcome Home

We are happy to have Nelson and Suzanne Brockenborough and children with us today. Nelson will be speaking this morning and again this evening. Nelson will be working to establish a new congregation in the Hickory, NC area after finishing two years at the East Tennessee School of Preaching in Knoxville.

Weekly Bulletin Online

Our web page continues to enjoy a good number of connections from around the world. Among the features of the web page of the Liledoun Road church of Christ is the availability of this weekly bulletin. Simply click on "weekly bulletin" on the main menu on the main page and you will be taken to another page with a list of the bulletins. You may download these to view offline or if your web browser supports the adobe plugin it will automatically load up when you click on an individual bulletin. Our bulletins are available in the adobe .pdf format. You may need to download the adobe reader to view them. <http://w4aw.org/church>.

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being passed back and forth. When the invitation is extended and everyone is asked to stand and sing to encourage a soul to come to Christ, there are some who look around and do everything but open their mouth in praise to God and in edification to the one who is so close to walking down the aisle and making a commitment to the Lord.

There are some who consider worship as having very little meaning. Those who think this way need to ask themselves the question, "Just how far do I thrust myself into the worship of God?" During the week, every Christian should be preparing themselves to worship on the Lord's Day. This preparation begins with holy living. Paul said, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1).

- When leaving the house on Sunday morning for worship, pray for the church: the elders, deacons, preacher and every member who will be worshipping with you.
- When you approach the church

building, leave distracting thoughts behind.

- When the worship hour begins lift your voice to God in song and bow your head as you approach His throne in prayer.
- Consider the words of the sermon, and let their meaning penetrate the very depths of your soul.
- When observing the Lord's Supper, discern the body of the Lord.
- When giving liberally, be thankful for God's blessings.
- At the close of the worship hour, speak to everyone you know, and greet those you do not.
- When you leave the building, be convicted that you will do better tomorrow than you have done in the past.

Ask yourself the question, "Am I truly worshipping God, or am I just attending worship?" Never be like the fellow with "pew-monia." Faithfully attend the worship services of the saints, and when you do, be sure to "...worship him in spirit and in truth."

—POWER, October 2003

1 Chron. 16:29, "Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: **worship the LORD** in the beauty of holiness."