

## Prayers.

Winifred and her family.  
Margaret and John.  
Joel's work in India  
Joyce and her son Keith.  
Those have Fallen Away  
Trevor, Richards friend  
Trevor and Irene.  
Stan and Georgina.  
Val And Family.  
Grace and Family.  
Diane, Friend of Sue.  
Hossein Jamali.  
All congregations of the Lords church.  
To all our members who are not here for one reason or another.  
That God may open people's hearts to the gospel and that God will add to our number.

**Study**  
ScripturesSay.com.

### **Address:**

Summer Lane Church  
of Christ, Geach  
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Newtown, Birmingham.  
West Midlands.  
B19 2NN.

## Is There Problems in 1 Corinthians 5 ?

**There was a Sin Problem (1).** It is concerning this sin problem that Paul goes into great detail from chapter 5-7. The general issue was fornication (sexual immorality), but the specifics of it were serious. A man had his father's wife. This was perverse and incestuous.

It should have been obvious to the Corinthian Christians that such was out of step with Christian living as anything could be. It was a problem beyond the norm seen in the ungodly Gentile culture.

Serious immorality tainted the image and purity of Christ's body.

### **There was an Attitude Problem (2).**

This is seen both by what they did and did not do.

They did not show godly sorrow (cf. 2 Corinthians 7:10- 11). Instead, they evidenced sinful pride.

This is an enigma. Were they proud to have a brother in Christ in fellowship who was committing immorality with his father's wife? Were they prominent Corinthians?

Whatever the reason for their being "puffed up," Paul exposes it as a serious attitude issue.

Any reaction toward sin short of working to get it corrected or disciplined reveals attitude problems.

### **There was a Spirituality Problem (3-8).**

They had been more focused on the flesh, glorying in a bad situation, than trying to save the spirit of this rebellious man. They failed to see the spiritual impact this had on the whole congregation.

How easy it is for us to focus on what is seen, the fleshly, and neglect or ignore the unseen, spiritual matters! We see what can happen when this happens among us.

### **There was an Association Problem (9-11).**

Paul had written them before about not fellowshiping the disorderly, but now he is writing them again with further specifics and cautions. Paul's warning was stern and the level of disassociation is comprehensive.

We commonly refer to this process as church discipline.

Paul's conclusion on this matter is, "Put away from you the evil person" (13). We may have a hard time calling a rebellious, sinful brother "evil," but Paul did not.

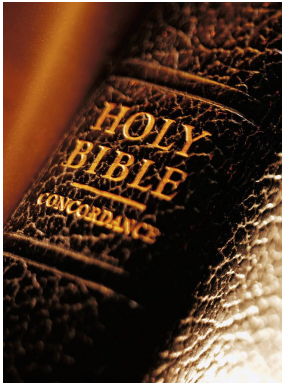
He highlights the growing problem of allowing evil to go unnoticed, undisciplined, and unchecked. Eventually, it can destroy the identity of a church as the bride of Christ.

We must always have the greatest concern for pleasing and obeying the Lord. The ultimate goal is also to save the souls of all who are part of the local congregation.

This occurs through proper teaching, fellowship and support of one another, love, and, when all else fails, "putting away from us" those who refuse to repent and return to right living.

Stark and disturbing? Certainly. Biblical? Absolutely!

# Bible Studies for the Week of September 7th 2008



|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| AM Sermon.....                      | What a Christian has to do ( <b>Ricci</b> ) |
| Scripture Reading for Sermon.....   | Philippians 1:27-30                         |
| Adult Bible Study.....              | Ecclesiastes ( <b>Ricci</b> )               |
| Scripture Reading for service ..... | Genesis 45:1-15, Romans 8:18-39.            |
| Sunday School Class .....           | ( <b>Rita</b> )                             |
| Thursday Bible Class .....          | Matthew 24 ( <b>Trevor</b> )                |
| Ladies Bible Class .....            |   |
| Sunday Night Bible Class .....      |   |

## Good Or Bad News?

The mentality that led Israel to such a blunder on this occasion can be easily repeated, and, unfortunately it often is.



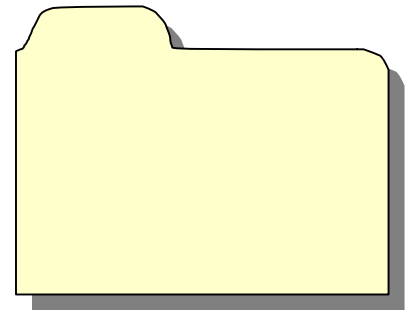
The only problem was, there was no good news. As a matter of fact the news was so bad it killed two people. Even a little good news would have been nice. One who died was Eli. He had served as a priest and judge for Israel. These efforts, unfortunately were overshadowed by his failure as a father of two vile and wicked sons. The fateful news had included the death of these two reprobates but that was not the worst of it. The ark of the covenant had been captured in battle by the Philistines. That was the killer. "When he mentioned the ark of God, Eli fell off the seat backward beside the gate, and his neck was broken and he died, for he was old

