

Indio Informer

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Sermon on the Mount Fool

By Dan Jenkins

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus shows that calling another man a fool endangers our eternal destiny. *“But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ shall be in danger of hell fire”* (Matthew 5:22). However, God, who knows the hearts of all men, often looks at certain men and their actions and calls them fools. It is life changing to see those whom God describes as fools.

David said, *“The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’”* (Psalms 14:1; 53:1). He does not have to verbally say this. When a man’s heart arrives at this conclusion, every choice he makes is based on his view of this being a “Godless” world. Look at where our nation is headed, and you will see the fruit of a nation whose heart is forgetting God.

Why is he a fool? Simply because he ignores the evidence all around him that God exists. There is no place on this earth where the heavens fail in declaring His glory and showing His handiwork (Psalms 19:1). Look at how the English Standard Version affirms this. *“There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heart. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world”* (Psalms 19:3-4 ESV). That voice says, “God is!” That evidence has existed since the creation of the world, and it proclaims His eternal power. It is so strong that it leaves those who deny His existence and describes them as being *“without excuse”* (Romans 1:20). Imagine the hopelessness of this man standing before God at the final judgment!

God described the downward path which led the pagan world as it ignored this evidence of His existence and removed themselves so far from God. *“Although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened”* (Romans 1:21). When fools

THANK YOU!

For another wonderful Last-Saturday-in-February meeting!

Speakers: David Barnes, Joe Griffin, and Bruce Evans

Excellent motivational lessons!

What a “Last-Saturday-in-February” meeting we’ve had! What an opportunity! What a motivational experience! Our thanks to brothers David Barnes, Joe Griffin, and Bruce Evans. The lessons on **“We’ll work ‘til Jesus comes”** and **Questions of Life** were so applicable and beneficial!

And thanks to brothers, Daniel Brown and David Hall for directing our wonderful song service. We thank everyone who helped make this such a memorable and successful meeting!

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

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rob God of His glory and cease to be thankful the downward journey has begun. It is so true that their lives are lived in darkness. The passage continues, “*Professing to be wise they became fools.*” Now think about how these words describe what is happening right now in America. It has become so foolish that it cannot determine if one is male or female. Our educational system no longer emphasizes the three R’s and focuses on brainwashing young children. In the first year of school a child is confused by such foolish ideas. We once affirmed that we desired to be “one nation under God,” but such is no longer the case. We have seemingly become a nation that desires to be “one nation out from under God.”

More next week. Not looking outward but looking inward. Does God see us as fools?

Changing the Labels Makes Sin More Dangerous

Author Unknown

One of America’s great needs is to recognize sin for what it is. We are too prone to explain it away or to soften its horrors.

Wilbur Chapman tells of a distinguished minister who preached on sin, and one of the leading members came to talk to him in his study. He said to the preacher, “We don’t want you to talk so plainly about sin because the more our boys and girls hear you talking about sin, the more easily they will become sinners. Call sin a mistake if you will, but do not speak so plainly about it being just plain outright sin.”

The preacher took down a small bottle marked “POISON” from the shelf and showed it to the visitor. It was a bottle of strychnine. He said, “I see what you want me to do. You want me to change the label? Now, suppose I took off the label marked “Poison” on this bottle and put on some mild label, such as “Oil of Anise,” don’t you see what happens? The milder you make the label, the more dangerous you make the poison!”

“That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children who will not hear the law of the LORD; who say to the seers, ‘Do not see,’

and to the prophets, ‘Do not prophesy to us right things; speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits’” (Isaiah 30:9-10).

“Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!” (Isaiah 5:20).

The Heavens and the Earth

By Kevin Cauley

The Bible begins with this simple statement: “***In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth***” (Genesis 1:1). This verse reminds us that 1) there was a beginning, 2) there is a God, 3) God is powerful, 4) the heavens and the earth are the result of His creative efforts.

All physical things have a beginning and have an end. The universe is a physical thing. So, it had a beginning and will have an end. Some deny that the universe ever had a beginning. They believe that it has existed for all eternity. Recent science has disagreed with the endless universe hypothesis. Science teaches us that all things “wind down” as potential energy is converted to kinetic energy, and, just like a spring-powered clock, the universe will stop. But if it has such an end, it must have had a beginning! How did it begin? God began it.

The power that is in the universe is estimated to be 2 x 10⁸⁰ watts per second. That is a billion times a billion times a billion times a billion times a billion times a billion times a billion more energy than the sun every second. That’s more 100 watt light bulbs than there are grains of sand on the earth and mars combined. Where did such great power originate? It could only have come from an infinite source of power: God!

From nothing comes nothing! But something exists, and not only is there something, there is an amazing, incredible, and astounding amount and complexity of something. What accounts for it all? The only rational explanation for the universe’s existence is God. The heavens and the earth were put here by God for a purpose. They are His creation.