

IT'S NOT IN THE BIBLE

As we travel through life, from day to day

We hear a lot of things that the Bible doesn't say,
They tell us it happened on a cold December morn,
But the Bible doesn't say when the child was born.

The wise men came from the East— to make a call,
But the Bible doesn't say there were *three* after all.
It's true they brought gifts, and raced to see the sight;
But the Bible doesn't say, they rode *camels* that night.

It's a well known fact that the angels did sing,
But the Bible doesn't say that the angels had *wings*.
The angels worshipped Him, and the shepherds did the same;
But the Bible doesn't say that *reindeer* came.

The Bible doesn't say, "When they made the Egypt flight;
That Mary rode a *donkey* and Joseph held a light."
It's fine to give gifts, and to visit and to play;
But don't think of Christmas as a Bible holiday.

- Author Unknown -

"What This Weary World Most Needs"

"I have said, and I desire to reiterate it ... what this weary world most needs is a revival of the spirit of religion. Would that such a revival could sweep the nations today and stir the hearts of men and women ... to a reassertion of their belief in the Providence of God and the brotherhood of man. I doubt if there is in the world a single problem, whether social, political, or economic, which would not find ready solution if men and nations would rule their lives according to the plain teaching of the Sermon on the Mount."

Franklin D. Roosevelt
June 15, 1938

[Excerpt from letter written by President Roosevelt.
Source *Christian Herald*, Sept. 1938, p. 37]

- via *Warren Center News*, Warren Christian Apologetics Center, Nov./Dec. 2018 -

The Best Gift

Being thoughtful and expressing appreciation is the best gift you can give. It doesn't take much time or energy, and it costs you nothing. You never need worry about size or color, and it goes with everything.

- Author Unknown -

To spend time wisely, invest it in eternity.

News & Notes

UP FRONT: Tonight - Bible drills **each 2nd and 4th Sunday at 5:15 p.m.** for the kids and teens. Bible questions submitted by adults will be considered **each 3rd Sunday at 5:15 p.m.**

EVENTS SUSPENDED: The following are temporarily suspended until further notice during our building renovations:

- **Ladies Bible Class** (Room 206),
- **Care and Share Bears** (Tuesday mornings),
- **Men's Enrichment Bible Class** (Tuesday evenings),
- **Membership Directory** (pictures and updates).

PANTRY: Peaches and pears.

NEW YEAR'S DAY SCHEDULE: Congregational fellowship breakfast (prepared and served by the men) **Jan. 1, 2020, 9:00 a.m.** at the Fellowship Building **followed immediately** by a Bible study/question & answer period (this will be in lieu of our regular Wednesday evening Bible study).

PIZZA PARTY: An after Christmas/New Year's pizza party will be held **Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** at the Fellowship Building. All are invited. **R.S.V.P. Dean & Sandy Spencer by Dec. 29th.** Money donations accepted to help defray the cost.

SICK & SHUT-IN: WEIRTON MEDICAL: Rich Robinson. **ENCOMPASS REHAB:** Carol Stillwell 351 Camp Meeting Rd., Room 115, Sewickley, PA 15143. **AT HOME:** Docie Moore, Mary Jane Bowers, Emma Rine, Russell Martin, Blondenia Orr, Joann Webb, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless, Chris Lamb (David Roach's sister). **FOX:** Tom Postlethwait. **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **VALLEY OAKS CARE CENTER:** Fred Larrimore, (Room 210). **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

God's People Are Distinctive

The great thrust of liberalism is to make the church become like the world around us. In a world so filled with sin and indifference to godliness, it is refreshing and uplifting to notice the distinctiveness of a faithful Christian. A true follower of Christ is;

Distinctive in speech — The Christian's speech is "sound speech that cannot be condemned" (Titus 2:8). There is a noted void of profanity and vulgarities. He calls Bible things by Bible names (1 Peter 4:11). His language is the language of godliness, not worldliness.

Distinctive in doctrine — His consent is only "the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness" (1 Timothy 6:3). The Christian is greatly concerned about abiding only in the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9), and will teach no other doctrine than that which is authorized by the Lord (Galatians 1:6-8); Colossians 3:17).

Distinctive in worship — Historically, apostasy makes its inroads by changing the way in which man worships God. A true follower of Christ avoids the vain worship of teaching man's doctrines (Matthew 15:9). He also refuses will worship (Colossians 2:23), and he rejects the idea that man can worship God in ignorance (Acts 17:23). The Christian distinctively worships God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

Distinctive in manner of life — A true follower of Christ always conducts himself in a manner which "becometh the gospel of Christ" (Philippians 1:27). The Christian's modest apparel is distinctive from the world's dress (1 Timothy 2:8-10); his entertainment is unlike that of the world's; his priorities in all matters place Christ first.

What this world needs is more distinctiveness! "Be ye not unequally yoked with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness?" (2 Corinthians 6:14).

- Jim Lewis