



Faith Messenger

The Holy WHAT?

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, May 4

6:00pm - "Question the Confession?"

Thursday, May 5

11:00am - Heritage House Bible Study Ministry

11:45am - National Day of Prayer Downtown Prayer walk

May 6-7

126th Stated meeting of the North Texas Presbytery - 5th St Pres, Tyler, TX

Sunday, May 8

9:45am - Sunday school for adults and children

10:45am - Morning Worship

Ghosts? Who in the world believes in ghosts? We all spend more time than we likely could have imagined trying to convince our children that there are no monsters in the closet, no boogie-men under the bed, only to turn around and tell them that the worship rightly offered ONLY to the one true and living God goes to (at least in part) a **GHOST**? What kind of bait-and-switch are those grown-ups running here?

Perhaps no doctrine concerning the person of God is more misunderstood (especially in our Reformed circles) than that which concerns the Holy Spirit. In this excerpt from one of his articles, Michael Horton reflects on this issue and urges us to repent and take a new look at both the person and the work of this sometimes ignored person of our triune God.

"...the charismatic movement has brought much attention to the reality of the third person of the Godhead, while often underplaying the study of the divine attributes and the objective character of Christ's person and work. It's not doctrine that concerns most charismatics, as it concerns most Calvinists and Lutherans, but experience. So, the Holy Spirit becomes the central trinitarian figure. Just as the Holy

Spirit's person and work can be ignored when we emphasize only the objective side of salvation (the Father and Son's work outside of us in history), so also it is true that the Father's and Son's saving work can be pushed aside in an obsession with the real and alleged experiences and gifts of the Holy Spirit. But for us Reformation Christians, emphasizing the objective character of salvation in the face of so much subjective introspection and emotionalism, we risk keeping the work of Christ external and "outside us." What the Reformers meant by emphasizing Christ's saving work "outside" and "external" to us was that our justification does not refer to inner renewal by the Spirit or the life of Christ within us, but to the once-and-for-all work of Christ for us. Nevertheless, as Calvin wrote, "It is not enough to have Christ working outside of us for our salvation unless this gift becomes ours and is brought into us by the Holy Spirit." There must be a spiritual union with Christ if we are to receive the blessings. There must be faith if we are to be justified, sanctified, and glorified, and this faith we have by virtue of our union with Christ, the gift of the Holy Spirit. What we desperately need, then, is a return to a practical, real-life, realization of the doctrine of the Trinity in our daily thinking: God the Father so loved the world that He gave Christ to His people and His people to Christ; then the Father and the Son sent the Holy Spirit. If the person and work of any member of the Trinity are overlooked or underplayed then to that degree we will be unbalanced Christians."

- Michael Horton, "Wanted: Apathetic Lutherans and Calvinists"

~ WESTMINSTER LARGER CATECHISM ~

- Question 11 -

How doth it appear that the Son and the Holy Ghost are God equal with the Father?

- Answer -

he Scriptures manifest that the Son and the Holy Ghost are God equal with the Father, ascribing unto them such names, attributes, works, and worship, as are proper to God only.

"...these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God."

— 1 Corinthians 2:10-11

Prayer and Praise

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Prayer</i> for Tracey Jones' family following the loss of Tracey's grandmother, Wilozene Early Skidmore, who went home to be with the Lord Monday, May 2. Memorial services will be at 11am on Wednesday at the Cooper-Sorrells Funeral Home Chapel in Honey Grove. 2. <i>Continued prayer</i> for Jake Broadway who is seriously struggling with the effects of dementia. Please also be in prayer for his son and daughter, Mac and Tracie, as they now find themselves in round-the-clock care of both of their parents. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. <i>Praise!</i> for John Perimon, cousin of Marlyne Perimon, for whom we've been praying and who was recently granted parole from prison. 4. <i>Praise!</i> for Victoria Patrick, Marlyne Perimon's niece for whom we've been praying and who is no able to receive her dialysis treatments at home, relieving a tremendous burden on her and her family. |
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!!ATTENTION: MEN OF FAITH, PCA!!

Sunday, May 15, is our annual *Mother's Day Fellowship Luncheon*. If you have not signed up to do your part in preparing the meal for the ladies, please see the list at the back of the Sanctuary to choose your dish!

M'Cheyne Weekly Scripture Readings

<u>Private (Morning)</u>		<u>Family (Evening)</u>
5/4	<i>Numbers 11 / Psalms 48</i>	<i>Isaiab 1/Hebrews 9</i>
5/5	<i>Numbers 12-13 / Psalms 49</i>	<i>Isaiab 2 / Hebrews 10</i>
5/6	<i>Numbers 14/Psalms 50</i>	<i>Isaiab 3-4 / Hebrews 11</i>
5/7	<i>Numbers 15 /Psalms 51</i>	<i>Isaiab 5 / Hebrews 12</i>
5/8	<i>Numbers 16 / Psalms 52-54</i>	<i>Isaiab 6 / Hebrews 13</i>
5/9	<i>Numbers 17-18 / Psalms 55</i>	<i>Isaiab 7 / James 1</i>
5/10	<i>Numbers 19 / Psalms 56-57</i>	<i>Isaiab 8:1-9:7 / James 2</i>