

SERVICE SCHEDULE for April 22, 2012

Announcements for the Week

Dan Buselmeier

Morning Service

Prayer- Andy Fuller

Song Leader- Andy Dobbs

Communion:

-- **Comments** – Doug Davidson

-- **Assisting** – Kevin Criswell

-- **Assisting** – Curran LaChappelle

-- **Assisting** – Lawrence Pope

-- **Assisting** – Todd Hudson

Scripture – Roger German

Closing Prayer- Phillip Dorn

Evening Service

Prayer- Jason LaChappelle

Song Leader- Bill McIlvain

Comments – Bill McIlvain

Serving – Jay Dobbs

Scripture – Gary Goddard

Closing Prayer- David Johnson

Wednesday Night – April 25, 2012

First Prayer – Bill McIlvain

Song Leader – Jason LaChappelle

Invitation – Alex Tucker

Closing Prayer – Marshall Foxworthy

April 22 Sunday Night Lesson – Andy Fuller

April 29 Sunday Night Song & Scripture Service

Upcoming Assignments:

April	Communion	Cleaning
29	Ferrell	Dobbs, Bailey, Fuller, LaChappelle
May 6	Pope	Dorn, Gray, Irvin, Pope, Williams

Notes:

The Ladies meet on the first and third Monday of the month. Next meeting is May 7 at 7PM.

Gospel Meeting: Daniel DeGarmo has confirmed that he will be coming here to speak for us May 13-16. The plan is to bring the entire family to be with us. We certainly should be looking forward to doing what we can to promote this event in our community.

Help! Family Bible Week Coming Soon! Articles: FBW will be here sooner than you think. We need helpers in all areas. Please see one of the elders to let them know what you are willing to do.

Schedule of Services

Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin is published weekly. Edited by Bill McIlvain.

Send any articles for the bulletin to WMaxx@charter.net

Visit us on the web: www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com

Covington Church of Christ

9441 Bypass, P.O. Box 768, Covington, GA 30015 --- [770] 787-1119

Elders: Andy Dobbs, Bill McIlvain, Dan Buselmeier

Deacons: John Paul Baker, Doug Davidson, Andy Fuller,

Marshall Irvin, Jason LaChappelle

April 22, 2012

Encounters With Angels

1. Where was Jesus when an angel came and strengthened Him?
2. Where was Paul when an angel assured him that he would stand trial before Caesar?
3. According to Jesus, what causes the angels to rejoice?
4. Which Gospel say that an angel rolled away the stone from Jesus' tomb?



The Role Of Emotions In Worship

By Nathan Combs

We live in a culture dominated by feelings. From the intellectual university classrooms to the average kitchen table, the existence of truth is increasingly called into question. Emotions and opinions have become the standard by which many live their lives. Sadly, this relativistic mindset has also gained a firm foothold in the minds of many who are religious. Congregations of charismatics take part in uncontrolled physical behavior because of an inward, emotional belief that they are being controlled by the Holy Spirit (though ironically, the only New Testament examples of frenetic behavior occur in demon-possessed cases: (Matthew 17:14-15, Mark. 5:2-5, etc.).



The Role Of Emotions In Worship

Continued

In a zealous effort to counter misconceptions about worship, some Christians are quick to declare that worship has nothing to do with how we feel, that our adoration of our Creator strictly stems from our knowledge of His word.

While it is certainly true that we use scripture, not feelings, to determine how we should worship God, it would be a gross overstatement to argue that our natural emotions have no place in godly worship. But how is a balance to be struck between these two extremes? The way we address God in worship is certainly based on our knowledge of Him and His revealed will, yet the scriptures are also filled with indications that emotion plays an important role in our worship. Let's examine two ways in which we directly address God, and see how our emotions should connect to our worship.



Prayer The Book of Psalms includes some of the most passionate prayers recorded in scripture. Many of them contain the outpourings of godly men embroiled in difficult circumstances or overwhelmed by thankfulness. It is clear that these prayers were offered by an emotional man, yet his emotion proceeded from a knowledgeable mind. David could not have displayed such confidence in God if he hadn't known what God was capable of doing. David's relationship with God certainly wasn't created by his emotions, but his personal knowledge of God gave him a way to express his natural feelings.

To use marriage as an example, the emotion that I show to my wife stems from my knowledge and deep appreciation of who she is. The more I find out about my wife, the more I desire to show her affection. But both emotion and knowledge must be present in our relationship in order to make it a good one.

Prayer in the New Testament is also recognized as an emotional experience based on knowledge. 1 Peter 5:6-7 tells us to "humble" ourselves "under the mighty hand of God". A way to do that is by "casting all your anxieties on Him." We see from this scripture that it is perfectly valid for prayer to be offered to God from an emotionally-burdened heart. Such knowledge then compels us to give him our troubles and concerns.

Singing

James 5:17 simply states that *"if any man is cheerful, let him sing praise."* In context, this is describing several natural human conditions that should produce spiritual reactions. Suffering, and the emotions felt as a result of it, should produce prayer. Sickness should produce a desire to be healed with the help of brethren.

Likewise, feelings of cheerfulness should cause us to praise God. James didn't bother to explain the need for singing to be based upon a proper knowledge of God's will, perhaps because he's writing to a Christian audience who would have already understood the principle that they needed to worship correctly. At least some degree of knowledge is implied in the text; if we're supposed to praise God out of a cheerful heart, then that necessarily implies both the recognition of our situation and some understanding of the Being who has allowed us to prosper.

In Colossians 3:16-17 and its parallel passage in Ephesians 5:19-20, two things are apparent. First, thankfulness is an ingredient of musical worship. Thankfulness does not merely involve intellectual acknowledgement of blessings or circumstances; it is also the heartfelt emotion that springs from that understanding. Secondly, knowledge of God is mentioned in connection with our thankfulness. We are enabled to teach each other in song because the word of Christ dwells in us. Both scriptures mention that we're to do this "in the name of Jesus," or with His authority, which we cannot know except by His word. Therefore, singing is a combination of our knowledge and emotions working together to produce encouragement, admonishment, and edification.

So let us not divorce our worship from our natural emotional response in our desire to be doctrinally sound! Paying homage to our Lord was never intended to be practiced as a mechanical exercise, no more than it is to be an uncontrolled gushing session. Let's take careful note of the ways that the Bible discusses worship and give Jehovah praise with our minds and our hearts.



Answers from page 1

1. Gethsemane [Luke 22:43]
2. On board a ship during a storm [Acts 27:23-24]
3. A repentant sinner [Luke 15:10]
4. Matthew 28:2

