

## WORKS WE SUPPORT

John Shafer, Foreign Evangelism  
Peter and Pooi Fun Chin, Four Seas College of Bible & Missions, Singapore  
"Seek The Old Paths"  
Chuck Northrop, Bible Institute of Missouri (Instructor)  
Billy Daugherty III, Memphis School of Preaching (Student)  
Dustin McCrickard, Bible Institute of Missouri (Student)  
Phillip Vanwinkle, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Kent Eakins, Hermitage, MO  
Scott Klaft, Mt. Pleasant, MI  
Harrison Morgan, Memphis School of Preaching (Student)  
"Whom Do You Serve?" Television Program  
"Bible Questions with Bible Answers" Television Program

## UPCOMING SERMONS SUNDAY AM

Feb. 9      Until Jesus comes  
Feb. 16     Why do we give?

## SUNDAY PM

Feb. 9      He said it; he will do it (456)  
Feb. 16     What is a denomination? (457)

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<http://sermons.webbervillechurchofchrist.org>

**To see our services live:**

<http://live.webbervillechurchofchrist.org>  
Sundays: 11 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 6 p.m.

Services:

**Sunday**

Bible Classes: 10 a.m.

Worship Assembly: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Bible Classes: 7 p.m.

February 9, 2014

To our visitors, we want you to know that we are honored by your being with us today. We welcome any questions you may have. All materials that you see are free of charge and if there is any other information you would like, we will be happy to provide it.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Nancy Pardon; Pete Darling; Rusty Darling; Phyllis Darling;  
Raymond Heinz; Teresa Heinz; Carolyn Jensen; Doug  
McArthur; Cheryl Akers; Kathy Briggs; Robert Van Alstine;  
Jewel Warfield; Ed Warfield; Marilyn Smith; Carol Wilson;  
Lillian's brother; Tom's mother; Clayton Peck

## **READING OF SCRIPTURE:**

AM: 1 Cor. 11:24-26      PM: Eze. 22:13,14

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

Feb. 16 – Potluck, Packages, Business meeting

Feb. 23 – Singing at 5 p.m.

April 20 – Chuck Northrop to speak

Seminars for 2014 – March 28, June 27, Sept. 26, Dec. 26

July 28 – Aug. 2 – Ingham County Fair booth

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## **I WOULD NOT HAVE YOU IGNORANT**

Charles Coats

Ignorance is a terrible thing, especially willful ignorance. What we do not know can hurt us, especially eternally.

In the Bible, we find many occasions of those who went into the world teaching the word (consider the book of Acts) and several verses commanding us to go teach (consider Mark 16:15). Why is there such an interest in teaching others the message of God?

Of course, the instant answer would probably be so they could know what they need to do in order to go to Heaven. And, that would be correct. However, another way to look at this same idea is to think about how God does not want us to be ignorant of his word. I was reading in 1 Corinthians and came

across a passage in chapter 12:1 which has at the end “I would not have you ignorant”. This brought to mind 1 Thess. 4:13 which begins “”But I would not have you to be ignorant”.

Knowledge empowers people. It gives them the ability to make decisions about their own welfare. The knowledge of being right makes people live boldly, assured they are doing the right thing and are in the right place. Knowledge gives people the ability to help others.

Ignorance, on the other hand, causes people to be led astray as they do not have the knowledge to know if what they are being taught is correct. Ignorance keeps people from growing and causes them to lead lives of doubt and fear. Ignorance destroys.

Hosea 4:6 clearly shows us that we are destroyed for lack of knowledge. This is so true in many aspects of our lives, but more critical in our spiritual well-being. Ignorance of God's word will cause us not to obey God and thus to be eternally lost.

The sad part of Hosea 4:6 is the knowledge that God's people should have had, they did not have because they chose to be ignorant. For various “reasons” over the years, people have made the decision to ignore God's word, change God's word, or interpret it in a manner that fits what they already believe. Often, they know what it says but choose to not obey God's word.

Why would one wilfully choose to be lost eternally? To put it simply, earthly things are more important to them than God. They do not love God more than family (Lk. 14:26), and they love the praise of men more than the praise of God (Jn. 12:43). Those who are wilfully ignorant choose to serve sin and not Christ (Gal. 1:10).

Whether the ignorance is wilful or not, it is still ignorance. But, we do not have to be ignorant because God has given us his word so we could have knowledge. Let me encourage everyone to seek the word of God so you will have the knowledge to dwell with God in Heaven!