

EAST CAMBRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST

"A first century church in the 21st century"

Bible Reading Plan

Week 49

- Ester 7-10; *Rev 3*
- Ezra 7-10; Ps 97; *Rev 4*
- Nehemiah 1-3; *Rev 5*
- Neh 4-6; Ps 98; *Rev 6*
- Neh 7-9; Ps 140; *Rev 7*

Leading Services

Announcements: Mike V.

Morning:

Song Leader: Zack V.

Opening Prayer: Richard L.

Lord's Table: Larry L.

Asst By:

Closing Prayer: Brock G.

Evening:

Song Leader: Ron V.

Opening Prayer: Larry L.

Closing Prayer: Brock G.

Scripture Reading: Tony Y.
(Matthew 2.13-23)

Sermons

AM:

PM:



Preaching

I read a story a while back about a preacher, whose baby was very sick. He took the child to the doctor who, after examining the baby the doctor wrote out a prescription for medicine and handed it to the preacher to get filled.

The preacher carried the prescription to the local druggist and handed it to him. The druggist looked at the prescription and said to the preacher, "This will be pretty expensive as it is. There are a couple of ingredients that make it so expensive, and I feel they are unnecessary. I can make some substitutions and the prescription will be a lot cheaper."

The preacher said, "No way. I want you to fill the prescription exactly as the doctor wrote it." "But," the druggist said, "What I just told you will be just as good, and besides, the doctor didn't say not to substitute something else for it." The preacher then said, "I don't want a substitute. I want you to fill the prescription exactly as it is written, Don't leave anything out, and don't substitute something else, for I will not accept it."

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The preacher and the druggist

The next Sunday the druggist decided to go and hear the preacher. On that day the preacher happened to be preaching on “The Great Physician Healing The Sin-Sick Soul.” In the course of his sermon, the preacher remarked that Jesus, in giving the Great Commission told His disciples to go and preach the gospel to the world. And anyone who would “believe and be baptized would be saved” Mk.16:16. The preacher then said Jesus' disciples did just that on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2. They told those who asked what they had to do to be saved, that they had to repent and every one of them be baptized for the remission of sins Acts 2:36-38, 41. But then the preacher added, “Even though this is what the Bible says people did back then I do not believe it is necessary to do the same today. After all, times have changed, and people can be saved without being baptized. All that is necessary is just believe in Jesus.”

The preacher went on and brought up the subject of Instrumental Music. He admitted there was no command, example of inference that the early Christian used mechanical music in their worship services, but he didn't see anything wrong with using them today. After all God hasn't said we couldn't use them. If you feel it is OK, then you can do it.

When the sermon was over the druggist shook hands with the preacher on his way out and remarked, “Surely the legs of the lame are unequal.” The preacher never got the point or how he had contradicted himself between his insistence on exactness with the medical prescription and doing the opposite with the gospel of Christ.

How strange it is that many sincere people can go to churches teaching and practicing things not found in the Bible and listen to preachers who change, add to or take from the word of God and never question what they do. Any teaching, preaching and practicing things that change God's word to suit the whims of man will do much more harm to a person's head, heart and soul than any human poison to the physical body. All poison can do is kill the body but getting people to believe and follow a lie about God's word will cause one to end up in hell for eternity.

Let us all take heed to what we hear Mk.4:34 and carefully search the scriptures to learn what God says Acts 17:11; 2.Tim.2:15.

- Tommy Thornbill