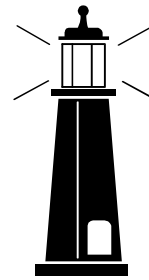




The Berryville Church of Christ

# Bible Beacon



"Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)

Volume 2, Issue 2

January 11th, 2003

## What Liberalism Is Not

*Kevin Cauley*

There is in the Lord's church a growing number of individuals who are seeking to change the practices that we find in the scriptures to conform to a more denominational perspective. These are departing from the teaching that is found in the Bible regarding salvation, worship, the church, and Christian living. It is good for Christians to be concerned about these things. We should not have any practices that are not authorized by the scriptures (2 John 9). We should seek to do all things according to the authority of God as revealed in His word (Colossians 3:17). We should "speak as the oracles of God" (1 Peter 4:11). It is also the responsibility of the local eldership to "watch" over the flock to ensure that wolves are not coming in to steal the sheep (Acts 20:28-31). I want to go on record as being opposed to liberalism. I am opposed to any inventions of man that are inserted into God's order of things, whether it be taking away from the plan of salvation or adding to the worship in a way that is unscriptural or teaching false doctrine regarding the place of the church in the scheme of redemption—I am directly 100% vehemently opposed to liberalism!!! There are some, however, who point and cry "liberalism" where there is no liberalism. I am equally opposed to this. In order to help us understand what liberalism is not, I thought I would write a few words about this.

First, liberalism IS NOT singing new songs or singing songs that are not in the book. I have never been to a new congregation in which I did not sing some new songs. Most of these new songs were in a book, however, some were not. In the case where the songs are not in a book, the song leader would put the words on an overhead projector. We did this at the church of

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## Kevin's Korner



Sickness, unfortunately, seems to be the theme of activities this week. Both Rex Gentry and Charlene Pinkley were in the hospital earlier this week. Charlene had pneumonia. Rex was having some problems related to his heart. Both were improving as of Wednesday evening. Charlene is back home now. Rex was doing better. Mary Lynn is sick with a fever. Austin seems to have taken it now. Kendra Smith was home sick as well as Katie Williams. Many have the sniffles and snorts and crud. My beloved brethren lets remember the health of the congregation in our prayers this week.

I have one more "thank you" that I failed to mention in last weeks bulletin. While we were away on vacation, Scott and Debbie Dewbre kindly volunteered to take care of our family dog. We really do appreciate their help in this regard. Thanks Scott and Debbie!

Today is the anniversary of my first sermon in Berryville as an employed preacher. I want to say that it has been a tremendous year! I have grown to appreciate and respect each person here in the congregation. Mary Lynn shares these sentiments with me as well. Your hospitality and kindness to us has been wonderful. The opportunities with which I have been presented to work in this community and to preach the gospel of Christ have been blessed indeed. Yet, while we can celebrate our accomplishments, let us look forward to the future work and purpose to accomplish greater things for His cause.

Yesterday Austin, Charlie, and I went to Springfield to do a couple of Cub Scout electives. We visited the Wildlife Museum next to Bass Pro and then we went to the airport. Afterwards we

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ate and stopped at one of Austin and Charlie's favorite places—Battlefield station. This is a place for model train enthusiasts. Austin and Charlie love the Thomas the Tank Engine wooden railway models and this place has many of these. (And just in case your wondering, Austin got sick toward the end of our trip.)

Recently Mary Lynn and I acquired a digital camera. This item I hope to use in the future to support the work here in Berryville. It would be nice if I could get the picture of all of our members so that when I need to brag on one of our members, I could include their photo in the bulletin. There are many reasons to do this. First, people like to see pictures of their friends and family. Second, this will help us all to get to know each other better. Third, this gives me an excuse to tell you to smile. (I think I like the third reason the best). Now, I know what you are thinking. "Kevin is going to come with that camera on my worst picture day." But be of good cheer. I will work with you to get your picture just the way you want it. So let's all prepare to have our pictures taken in February. I am sure that we will not get everyone in the same day, but don't procrastinate! We will start the first Sunday in February.

A picture is an image or likeness of something. When our picture is taken, our image is captured. Yet, it is not a perfect image and can be marred by imperfection until it is useless. Man was created in the image or likeness of God (Genesis 1:27). When we live as God wants us to live, people see God living in our lives. However, if we do not live according to God's will, we will mar that image and if we do that often enough, no one will recognize the original image. So, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

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Christ for the deaf so that the deaf could look up and see the words and the song leader at the same time. When you don't have the words in a book, you use the best expedient possible to make sure that everyone gets the words because you can't teach or admonish WITHOUT words (Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16). Liberalism IS removing the words so that one is humming or making some other kind of noise.

Second, liberalism IS NOT using illustrations to help people understand the message better. If, when we preached, every word had to be scripture, there would be no preaching, it would just

be reading the Bible. Jesus used illustrations from every day life to help the disciples understand His teaching. He used the sea, mountains, stones, fish, boats, farming, and the temple itself to illustrate many of the things that he was talking about. He left us an example that we can use illustrations from every day life as well to teach a message. Liberalism IS changing the message that Jesus gave so that we leave out necessary parts of the gospel such as the teaching about hell, baptism, faithfulness, attendance, modesty, the church, or marriage and divorce (1 Peter 4:11).

Third, liberalism IS NOT doing some things similar to the way denominations do things. Just because a denomination is doing something does not of necessity imply that we may not do it. Some people act like if a denomination is doing it, then we simply cannot do it regardless if it is scriptural or not. Denominations have buildings. Denominations have song books. Denominations have pews, baptisteries, pulpits, lights, and sound systems. Are these things wrong merely because the denominations have them? Of course not. Liberalism IS doing things like the denominations for the SOLE PURPOSE of imitating the denominations to be popular (1 Samuel 8:5-7).

