

"herald the good news" Romans 10:15

THE HERALD

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DOES SILENCE MEAN CONSENT

Judge Judy has become a popular figure. After serving 20 years as a Judge in family court in New York, she has brought her courtroom to television.

A recent episode caught my attention. A young man had been engaged to house sit for two weeks while the owner vacationed. The lady left detailed instructions about what was to be done, along with permission to eat the food in the house, which she had prepared. Her instructions were so complete that she even told about the frozen meals, how they could be thawed, and at what temperature they should be cooked.

During the course of the two weeks that the young man was house-sitting, he did something for which he did not have permission. He drove the owner's car and caused over a thousand dollars damage. He now found himself facing Judge Judy. His defense was that her silence gave consent: *"She didn't say that I couldn't use her car."*

Quick as a flash, Judge Judy asked the young man, "If you saw my car on the street, would you take it for a drive?" "No," he replied. "Why not?" countered the judge. "I didn't say you couldn't use it!"

In a heartbeat the judge ruled that silence did not give consent and the house sitter owed for the damages incurred because he took the car without permission.

It seems to me that there is a lesson in this for the religious world. It is one thing to have authority to do something, and quite a different matter to argue that we can do whatever we want in our worship because the Bible doesn't expressly forbid it.

Have you ever heard the expression, *"Speak where the Bible speaks, and be silent where the Bible is silent"?*

John Gipson (appeared
in Ken Joines newsletter)

(Editor's note) Do you realize what all "could" be done in the name of religion if we adopted the false idea that anything God did not prohibit we could do? Come to think of it we are seeing it happen in many religious groups in America. Why not simply follow God's plan. No one can improve on that which is perfect. (G.P.)

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

1. I MUST BELIEVE

"But without faith, it is impossible to please Him" (Hebrews 11:6)

2. I MUST REPENT

"Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3)

3. I MUST CONFESS

"And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:37)

4. I MUST BE BAPTIZED

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16)

5. I MUST LIVE RIGHT

"We should live soberly, righteously, and Godly in this present world" (Titus 2:12)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Worship at 10:30 am & 6:00 pm
Bible Class at 9:30 am

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class at 7:00 pm

ELDERS

Fred Barnett, Mark DeLong,
Rodney Newton, Ray Poston, Stephen Stilwell

DEACONS

Micah Busbey, Karl Dawson, Bob McIndoo,
Jeff Morris, Juan Nunez,
Mark Springer, Leland Steely, Tim Tapp

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“FIELD TEST”

I know some of you are thinking that this article is going to relate in some way to agriculture. Wrong! Recently I had a “Vision Field Test”. If you have ever had one you probably have not forgotten it. The test is to determine your range of vision and to detect any blind spots in that field of vision. The new procedure only takes a few minutes but it is useful in determining the health of the eye. I began thinking about the spiritual ramifications of that test and here are the results. (1) Each of us should test our spiritual vision on a regular basis. It is so easy for us to become complacent at our level of knowledge of God’s word. This year many of us have been increasing our knowledge of God’s truth as we have taken another look at the Book (Bible). In depth studies are challenging but very rewarding. (I Peter 2:2; Hebrews 5:12-13). (2) Although we need to broaden our understanding of God’s word we must also be careful that we don’t go outside the boundaries that God has set for us. (I Peter 4:11). (3) It is however possible that one can have a wonderful overview of the Bible but also miss some key points (have blind spots). There are many religious people who have a good general knowledge of the Bible but for some reason have limited understanding of the details. For example, you will hear people speak of being “born again”. That term is certainly Biblical (John 3:3-5; I Peter 1:23) but what is involved in the “new birth”? According to the above passages it must include the seed (gospel) and the new birth of water and the Spirit. Others will speak of the “church” as an all inclusive group that consists of the many different denominations. Note that many have the concept of a “family of God” on earth but have blind spots concerning the beginning, membership in, the oneness, unity, and worship of that body described in the scriptures. Never assume that others understand a particular subject just because they know it by name. (Matthew 7:21-23).

In the case of a “field vision test” where blind spots occur there may be no remedy to restore that sight but thankfully there is a remedy for those who are “spiritually blind”. We cannot limit our study of God’s word to the passages that have become our “favorite”. Neither can we simply study the scriptures that bring us the most comfort. We “must” have as our goal following the “whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27). Finally, we can’t just focus on the parts of the Bible that we hear taught in Bible classes and from our pulpits. Those of us who teach and preach have limited time with out audiences (classes) so it is important for every person to broaden their knowledge with their own private study.

The “field vision test” reveals the truth. One may think they have perfect vision only to discover that they have impaired vision. An open study of God’s word may reveal the same. Now what will we do about it? Gary Puryear

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY (July 15)

Opening Prayer:	Everett Mays
Closing Prayer:	Leland Steely
Devotional:	Glenn Lewis
Song Leader:	Gary Puryear

SUNDAY (July 19)

AT THE TABLE

*Larry Bundy	Rodney Newton
Jim Burke	Glenn Whitley
William Ray Jr.	Juan Nunez
Ben Grogan	*Karl Dawson

*Denotes those to serve communion Sunday night

AM Worship

Announcements:	Karl Dawson
Opening Prayer:	Rodney Newton
Scripture Reading:	Bob McIndoo
Closing Prayer:	Bill Bridwell
Ushers:	Terry Bonds Brad Carter

DOOR GREETERS

Donald Stone
Gloria Stone
Carol Tapp

PM Worship

Opening Prayer:	Mark DeLong
Scripture Reading:	Glenn Lewis
Closing Prayer:	Sam Morris

FOR THE RECORD (July 5)

Sunday Morning Worship:	223
Sunday Morning Bible Study:	156
Sunday Evening Worship:	130
Wednesday Bible Study:	127
Contribution:	\$6208.50

NEWS AND NOTES

Prayer Request: Kathy Riggs, Carolyn Clevenger, Vera Sue Pleasant, Debbie Newman, Arianna DeLong (had knee surgery), Jerry Burrough, Carolyn Turpin, Earlene Scott, Lula Haskins, Vera Sumner, Jenny Revlett, Joann Hayes, Tommy Jenkins, Bob Harrell, Donald Stone, Wayne Moore, Patricia DeLong, Gene Thomason, John Kavanaugh, Irby Lapington’s daughter Carole Bass, June Bollinger (surgery).

Teacher’s Appreciation Supper: July 18 The Van will leave for Moonlite at 5:45. The dinner is at 6:30 p.m.

V.B.S. July 26-29

New a Address: Barry and Abby Watwood: See office

Give-Away Meeting next Sunday: In the Ladies’ classroom at 5:00 p.m.

Thank You: There is a thank you card from Dean and Donna Buchanan on the bulletin board.

Great Turn-Out: We had approximately 270 people (including workers) for the Youth Series this past Tuesday night. All the volunteers did a wonderful job in preparation and clean-up. We had ample food thanks to so many. Thanks so much to Ray Poston for a fine job in leading singing and to Neal for a wonderful, challenging lesson. Neal had the faith to dream big and thus ample preparation was made. I think everyone of us were blessed in some way. G.P.