

NSD Notes

For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (1 Cor. 9:19)

Volume 1 No. 7

February 15, 2009

Services

- Bible Study 10 a.m.
- Morning Service.....11 a.m.
- Evening Service.....6 p.m.
- Wednesday Meeting.....7 p.m.

News @ NSD

WELCOME VISITORS!

Prayer List

- **Ernest Peeples** – in Texas awaiting deployment to Kuwait.
- **Martha Holloway** – recurring heart problem.
- **Jason Henderson** – travelling.
- **Dema Franklin** – recovering from broken wrist; neck surgery scheduled for early March.
- **Jeanne Lynne** - undergoing chemotherapy treatment.
- **Chuck Holloway** (Ken’s brother) and **Benjamin Hoskins** (Daniel’s Dad) need continued prayer for their recurring ailments.

Thanksgiving List

- **Samantha Wilson** has moved and is worshipping with us again.
- **Ken Holloway** has his new lenses and can drive again.
- **Benjamin Hoskins** is improving.

ADORNING THE DOCTRINE

James A Kahn

In **Titus 2:1** Paul instructs Titus to *"..speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine."* Later, in this same chapter, he tells Titus to *"Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters...that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things"* (**Titus 2:9-10**). These verses clearly indicate that there is speech and behavior that is not only becoming or befitting to sound doctrine, but will "adorn the doctrine of God". This being true, we should each strive for that kind of speech and conduct.

The word "adorn" means: *"to add beauty to; to make greater the splendor or honor of."*

What a challenging thought, that I may be able to add beauty to, or make greater the splendor of, the doctrine of God. How is this possible? Surely, I can do nothing to improve upon the doctrine of God. God's Word is perfect (See **James 1:25; 2 Tim. 3:16**). Any change that anyone would make in the doctrine would detract from it and pervert it. However, Paul says it is possible to adorn the doctrine of God.

I can adorn the doctrine of God by living in such a way that I make the doctrine more appealing to others. How many have been turned away from the truth because they have seen hypocrisy in the lives of those who claimed to follow the truth? On the other hand, there have been many who have eventually obeyed the truth because they observed the influence of that truth in the life of someone around them. This is the point Peter makes in **1 Peter 3:1-2** —————→

Titus 2:9-10

Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back, not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.

North San Diego church of Christ

7090 Miramar Road #102
San Diego, CA 92121

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 721513
San Diego, CA 92172

Phone: 858-578-0734

<http://www.nsdca.com>

All are welcome to our worship
and study meetings!

*... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with
thankfulness in your hearts to God. Col 3:16*

Give unto the LORD, O you mighty
ones.
Give unto the LORD glory and strength.
Give unto the LORD the glory due to His
name.
Worship the LORD in the beauty of
holiness.
The voice of the LORD is over the
waters;
The God of glory thunders;
The LORD is over many waters.
The voice of the LORD is powerful;
The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

Psalms 29:1-4

O Worship the King, all glorious above
And gratefully sing His wonderful love
Our shield and defender the Ancient of
Days
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with
praise

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can
recite
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light
It streams from the hills, it descends to
the plain
And sweetly distills in the dew and the
rain

J. Michael Haydn

[Adorning the Doctrine]

where he says, "Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the Word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives, when they observe your chaste conduct accompanied by fear." I know of men who are faithfully serving the Lord today because their wives adorned the doctrine of God.

I can also adorn the doctrine of God by refusing to compromise truth with error. It may take courage and it may demand sacrifice or suffering on my part, but if I refuse to compromise the truth others will be made to realize how valuable the truth really is. On the other hand, if I compromise the truth every time I encounter some temptation or difficulty, I am telling those who observe my life that here is something that has little or no value since I am willing to compromise it in the face of temptation.

I adorn the doctrine of God whenever I show that I believe "not in word only" but "in deed." James says, "But be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the Word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does" (James 1:22-25).

The person who is "on again, off again" fails to adorn the doctrine of God. The life of a faithful child of God is marked with stability and steadfastness. In writing to the Corinthians, Paul says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58).

Does the doctrine of God appear more attractive to others as they observe your life?

from The Cornerstone, December 9, 2007

ELDERS: Dan Austin, Robyn E. Hamilton

DEACON: Matt Wells

MINISTER: Dan Austin