

# Good News

## *From Getwell*

Published by  
**Getwell Church of Christ**

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***The Truth in Love***  
WHBQ-AM 560, Sundays, 8:00 a.m.

The Getwell congregation sends monthly  
support to the following:

Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN  
West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN  
Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY  
Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

#### **SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY**

##### **SUNDAY**

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship.....10:20 a.m.  
Worship.....5:00 p.m.

##### **TUESDAY**

Ladies Bible Class (Sept. - May) ..... 10:00 a.m.

##### **WEDNESDAY**

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

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## ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

The brethren at Getwell continue to be blessed daily! We are grateful to our Father in Heaven for all of our blessings. We agree with James, the brother of the Lord, that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning (Jas. 1:17). It is important that we use these blessings in a responsible way. It is our aim and prayer that the Getwell church of Christ may continue to be strong in the faith of the Gospel!

June 26, 2015, was a very crucial day in the destruction of morals in our nation! The Supreme Court of our nation ruled "that the Constitution guarantees a right to same-sex marriage." What a sham and shame that these officials who are sworn to uphold the law have not done such. Christians are to uphold the Will of God no matter what the world may say or do (Acts 5:17-29).

We will not be judged by the dictates of the Supreme Court of our nation, but we will be judged by the Word of God (Jn. 12:48). To realize some of what this Judgment Day will involve, please take your Bible and read for yourself: Matthew 19:4-9; I Corinthians 6:9-10; Romans 1:26-32; Genesis 19:4-9; I Peter 5:8; II Corinthians 11:14-15, etc.

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# Where in the Bible Will I Find . . .

Gary Colley

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## *That Abortion Is Right With God?*

In Proverbs 6:16-17 the wise man Solomon expresses God's thinking about abortion. "There are six things which Jehovah hateth; yea, seven which are an abomination unto him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, AND HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD." Each day in America, where respect for human life has been upheld in the past, there are now 3,500 human lives that are put to death! Besides God's hatred of abortion, our Declaration of Independence proclaims, "We hold these truths to be self-evident; THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL, that they are endowed by the Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are the right of life . . . that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men." It is tragic that today the most important God-given right is being denied to a large class of human beings in America! Each year for nearly 30 years, 11.2 million unborn human lives have been denied their unalienable right to life! They have been murdered in abortion chambers across our land, and this with the approval of Supreme Court Justices since January 22, 1973, a day that will live in infamy, a day that is and has been a blot on our

national conscience, when they legalized abortion on demand! Elected officials have even voted to pay the expenses of this killing with Medicaid funds. Abortion doctors have grown rich by exploiting women and killing their babies! Many of these robbed mothers are suffering and will suffer for their dastardly deeds for the rest of their lives! At times the feeble argument has been offered that "a woman has the right to control her own body." But THE UNBORN CHILD IS NOT HER BODY! A recent bumper sticker read, "If it's not a child - you are not pregnant!" The genetic code of the unborn is different from the mother's; the unborn male baby is not even the same sex as the mother; the unborn may even have a different blood type; thus, the unborn is a new, unique human life! In the sight of God, it has always been a monstrous evil to destroy an innocent human life. He says, "Whoso shedeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man" (Gen. 9:6). Let each individual raise a mighty voice for moral righteousness once again and change the course of history back to pleasing God!



# RON'S REMINDERS



## PAGANS

### Coming to a Park Near You

Many people believe that Nashville is the buckle of the Bible belt. That having been said, there is much evidence to suggest that the buckle has become unhooked. In October of this year, pagans will be holding a festival at Two Rivers Park celebrating their religious beliefs. Paganism is defined as "... a wide variety of traditions (or "paths") that emphasize reverence for nature and a revival of ancient polytheistic religious practices."<sup>1</sup>

Their web page states, "Paganism is one of the fastest growing religious groups in the United States today, and we're coming out to celebrate our unity and our diversity as a group of religious paths focused on nurturing our connections to the Divine, the Earth, and each other."<sup>2</sup> Statistics show that there are somewhere around 200,000 to one million pagans worldwide.<sup>3</sup>

Perhaps it is unfounded, but it seems that animistic religions are gaining ground in our age. This is exactly what Paul was addressing in Romans chapter one. Paul says in verses twenty-one through twenty-five, "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen."

At least one good Christian brother that I am very familiar with told me about his biological sister who sees no problem with practicing paganism and New Testament Christianity. At least one passage immediately comes to mind. Exodus 20:3 says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." One cannot be a part of a group that practices polytheism and the "reverence of nature" and be a New Testament Christian at the same time. The two are not consistent with one another.

Beyond the worship of idols being condemned in Exodus 20:3, there are other passages that forbid the practice of witchcraft. To ensure the spiritual purity of God's chosen people, God commanded the Jews to "drive" out pagans and those who practiced sorcery from the promised land. Moreover, he forbade them from practicing such things themselves. Deuteronomy 18:9-12 says, "When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, Or a

charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord: and because of these abominations the Lord thy God doth drive them out from before thee."

When Saul disobeyed God's commandment regarding the complete destruction of the Amalekites, Samuel offered an interesting description of his disobedience. Samuel says in 1 Samuel 15:23, "For rebellion *is* as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from *being* king." Could it be that those who practice witchcraft are, in essence, in rebellion towards Jehovah God? This passage would seem to indicate this very thing!

One cannot claim obedience to God and follow after pagan rituals and festivals. This was the very thing that many of the New Testament writers and preachers were dealing with in the Roman Empire. They had so many gods that they even erected altars to "unknown gods" (Acts 17:3). If the Apostle Paul was greatly disturbed about idol and pagan worship rituals, then we need to be concerned about the souls of people who observe such rites. Acts 17:16 says, "Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry." The Greek word for *stirred* could similarly be translated as "exasperated or provoked." Paul was gravely concerned for these pagans who did not know about the God of the Bible.

While some may believe that following after pagan rituals and rites is harmless, be aware of the fact that God does not turn a blind eye to such things. Paul makes God's feelings about idolatry abundantly clear in Acts 17:29-30. "Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device. And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent." Paul, under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, tells the pagans at Athens that those who practice idolatry need to repent of their sin. His message is the same some two thousand years later.

As hedonistic practices become more predominant in our age, there will be a greater surge among those in our society to reject Jehovah God.

1 <http://www.patheos.com/Library/Pagan>

2 <http://nashvillepaganprideday.net/>

3 Blumberg, Antonia (2014). "Paganism: An Overview of One of the Least Understood Modern Religions. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/02/08/paganism-overview\\_n\\_4730079.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/02/08/paganism-overview_n_4730079.html)