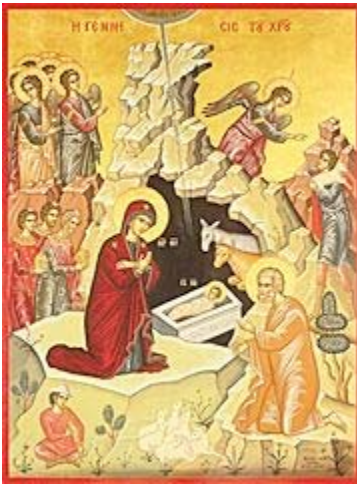


Goodness; Discerning What is Good.



Last week we talked a lot about music, what makes it good or bad. This brought up some issues about what good really is, and also about what it is to keep God's Word. By God's Word I mean to do what God expects of us. Why does it matter if we do what He says? What is it exactly that He wants?

These are very simple questions for which there are no simple answers. The best ways to find these answers are through Divine Liturgy, reading the Bible (remember our talk about how to do that) and through heart felt prayer.

If we don't reach out to God through our actions and thoughts, there are very real things that will happen to us. God has given us freedom to choose, so the path you take is up to you. Others may help us make right or wrong choices, but in the end God will judge each of us by **OUR** actions.

What is good?



- In general, how would you describe good?
- What does the Bible describe as good?

Corinthians I 13:3 If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Titus 3:1 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for any honest work, **Titus 3:2** to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all men.

- Does Christ ask us to be good? (Matthew Chapter 5 Sermon on the Mount)
- Read and think about the following

Titus 3:1 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for any honest work, **Titus 3:2** to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all men.

The entire Bible is filled with instructions about goodness, but this passage contains some essential things for us to discuss.

- Why be submissive to "authorities"?

Practical Lessons – Part 2

- What do you think is good about not saying evil things?
- What are some ways we can show courtesy toward others?

What is a "wicked" person?

- What do you think is wicked?
- The Bible tells us many things about the wicked.

Psalms 10:3 For the wicked boasts of the desires of his heart, and the man greedy for gain curses and renounces the LORD.

Psalms 10:4 In the pride of his countenance the wicked does not seek him; all his thoughts are, "There is no God."

Psalms 10:5 His ways prosper at all times; thy judgments are on high, out of his sight; as for all his foes, he puffs at them.

Psalms 10:6 He thinks in his heart, "I shall not be moved; throughout all generations I shall not meet adversity."

Psalms 10:7 His mouth is filled with cursing and deceit and oppression; under his tongue are mischief and iniquity.



Pagan Idol

If we know Christ but turn our backs on him, is there any hope?

Hebrews 10:26 For if we sin deliberately after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

Hebrews 10:27 but a fearful prospect of judgment, and a fury of fire which will consume the adversaries.

What happens to the wicked?

From our reading in Hebrews, we know that there will be a judgment of our actions. Lets discuss a few points about this.

- What is judgment day?
- When is it? (Revelations 3:3)

Luke 12:40 You also must be ready; for the Son of man is coming at an unexpected hour."

- Who will judge? (John 5:27, 30)
- What if you fail judgment? (John 5:29, John 14:6)

Revelation 20:15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Back to Music

Last week we discussed music. Let's listen for a few minutes to the Christian band Earthsuit (<http://www.earthsuit.com>). Afterward we will discuss the differences between their music and what we hear in "popular" music.

Earthsuit - One Time

Follow me down the road to the realms of the rhyme people of the rock come and rock one time when we bring the funk you know the light of God shine people of the rock come and rock one time. Anyone thirst there's plenty of new wine people of the rock come and rock one time make me feel so fine all of but all the time people of the rock and the Father to come and fill us (one time).

Everybody body body get your hands up Lord hit me one time infiltrate the mind.
Everybody everybody body body it's a one time shot.

Follow me down the road to the realms of the rhyme people of the rock come and rock one time when we bring the funk you know the light of God shine people of the rock come and rock one time

Anyone thirst there's plenty of new wine people of the rock come and rock one time make me feel so fine all of but all the time people of the rock and the Father to come and fill us one time. Anyone thirst there's plenty of new wine people of the rock come and rock one time make me feel so fine all of but all the time people of the rock and the Father to come and fill us one time

Smoke from the wick, yesterday burnt the candle

Daily shots are all that I can handle i see you've gone blind, you want to find the philosophies of a play-dough man but you can't because it's a spectacle everybody, it's a one time shot

do re mi fa so la ti do ti la so fa mi re do I warm up my tongue to engage in a lyrical war now I'm ready to go so I reckon the second I'm decking and checking and wrecking the mike I've got the kingdom of darkness talking that I am a psycho

The funk republic is in the house, so figure out what the deal is i'm gripping the mike and I'm flipping it right and you've got to get ready to hear this I promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth funkmouth to bootcha the Father to come and fill us one time.

Follow me down the road to the realms of the rhyme people of the rock come and rock one time when we bring the funk you know the light of God shine people of the rock come and rock one time. Anyone thirst there's plenty of new wine. People of the rock come and rock one time make me feel so fine all of but all the time people of the rock and the Father to come and fill us one time.

Practical Lessons – Part 2

Time permitting we will also listen to:

- Reliant K – Hello McFly & My Girl Friend
- Ill Harmonics – Will I
- Skillet – Best Kept Secret

In the end the objective of this lesson is to enable us all to evaluate carefully everything we hear and read, making Christian decisions about it. Something can outwardly seem very nice, but still be evil in nature.

Matthew 23:26-28 “..you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within they are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness.”

Think carefully about all the things during the week you've read or heard. What about them may have seemed pleasant, but actually been of poor intention (bad)?

Once you start thinking about it, you may be surprised at what you “really” hear.