

**Clarksville Church of Christ**  
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy  
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649  
 (812) 944-2305  
[www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

**Sundays**  
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM  
 Worship.....10:30 AM  
 Worship.....6:00 PM

**Wednesdays**  
 Bible Study.....7:30 PM

**Elders**  
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917  
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536

**Deacons**  
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766  
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938  
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

**Evangelist & Editor**  
 Brian Anderson.....317-442-9507

**Goals For 2017**

Theme  
 Sowing The Seed

Attendance  
 Sunday Bible Study: 40  
 Sunday AM: 50  
 Sunday PM: 40  
 Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 100

Add Additional Pews

In Home Bible Study

Bible Classes For All Ages

-Like us on Facebook

-View us on YouTube at Clarks-villechurch

We are now in the 42nd week of our Bible Reading.

**Prayer List**

Harry & Martha Croninger  
 Sharon Nale  
 Les & Novema Dunn  
 Mary McAfee  
 Jean Hume (Anita's Sister)  
 Betty Adams (Don's Sister)  
 Shirley Mitchel (Don's Sister)  
 Debby Spears (Roseann's sis)  
 Sharon Thompson  
 Sandra Anderson (Brian's Mom)  
 Allen Morris—Surgery

**Lord's Supper Reading**  
 Isaiah 53:3-6

**Scripture Reading**  
 AM: Acts 10:34-35  
 PM: Jn 8:44

**Encouragement Tally**  
 Invites this month: 13  
 Invites last month: 100  
 Visitors YTD: 39

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Place Stamp  
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The  
**Clarksville Beacon**

[www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

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Volume 29 Issue 42

Clarksville Church of Christ

October 15, 2017

**The Samaritan's Religion**

**Welcome!**  
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

**Read II Kings 17:24-41.** We'd do well not to follow the example of the Samaritan's Religion. Let's take a look at its characteristics.

**I. A Religion of "Fear"**

2 Kings 17:32-33, 41, Matt 10:28  
 Acts 10:34-35, Phil. 2:12  
 Prov. 1:7; 14:26-27, Eccl. 8:12ff, Eccl. 12:13  
 2 Kings 17:25-26

**II. A Religion of "Form"**

2 Kings 17:33-34, Mal 1:6ff, Jn 4:24  
 I Cor. 14:15, Mt 15:7-8, Prov. 15:13  
 Ps 138:1; 146:1-2; 147:1

**III. A Religion of "Compromise"**

2 Kings 17:41a, 2 Tim. 4:10, Mt 6:24  
 Deut 6:5, 14-15, Lk 14:26, 33  
 Js 4:4, Mt 6:33

## Push Overs and Hard Heads

Instead of a deep put-your-finger-on-a-well-studied-Bible-verse conviction among disciples of Christ, there is a growing set-the-Bible-aside-and-embrace-the-latest-or-standfast-in-the-longest-held mentality dominating the ranks of those who call themselves Christians. Make no mistake, we are all ignorant to some degree when it comes to God's word. Likewise, we can all be misguided or hard-headed in our understandings. Still, some disciples have made an art form of holding convictions without any proven basis in God's word. We speak of faith rooted in the ideas, assumptions and precepts of men, instead of that which is deeply rooted in the word of God (cf. Rom. 10:17).

Some disciples might struggle with being spiritual pushovers. Their convictions are such that they are continuously "tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine" (Eph. 4:14). They move from one trendy position to the next. They are ever in pursuit of spiritual novelty, adjusting convictions on the flimsiest of Biblical evidence. They are "children in understanding" (1 Cor. 14:20), rarely allowing their understanding to mature. They are "unskilled in the word of righteousness," but masters of the latest spiritual guru's bestseller. Their senses are not "exercised to discern good from evil," and they often mistake fleshly wisdom for spirituality (cf. Heb. 5:13-14).

## Push Overs and Hard Heads con't

On the other hand, some are terminally hardheaded. These are deeply convicted souls who are absolutely immovable in their faith ... even if they are shown to be incredibly wrong in their thinking and conviction. In the face of overwhelming evidence to their contrary, they stand deeply rooted in error, with hearts like flint (cf. Zech. 7:11-12). These are altogether stiff-necked and rebellious, pressing on stalwartly in doctrines inherited from their fathers or their own think-sos, instead of doctrine from the Father and the Son and the Spirit (cf. 2 Chron. 30:7-8). They are blind to truth and wed to un-change. They stubbornly hold to "truths" that lack Biblical basis or reality, but have been passed down and embraced without the necessary "proving" of all things and "testing" of the spirits (cf. 1 Thess. 5:21; 1 John 4:1).

These concerns are shared with great humility. This is written from the perspective of personal experience, not from some looking-down-from-on-high perspective. This is not about condemning others, but avoiding the snare of self-condemnation. The world loves spiritual pushovers, as these are easy to mold and manipulate, and enjoys the terminally hardheaded, as these are easy to ridicule and marginalize. Yet being a true disciple means disciplining your convictions after His teaching, being tender-hearted enough to acknowledge our own wrong-thinking, and convinced enough to stand in proven Biblical truths taken directly from the oracles of God.