
Weekly Schedule

Wed Jan 27th (Rowlett)	Ladies Meeting @ Sam & Daisy's res. (7 PM)
Fri, Jan 29th (Mesquite)	Fasting Prayer @ Parsonage (10 AM)
Sat, Jan 30th (Irving)	Prayer Mtg @ Joshua & Susan's hotel (6 PM) 4600 West Airport Freeway, Irving TX 75062 (972) 513-0800

Words of Wisdom: Holiness

"In the forests of northern Europe and Asia lives little animal called the ermine, known for his snow-white fur in winter. He instinctively protects his white coat against anything that would soil it.

"Fur hunters take advantage of this unusual trait of the ermine. They don't set a snare to catch him, but instead they find his home, which is usually a cleft in a rock or a hollow in an old tree. They smear the entrance and interior with grime. Then the hunters set their dogs loose to find and chase the ermine. The frightened animal flees toward home but doesn't enter because of the filth. Rather than soil his white coat, he is trapped by the dogs and captured while preserving his purity. For the ermine, purity is more precious than life"

-Our Daily Bread, April 21, 1997

Prayer for the Nations: Togo*

- Togo is sandwiched between Ghana and Benin in West Africa.
- There is a bitter divide between the north and south – the Gur in the north control the army but resent the Kwa who live in the more developed south.
- President Eyadema has single-handedly controlled Togo since independence in 1967 - 2005 becoming one of Africa's longest serving leaders. Eventually pressure from inside Togo and abroad forced the government to be more democratic – giving people a choice to re-elect Eyadema or not. However, it seems that this 'democracy' is little more than an illusion as the President seems intent on holding onto as much power as he can for as long as possible.
- 80% of the population live a hand to mouth existence growing cotton or cocoa crops.
- There has been more freedom to share the gospel since the early '90s - more and more people are hearing about Jesus.
- The Assemblies of God churches set a goal of growing to 36,000 by the millennium. By 2001 they had over 100,000 members – three times more than they hoped for which is amazing!
- Eyadema's government has been corrupt and cruel – marginalizing the Kwa in the south and crushing anyone who opposes him. Pray that Togo can have a fairer and more just future.
- There are hardly any opportunities for Christian leaders in Togo to be trained and supported.
- Pray that God can breakdown distrust and suspicion between different denominations and bring a greater spirit of unity to see Christianity spread across the whole country.
- There are still so many parts of Togo that haven't heard the gospel – pray that Christians from Togo, Ghana and Benin who understand the culture and language will be called into mission there.

* http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=100

Metro Church Of God
13930 Distribution Way
Farmers Branch, Texas 75234

Phone: (972) 686 8611
E-mail: metroallas@gmail.com
www.metrocog.net



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of God



*Celebrating the Presence of God
Demonstrating the Love of God
Communicating the Word of God
Educating the People of God*

January 24, 2010

"Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name." (Ps 91:14)

Welcome

Sermon Notes

“Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy” (Lev 19: 2)

Welcome to the house of the Lord or yet another day of worship. Last week I was sharing with you the need for us to behold the holiness of God from the life of Moses who was asked to remove his shoes by God himself because of the sacredness of the place of worship.

The command to be holy is an imperative command by the Lord. This was not a command meant to be administered strictly to the priestly class alone but meant to be adhered by the whole assembly of Israel. Holiness is meant for all alike in the body of Christ. We may sometimes ask why there is so much emphasis on holiness in our churches? It is because we understand that holiness is an essential attribute of our Lord and he wants for us to reciprocate that same character. God is holy by his very nature. It is because of this that preachers of yesteryears preached fire and brimstone when God’s holiness was violated. But today we have a lack of preaching on this crucial subject.

There could be many reasons but one that I find is this. Today pulpit ministry has become more compromising. People want to hear things that make them laugh and make them feel good. They do not want someone to point out their weaknesses and sin and expose them with the Word of God before a Holy God. There is a mushrooming of churches that preach a watered down Christianity bereft of the message of condemnation of sin. People tend to flock to these churches. We know many in our midst who are consistently sinning and yet we fail to correct them for the sake of political correctness and fear of their withdrawal from church membership. Hence, for the sake of numbers we have sacrificed purity and quality.

We were all aware of what happened in Fort Hood, TX some months back were one man’s evil intention wrecked havoc on the dreams of 13 families. Yet when the official report came as to what really happened it did not mention the name of the person who committed this heinous crime and no mention of his religion which was really the reason for his madness. All was hidden under the fabric of being politically correct.

In many ways this is what the church has been doing in many places and hence we have even lost the moral right to preach against sin any more. We have sacrificed the holiness of God at the altar of feel good gospel. We are so focused on Jesus as the provider of all things that we fail to look to him as the judge before whom we shall stand one day for judgment. A careful study of the Bible will reveal that God has been very serious when it came to His holiness and he never compromised with it in any way. He even judged his own people severely whenever they became unholy in their faith and practices.

So, friends as the writer to Hebrews reminds us in 10: 31, it is very fearful to fall in the hands of the living God. Hence, let us understand that God wants us to be holy in words and deeds at all time. If we do sin, we also have a wonderful counselor who will forgive us and restore us back to fellowship. The command to Israel is applicable to us in this generation and will remain applicable as long as humans are on the face of this sin cursed world.

In Christ Alone,
Pastor Satish Kumar