It is beautiful that God has given us liberty in Christ to do many different things and make decisions on our own in matters of opinion and still be pleasing to Him. I, for one, am thankful that God has given us latitude in our lives in so many things. However, just because we have freedom does not necessarily mean that we MAY exercise it. In fact, the Bible teaches that if our freedom causes another person to sin, we should not use it (1 Corinthians 8, 9, 10). Having this in mind, I want to pass along some words of wisdom that were given to me by another many years ago. When hiring a school bus driver, you don't hire a person who takes chances. You want someone

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**Elders:** Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley

**Deacons:** Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.

**Preacher:** Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

## **Times of Worship and Study**

Sunday Morning Bible Class:.....9:30 AM

Sunday Morning Worship: ..... 10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: .....6:00 PM

Ladies Bible Class: ..... 10:30 AM

Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....7:00 PM

who drives safely and stays as far away from danger as possible. In living my life as a Christian, I want to stay as far away from sin as possible. On the other hand, in my zeal to avoid sin, I may not make laws that God has not made and I must respect each person's Christian liberty.

This list here is not intended to be exhaustive. I am sure that several more things could be added and I am sure that there have been books written on the subject. My purpose in pointing this out is that there are so many problems that exist within the church without having to create new ones. Let's respect God's wishes in regard both to what he has authorized and what he left in the area of Christian liberty. As the old restoration saying goes, "In matters of faith, unity; in matters of opinion, liberty; in all things, charity" and as the Bible says, "knowledge puffs up, but love edifies" (1 Corinthians 8:1).

## Being Gullible

*Tom Moore*

A freshman at Eagle Rock Junior High won first prize at the Greater Idaho Falls Science Fair, April 26. In his project he urged people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical "dihydrogen monoxide." And for plenty of good reasons, since:

1. It can cause excessive sweating and vomiting.
2. It is a major component in acid rain.
3. It can cause severe burns in its gaseous state.
4. Accidental inhalation can kill you.
5. It contributes to erosion.

## Sunday's Sermons

**For January 11th**

**Morning ..... The Heart of the Backslider**  
 Scripture.....Matthew 13:1-8  
**Evening ..... Questions and Answers**  
 Scripture..... NA

6. It decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes.
7. It has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients.

He asked 50 people if they supported a ban of the chemical.

Forty-three (43) said yes, six (6) were undecided, and the last one? Well, only one (1) knew that the chemical, dihydrogen monoxide, was water (H2O).

The title of his prize winning project: "How Gullible Are We?"

There are many in religious world who are just as gullible. Millions always believe, without ever investigating, what their preacher espouses from the pulpit. Many would not know the difference between truth and error if it slapped them in the face. Friends, that is why we need to be like those noble Bereans, where of them it is said, "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11). Being gullible is what leads to religious error that will damn one's souls.

Think About It!  
 Have A Great Day!

North Main Church of Christ  
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<http://www.seekyefirst.us/>  
 via The Preacher's PC, December, 17th, 2002

## Our Record

**Week of 1/5/03**

Sunday Class .....	64
Sunday A.M.....	83
Sunday P.M. ....	62
Wednesday .....	67
Contribution.....	\$2274.00

## News, Notes and Prayer List



- Today is the day that the Lord has made. Let us be thankful for everything for which he so richly gives.

- We welcome all of our visitors to our service today. We invite you to fill out a guest card and stay after services a few minutes to get to know us.

- Please remember the following in your prayers: Donna Brown, Virgil Butler, Mary Lynn Cauley, Austin Cauley, Debbie Duncan, Rex Gentry, Charlene Pinkley, Kendra Smith, Tina Smith, Katie Williams.
- Lucille Wright is in room 504 of the Berryville nursing home.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- Please remember to sign up to deliver lunch for Art Roberts one week out of the year. If every one of our ladies volunteered to do this, each lady would only have to prepare once or twice a year. This is a great way to serve!!!
- The VBS meeting for tonight has been postponed to the evening of the last Sunday of January.
- Due to illness, the open house at Kevin and Mary Lynn's place will be postponed to the last Sunday afternoon of this month.
- The elders and deacons meeting will be held next Sunday evening.
- Tonight is our question and answer night!
- Our third Sunday potluck is scheduled for next week. Let's bring "New Year" food!
- Please note that in Kevin's Korner we will start taking pictures in February.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Bar Soap.



## Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	<b>January 12th, 2003</b>	<b>January 19th, 2003</b>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Brent Stevens	Ken Smith
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Bill Fort	Bruce Foster
<b>Scripture:</b>	Perry Foster	Leon Duncan
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Leon Duncan	Clay Bozarth
	Glenn Williams	Rusty Windle
<b>(assist)</b>	Brandon Foster	John Gass
	Larry Elliott	Matt Bassing
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Brent Stevens	Glenn Williams
<b>Sunday Night:</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Bruce Foster	Glenn Williams
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Glenn Williams	Rusty Windle
<b>Scripture:</b>	Perry Foster	Brent Moore
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Leon Duncan
	Perry Foster	Ray Duncan
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Matt Bassing	John Gass
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Glenn Quigley	Glenn Williams
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Leon Duncan
<b>Invitation:</b>	Rusty Windle	Bob Moore
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Brandon Foster	Matt Bassing
<b>Monthly Assignments</b>		
<b>Announcements</b>	<b>Bob Moore</b>	
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	<b>Leon Duncan</b>	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	<b>Joann Bragg</b>	<b>Debbie Duncan</b>
<b>Communion Carry</b>	<b>Bruce Foster</b>	<b>Kevin Cauley</b>

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