and heavy. (1 Sam. 4: 18). The other person who died was Eli's daughter-in-law. She was the wife of one of Eli's son, Phineas. "And when she heard the news that the ark of God was taken and that her father-in-law and her husband had died, she kneeled down and gave birth, for her pains came upon her." (1 Sam. 4: 19). It was as in childbirth that she died. Why and how was the ark of the covenant captured by the Philistines? Simply put, it was in a place it should not have been and was being used for a purpose for which it was not intended. Israel had been beaten in battle by the Philistines. They felt God was not

with them. Their solution to that dilemma was to bring the ark into battle (1 Sam. 4: 1-11). They believed that would insure God's presence and victory. They were wrong; horribly wrong. The mentality that led Israel to such a blunder on this occasion can be easily repeated ; and, unfortunately, it often is. The fact that God was not with His people at this time was all too real. That fact is also quite real for many people who find something lacking in their spiritual lives today. What should be done? Israel took the approach of focusing on externals. Surely, they thought, the presence of the ark would do the trick. It is **CON>>>>>>>>**

# For The Files: Week Beginning August 31st 2008

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Sunday Bible Class .....                |          |
| Sunday AM Worship .....                 | 19       |
| Sunday School .....                     |          |
| Sunday Night Study - Once A Month ..... | 5        |
| Thursday Evening Study .....            | 7        |
| Contribution .....                      | £103.00  |
| Budget .....                            | £135.00. |



## Ricci's Corner.

### Con>>

interesting that the presence of the ark did generate a lot of excitement (1 Sam. 4:5). But as the results of the battle illustrate, excitement does not necessarily mean the presence of God. They needed something more than excitement. The real solution for Israel is no different than the solution today. It has never changed. God will be with His people when His people are repentant, submissive and obedient. "And My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land." (2 Chron. 7:14). When David appealed to God to not be "cast away from Thy presence", he knew that, "The sacrifices of God are

## Good Or bad News?

a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise." (Psa. 51:17). When we know God is not with us, rest assured that He can't be coaxed into being there by manipulating externals. There's only one thing to do; "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. **Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double minded."** (Jas. 4:8). It is to those who are with God now that in the last day He will say, "Come...". To the rest, it will be the worst news ever.

### Correction!

Last week I stated that we as a family had gone to "**Cambridge**" to preach and teach. In fact it was not Cambridge that we went, but "**Mildenhall**"— sorry

for the confusion!

### Study Night, 14.09.08. 6pm.

Brethren next Sunday night at 6pm will be our usual evening study. The study will take place at **Joe and Angela's**.

Could I encourage you **ALL** to make the effort and attend please?

I know the study is going to be of great benefit to us all. Joe and Angela always go to a lot of effort in providing food for us all, so please come along and enjoy fellowship along with good biblical teaching.

There will be time for discussion after.

### Special Collection.

Brethren the special collection to date is **£254**. This is great news. I know some of you were away last Sunday, so if you intend to give, please pass you gift on to Margaret.

The special collection will be sent to "**Joel**" in India to help the brethren who have been devastated by the recent floods. Your kindness is to be rejoiced!



**"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." (Jas. 4:8).**

## IMPORTANT INFO

We are thankful to God for this new Lord's Day. It is the day we honor His Son and the Love that He has shown us through Him. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!

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Ladies Coffee Afternoon, 10.09.08:

1.00pm-2.30pm

Sunday Study Night At The Daly's,

14.09.08. 6pm

**Gospel Weekend:**

Oct 24th-26th 2008

Birthday: Richard//Khomotso

Ask A Bible Question, Log onto:

**ScripturesSay.com**

### God's Salvation Plan

1. **Hear** the Gospel—Romans 10:17
2. **Believe** on the Lord & His Word—Mark 16:16; John 8:24
3. **Repent** of your sins—Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30
4. **Confess** Christ—Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9
5. **Be Baptized** for the remission of sins—Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27
6. Live a **faithful**, dedicated life—Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 1:5-10

# Welcome!

Visit our web site: [www.SummerLanecoc.com](http://www.SummerLanecoc.com)

## Times for Worship and Study.

|                                    |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Sunday Morning Worship .....       | 11:00 AM                           |
| Sunday Morning Bible Study .....   | 10:00 AM                           |
| Sunday School .....                | 10.00 AM                           |
| Ladies Bible Class .....           | Every Wednesday 1:00 PM            |
| Thursday Evening Bible Class ..... | 7:30 PM                            |
| Men's Bible Study Class .....      | First Tuesday in the Month 7:30 PM |

## Serving Each Other

*September 7th 2008*

*September 14th 2008*

### Sunday Morning

President

Joe

Ricci

Preaching:

Ricci

Joe

Opening Prayer:

Scripture Reading:

Phillip

Trevor

Scripture Reading:

Richard

Phillip

Lord's Table

Eric

Norman

Lord's Table

Joe

Richard

Closing Prayer

### Sunday Evening: Preacher

Joe

Flowers

Sue

Khomotso

Tea

Sue

Khomotso

**Building clean for Sept: 08**

**All Please**

**ALL Please**