

The Keavy Encourager

1 Thessalonians 5:14 (GW)-We encourage you, brothers and sisters, to instruct those who are not living right, cheer up those who are discouraged, help the weak, and be patient with everyone.

November 5, 2023

(For Any Corrections Or Updates To The Bulletin, Please Contact brother Mark Tabata (Call Or Text) @ 606-216-1757)

WELCOME TO THE KEAVY CHURCH OF CHRIST!

- If you are visiting with us, you are our welcomed and honored guest. We are so thankful that you came to be with us today! PLEASE remember to pick up one of our “Visitor Packages” before you go! PLEASE also leave your name and address with us so that we can get you a “thank you” card in the mail. If we can help you in any way, PLEASE let us know!
- If you would like to participate in our Communion service, you will find Lord’s Supper packets in the Foyer (the area where you first enter the church building).
- Visit us online for Bible studies, live streaming, and other resources! Our website is: www.keavychurchofchrist.com, and our email address is keavychurchofchrist@outlook.com Please also share with your family, friends, and social media!

November Prayer List

Kurt And Joanne Martin
Sanders Family
Eddie Craft (Cancer)
Jimmy Brooks (Tammy’s cousin, cancer)
Kathy Mingus (cancer)
Anne Baker (Cancer)
Larry and Sandi Tabata

Josh and Holly Baker
Violet (Ivy's sister)
Leslie Prescott And Family (Winchester)
Bill and Mary Ruth Browning
James And LeAnne Day
Terry and Rita Wooten
Kandace Scalf
David And Ivy Mosley
Robin McDonald
Gary And Vanessa Fleming
Jim and Linda Day
Jessica
Theresa H And Family
Tim Williams

Something To Help Us Laugh...

(Adapted From Paul M. Miller, *The World's Greatest Collection Of Church Jokes*)

Sometimes The Devil Is Just Along For The Ride

The preacher was visiting a man in prison. "When you were tempted," asked the minister, "why didn't you say, 'Get thee behind me, Satan!'" "I did," replied the prisoner, "but Satan said, 'It doesn't matter who leads, since we're both going the same direction.'"

Powerful Sermon On Lying

One Sunday morning brother Bob advised his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. In preparation for my message. I want you all to read Mark 17." The following Sunday the minister asked for a show of hands from those who had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. Bob smiled and announced, "Well, Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

Bulletin Bloopers

“Don’t let worry kill you—let the church help.” “

“Miss Charlene Mason sang ‘I Will Not Pass This Way Again,’ giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.”

“The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to conflict.”

Preacher And Music Minister

There was a church where the preacher and the minister of music were not getting along. As time went by, this spirit began to spill over into the worship service. The first week the preacher preached on commitment and how we should all dedicate ourselves to God. The music director led the song, “I Shall Not Be Moved.” The second week the preacher preached on giving and how we all should gladly give to the work of the Lord. The director led the song, “Jesus Paid It All.” The third week the preacher preached on gossiping and how we should all watch our tongues. The music director led, “I Love to Tell the Story.” With all this going on, the preacher became totally disgusted over the situation and the following Sunday told the congregation that he was considering resigning. The music director led, “Oh, Why Not Tonight.” As it came to pass, the preacher did resign. The next week he informed the church that it was Jesus who led him there and it was Jesus who was taking him away. The music leader led the song, “What a Friend We Have in Jesus.”

The Restoration Movement (Four)

(More Bible Studies Available At www.marktabata.com)

It is written:

2 Timothy 4:3-4-For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

The Apostle Paul warned that there would come a time in the Christian Age when people would turn away from the truth of God’s Word and be turned

aside to fables. The word “fable” carries the meaning of “myth,” and so was often used of the pagan myths of the nations surrounding Israel. The post-apostolic church struggled with the threat of Gnosticism (i.e., that religious movement which attempted to combine Christianity with paganism).

This was one of the things which led to the formation of the Roman Catholic church.

Even though the Bible repeatedly warns God’s people not to imitate the practices of the pagans in their religious ceremonies (cf. Exodus 20:3; Deuteronomy 6:14; Joshua 24:18-24; 1 Corinthians 10:19-20; Colossians 2:18; Revelation 19:10), the Catholic church unashamedly incorporates paganism into its’ religious services.

Consider a few examples of this from Catholic Encyclopedia.

In describing the fictitious and apocryphal accounts of the “saints” (i.e., alleged Catholic heroes throughout time), we learn that these stories are nothing more than superstitions borrowed from pagan religious figures!

