

WORSHIP GUIDE – SUNDAY AUG 8TH – 10:15AM

Pure Religion

Welcome: [Pastor Steve]

- James 1:26-27 alerts us to the deception of empty religion, then it awakens us to the freedom of pure religion lived out in the fear of God alone.
- While we wrestle with selfish motives in our service, in Christ we have the liberty to love selflessly before God who knows us and has called us to holiness. Today as we examine our motives in service we want to remind ourselves a few critical aspects of pure religion: Our freedom in Christ, the call to holiness and the model of service we have in our Lord Jesus.

Corporate Scripture Reading: James 1:26-27

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

PURE RELIGION RELIES UPON THE FREEDOM IN CHRIST

Congregational Call to Worship: In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied –
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,

For I am His and He is mine –
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

PURE RELIGION PURSUES TO THE CALL TO HOLINESS

Scripture's Call to Holiness [Pastor Bernie]

- **Leader:** I Peter 1:13-16 - ¹³ *Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, ¹⁵ but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶ since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."*
- **Congregation:** Hebrews 12:14 - ¹⁴ *Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord.*
- **Leader:** II Tim 1:8-10 - ⁸ *Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began*
- **Congregation:** Romans 12:1-2 - *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Congregational Song: Take time to Be Holy

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak,
Forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
Spend much time in secret, with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like Him thou shalt be;
Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy, let Him be thy Guide;
And run not before Him, whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,
And, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word.

Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,
Each thought and each motive beneath His control.
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,
Thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

PURE RELIGION SERVES SELFLESSLY LIKE CHRIST

Congregational Song: More about Jesus

More about Jesus would I know
More of His grace to others show
More of His saving fullness see
More of His love who died for me

More about Jesus let me learn
More of His Holy will discern
Spirit of God, my teacher be
Showing the things of Christ to me

More, more about Jesus
More, more about Jesus
More of His saving fullness see
More of His love who died for me

More about Jesus in His Word
Holding communion with my Lord
Hearing His voice in every line
Making each faithful saying mine

More about Jesus on His throne
Riches in glory all His own
More of His Kingdom's sure increase
More of His coming, Prince of peace

More, more about Jesus
More, more about Jesus
More of His saving fullness see
More of His love who died for me

Congregational Song: Open Our Eyes Lord

Open our eyes, Lord
We want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him,

And say that we love Him.
Open our ears Lord,
And help us to listen.
Open our eyes Lord.
We want to see Jesus.

Open our minds, Lord,
And help us to know you,
To walk in your Spirit,
And humbly obey you.
Give us your wisdom,
Your power and blessing.
Open our minds, Lord.
We want to know Jesus.

Open our hearts, Lord,
To those who are dying,
To see all around us
The needs that are crying.
Give us compassion
And love for each other.
Open our hearts, Lord,
And make us like Jesus.

Open our hearts, Lord,
And make us like Jesus.

Children 3-K5 dismissed to Junior Church

Message: James 1:26-27 [*Pastor Steve*]

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Congregational Song of Response: Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated

Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days;
let them flow in endless praise,
let them flow in endless praise.

Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

Closing Announcements: *[Pastor Steve]*

Church Picnic – Following Morning Worship Service

Wednesday, August 11th from 7:00-8:00pm – Continue In-Home Fellowships & Evangelism Class

Sunday, August 15th

- 9:00am – Sunday School
- 10:15am – AM Worship Service
- 6:00pm – Annual Corn Feed – Favorites and testimonies

Outreach Emphasis Week - September 26th – 30th

Closing prayer and dismissal to church picnic: