

idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie. 16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star." 17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

Also in **Revelation 22:18** it says: "For I testify to everyone who hears the words

of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

(Also note **Dt. 4:2**) This principle applies to all of scripture. The book mentioned here is the Bible, think about it.

By Bill Davis

CONGRATULATIONS!

We rejoice with Skyler Dixon and Nathan Pope in their decision to commit their lives to Christ and put Him on in baptism recently. Let us be an encouragment to them in their new lives and to all of our youth who need our love and support!

Welcome Visitors!

We are so glad that you joined us today.

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Faithful Sayings

Olsen Park Church of Christ

4700 Andrews Avenue Amarillo, Texas 79106
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Services

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
10:20 a.m.
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Elders:

Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez
Rusty Scott

Evangelist:

Kyle Pope

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Making of a Worldly Church

All of us living in the Christians, are to be holy. Texas Panhandle have (I Pet. 1:14-16) Yet, if often said, "If you don't we look hard enough we like the weather here just will see that often the wait a little bit and it will world and the church is the change." And you know same. In our religious what, it usually does. society today it seems that Today in our little world many churches and yes, we see changes every day. Christians have watered Many of these changes down God's Word and such as improved their faith so they can fit in technology in with everybody else; that is communication, time- with the World. Today, we saving appliances, and see and hear a lot of story advances in medicine are telling and entertainment good because they make in the church; in doing so our lives better and easier. we say we are trying to But some of the changes I reach those that are lost in see today are not so good a world of sin. We see and so exciting. The churches that are divided church which Jesus built concerning whether they (Mt. 16:18) and purchased should be "hard," speaking with His own blood (Acts where God speaks in the 20:28) is to be the pillar Bible and being silent and ground of the truth (I where the Bible is silent, or Tim. 3:16). We, as should they be "soft" with

the Word so they won't run the people away or offend anybody. We hear people on the TV or on the radio who will talk about stories that make everybody feel good, but there is no meat in their sermon by using the Bible as their guide to enforce what they are talking about. We hear a lot of people who are more concerned about their listeners buying their books or the CDs than giving those who are listening the truth on how to be saved according to the Bible. Or, they neglect to teach how to be strong and courageous as Christians - to keep the faith, fight the fight, and always be strong in the Lord. It seems in our religious society today we will gladly follow a man instead of following Christ our Lord and Savior who died for our sins on that cruel cross. Now I am not trying to insult anybody's intelligence but it seems that the more we try to help God in teaching others by changing God's Word, the Bible, the bigger the mess we are making out of what we are doing. We hear about other Christians who have more faith in a man than they do in God Almighty. Instead of reading the Bible we will read a book by a popular author and take what he says to heart over what the Bible says. Are we like the Christians in **I Corinthians 3** where they were following after just mere men, in whom one said he fol-

lowed Apollos and another followed Paul? Or, are we like the seven churches in Asia in **Revelation 2** and **3** where Christ had a stern warning to those who did not do all according to God's Word? Have we today forsaken our first love, who is Jesus Christ? Have we today in the worship of the church replaced Jesus with entertainment and story telling? Do we allow for heresy and moral impurity in the church, with the idea that when it comes to the Bible it is my option? Do we tolerate the teachings on the church that allows wrong teaching to mislead the masses into false worship and immorality? If Jesus were to walk in His church today would He say, "I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you." Or, if Jesus came today in His church would He say, "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm, neither hot or cold - I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You

say, I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing. But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see." If Jesus were to walk in His church today would He be welcome to be with His followers? Would we, as Christians, fall to our knees and praise Him or would we try to get Him out of His church because we have changed so much? In other words, have we become lukewarm in our attitude and worship toward God and His Son, who bought the church with His blood? You see, when we first obey the gospel we are zealous for the Lord and rejoice in our new found forgiveness as a Christian. But when we lose sight of the seriousness of sin, we will begin to lose the thrill or love of our forgiveness as seen in **II Peter 1:9**. When any church of the body of believers begins to add to the Bible or tolerate sin in the church, it will start to lower the standards that Jesus set and this will compromise the church as a witness to those in a world lost in sin. One thing all of us as Christians today should remember is that God's approval is infinitely

more important than the world's approval. Folks, the church that Jesus purchased with His blood is to preach to the lost in a dark world. The church is not in the business of entertainment or into book signing. All of us as Christians will be held responsible for how we worship God's Son. We will be held responsible on how we conduct the business of the church with regard to teaching, preaching and the use of the church treasury. Now I know this type of bulletin will offend some who are reading it. But how do we think Jesus is going to feel about His church when we become lukewarm and compromise His Word in teaching others about His grace, mercy and how to become a child of God? **Revelation 22:12** has much to say concerning what will happen to those who are faithful to the end and to those who are not.

Revelation 22:12-17 *12 "And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last." 14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. 15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and*