“Manifold as the varieties of legends now seem to be, there are fundamentally not so very many different notions utilized. The legend considers the saint as a kind of lord of the elements, who commands the water, rain, fire, mountain, and rock; he changes, enlarges, or diminishes objects; flies through the air; delivers from dungeon and gallows; takes part in battles, and even in martyrdom is invulnerable; animals, the wildest and the most timid, serve him (e.g. the stories of the bear as a beast of burden; the ring in the fish; the frogs becoming silent, etc.); his birth is glorified by a miracle; a voice, or letters, from Heaven proclaim his identity; bells ring of themselves; the heavenly ones enter into personal intercourse with him (betrothal of Mary); he speaks with the dead and beholds heaven, hell, and purgatory; forces the Devil to release people from compacts; he is victorious over dragons; etc. Of all this the authentic Christian narratives know nothing. But whence then does this world of fantastic concepts arise? A glance at the pre-Christian religious narratives will dispel every doubt. All these stories are anticipated by the Greek chroniclers, writers of myths, collectors of strange tales, neo-Platonism, and neo-Pythagorism...In this way popular illusions found their way from Hellenism to Christianity, whose struggles in the first

three centuries certainly produced an abundance of heroes....And if, in this legend of Mary, the Blessed Virgin put a ring on the hand of her betrothed under quite characteristic circumstances, that is nothing else than the Roman local legend of the betrothal of Venus, as it has been preserved by William of Malmesbury and the "Deutsche Kaiserchronik" of the twelfth century.” (Charles George Herbermann, The Catholic Encyclopedia: Complete Vol. 1-15 (With Active Table of Contents), 399712-399793 (Kindle Edition))

Thus the Catholic church clearly acknowledges that it frequently borrows from paganism in its’ teachings.

In another article regarding the Catholic use of lights, we read again:

“We need not shrink from admitting that candles, like incense and lustral water, were commonly employed in pagan worship and in the rites paid to the dead. But the Church from a very early period took them into her service, just as she adopted many other things indifferent in themselves, which seemed proper to enhance the splendour of religious ceremonial. We must not forget that most of these adjuncts to worship, like music, lights, perfumes, ablutions, floral decorations, canopies, fans, screens, bells, vestments, etc. were not identified with any idolatrous cult in particular; they were common to almost all cults.” (Charles George Herbermann, The Catholic Encyclopedia: Complete Vol. 1-15 (With Active Table of Contents), 11518 (Kindle Edition))

Again, speaking of the Agnus Deis:

“The origin of Agnus Deis is a matter of much obscurity. Recent authorities lay stress upon the lack of evidence for their existence before the ninth century. But it seems probable that they had their beginning in some pagan usage of charms or amulets, from which the ruder populace were weaned by the enjoyment of this Christian substitute blessed by prayer. The early history of Catholic ceremonial affords numerous parallels for this Christianizing of pagan rites. It is not disputed that the Agnus Deis originated in Rome. If so, we may probably trace the custom back to the final overthrow of Paganism in that city, say the fifth century. ” (Charles George Herbermann, The Catholic Encyclopedia: Complete Vol. 1-15 (With Active Table of Contents), 17225-17233 (Kindle Edition))

The words of the Apostle Peter (2 Peter 2:1-2) and Paul (2 Timothy 4:3-4) regarding false prophets which would arise within Christianity and adopt paganism clearly find their fulfillment in the corruptions of Roman Catholicism. Indeed, God's Word is clear that the church should not embrace paganism! Instead, we should remove such (Ephesians 5:11).

Yet as we will see, the Catholic church did much more than adopt paganism into its' teachings: it did everything in its power to suppress the Word of God!

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

Questions

1. What are some examples of how Catholicism adopts pagan teachings and practices?

2. Consider 2 John 9-11. Should Christians adopt paganism into Christianity? If we do, whose fellowship do we not have?

3. Read 2 Chronicles 30:1-12. Give a brief description of king Manasseh and some lessons that we learn from him.

Announcements

- Our hearts rejoice that sisters Kristina Helton and Jycee Smith came forward this past Sunday evening and requested prayers from the church. We are blessed to have these sisters as sisters in Christ.
- Furthermore, sister Jycee Smith has announced her desire to place her membership with us at Keavy church of Christ. Please welcome her to the Lord's family here and get to know her. Her address is 3657 McWhorter Road, London KY 40741. Her phone number is (606)-767-2879 (text or call).

- Sister Robin McDonald had a bad fall recently. Please remember her in prayer.
- Brother Tim Williams has injured his back. Please remember him in your prayers.
- We have started a church “text group” on a free app called “Discord.” If you would like to be added to this, please download this app and search for “Keavy church of Christ.”

Sunday Lessons

A.M. Bible Class: Through The Gospels

A.M. Lesson: Christians Are God’s Chosen People (1 Peter 2:9)

P.M. Lesson: God Rejects Israel As His Chosen People (Matthew 23:29-39)

Bible Class And Sermon Notes