



Calvary Christian Fellowship Mennonite Church

Welcome to our Worship Service!

February 18, 2018

Devotional:----- Galen Kauffman

Message:----- Henry Nissley

Offering:----- General

SS Lesson:----- 1 Corinthians 5:1-13

Adult and Youth Verse: Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: 1 Corinthians 5:7

Intermediate Verse: Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. Hebrews 4:11

Junior Verse: Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Matthew 5:9

Primary Verse: "The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him." Habakkuk 2:20 "The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him."

Preschool Verse: I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. Psalm 122:1

SS Lesson for next week: 1 Corinthians 6:1-20

Adult and Youth Verse for next week: For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Corinthians 6:20

CHILDREN'S CORNER

-Excerpt from the Museum Guide

The most popular naturalistic explanation about the origin of the universe is the big bang hypothesis. At its simplest, this view suggests that the universe emerged rapidly from a hot, dense state several billions of years ago. However, there are several differing versions of the big bang idea, with disagreement among the versions. As one scientist has pointed out, there are many problems with this view.

Big bang cosmology is probably as widely believed as has been any theory of the universe in the history of Western civilization. It rests, however, on many untested, and in some cases untestable, assumptions. Indeed, big bang cosmology has become a bandwagon of thought that reflects faith as much as objective truth. (G. Burbidge, "Why only one big bang?" Scientific American 266:2, 1992, p. 96.)

Eventually, according to the naturalistic worldview, our solar system originated from a spinning cloud of gas (this idea is known as the "nebular hypothesis"). As with the big bang idea, the nebular hypothesis has many scientific problems and runs counter to the biblical teaching.

For more information, visit www.answersingenesis.org/go/astronomy.

-Kids Answers, <http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/kw/museum-guide-big-bang>

Announcements:

- This Evening: Free evening due to so many being away.
- Wednesday Evening: Prison Service (Annex) 4:15 PM.
- School devotions this week by: Robert Martin
- Out of state correspondence this week by Robert & Rachel Martin
- Reminder: School Craft Sale is planned for Friday March 2nd.

~BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES~

February 23, Happy Anniversary! Michael & Virginia, 1989

February 24, Happy Birthday! Jennifer Yoder, 1993

Are You Worshipping a Knockoff Jesus?

-John Bevere

Today I want to uncover what I believe is the most insidious deception leading Christians into idolatry—even right now.

To do that, I have to take you back to the story of the golden calf at Mount Sinai. If you remember, God had just saved Israel from Egypt through many powerful miracles and had led them through the wilderness to Mount Sinai. He spoke His commands to them, but they all shrank back and insisted that Moses go up the mountain to talk to God alone.

While Moses is gone, the people lose patience. They go to Moses's brother, Aaron, and demand that he make them gods to lead them into the Promised Land. Now, the word they used for "gods" is Elohim, which is used in the Old Testament to refer to both pagan gods and the true God, so we don't really know who they are talking about yet.

Aaron bows to their demands, fashioning for them a golden statue of a calf, and they say, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt" (Exodus 32:4). We still don't know which God they're talking about, but Aaron makes it clear right away.

He says, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord" (Exodus 32:5). Now when it says, "Lord," what's written there is the name "Yahweh," the name of God. Now we know who they are talking about.

Here's what's going on: They are declaring, "Yahweh is our God. Yahweh saved us from Egypt. Yahweh is our Lord," yet they are worshiping an idol. We must see this warning, because if they could have all the right declarations while still worshiping an idol, we can too.

In fact, many Christians do this every day. They declare, "Jesus is Lord," but they don't follow Jesus. Just as Israel said they worshiped Yahweh, but followed their desires instead of God's declared will, many Christians pick and choose which passages of Scripture

they want to follow—and then ignore the rest that challenge them! They might champion verses about God's love while ignoring His holiness and the clear calls for believers to repent and turn from the ways of the world.

Similarly, they might proclaim His mercy but turn a blind eye to His justice. In doing so, they create a God fashioned in their image rather than worship the God who created them in His image. The latter has the power to transform them from the inside out. The former will always be devoid of any such power. It may not be fashioned as a statue of a golden calf, but it is a false god nonetheless.

This is creating a knockoff Jesus—an idol. It is not worshipping Jesus in truth.

To worship Him in truth, we must take Him at His Word—all of it.

If you've been worshipping a Jesus that sounds more like the current mood of our culture than the unchanging God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, I'd encourage you to run back to Scripture. To stay out of deception, you have to embrace the Word of God in its fullness. Don't ignore the parts that you may find challenging or uncomfortable. Don't ignore the parts you may not understand. Remember, a god you understand will always be smaller than you are—and the God of the Bible is far bigger than that. You can rest assured of that.

There is great power released when we worship God in spirit and in truth. Let's commit to a journey of throwing off any falsehoods we may have picked up along the way and rediscover God as He is. When we do, we will discover a faith more powerful than all the counterfeits in the world.

Remember, faith is only as powerful as the one it is placed in. Let's make sure our faith is in the eternal God who is forever praised and not just another we call by the same name.

<http://messengerinternational.org/blog/devotional/worshipping-knockoff-jesus/>