

# COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 10:30 AM  
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM  
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



## The Correspondent

Vol. 52 No. 20

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth  
1 Thessalonians 1:8

May 19, 2024

### The Heart Is Deceitful

-Renn Ferguson

All man-made religion is focused on the desires of men. Even when it wears the name “Christian”. When observing the world of Christendom, it becomes abundantly clear that worship is not God focused but man focused. Many justify their actions by saying that they “feel” like God will accept their worship because they are sincere. The only way for us to know that God accepts what we do is if we only do what He has commanded or expressed He desires. And if we love Him, why would we do something that He has not told us He wants? (John 14:15) Too many rely upon their feelings and their desires to guide them in religion.

In Jeremiah 17:9 God said, “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?” Relying upon our feelings is a sure-fire way to fail. When we do so we have exchanged the desires of God for our own. We do things that we think are right but ultimately are detestable before God. For example, man once thought it was good and right to sacrifice children (Jeremiah 32:35). No one could reasonably argue in favor of child sacrifice. Yet, those involved in it were sure it was the proper thing to do.

Time and time again, the religious of this world turn to their own hearts for authority. In fact, at times when a denomination is going to be established, they will send out surveys to the community. Everything is catered to the communities’ desires, from music style to the types of messages, and programs. That is not God-centered religion. Paul, by divine inspiration calls this will worship, or self-made religion (Colossians 2:23).

Seeing that the heart is deceitful above all things we should turn to the one who can never lie (Titus 1:2). We should turn to the one we are to worship (John 4:23-24). We should turn to our head (Matthew 28:18) to determine how we are to live, worship, and work (Colossians 3:17).

#### Connections



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*Congratulations on Your*  
**GRADUATION**

**Meet & Greet**

**May 26, 2024**

**2024 Theme:**  
*The Gospel Is for All*

*The Correspondent is a weekly publication of the  
COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST. The church  
meets at 1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234*

## Paul Before Agrippa

### Acts 26:1-32

- I. Hope on Trial v. 1-11
  - A. Paul's manner of life was well known- v. 1-5
  - B. His only offense was his hope- v. 6-8, Genesis 12:3, Acts 24:14-15,21, 2 Kings 17:17-23, 2 Kings 4:18-37, John 11:23-24
  - C. He understands their position- v. 9-11
- II. Hope with Reason- v. 12-15
  - A. The cause of Paul's conversion- v. 12-15, Galatians 1:15
  - B. God does not expect our faith to be blind- Hebrews 11:1, 1 Peter 1:8, John 20:29, 30-31, Matthew 28:13
- III. Hope for All- v. 16-29
  - A. Hope for Jew and Gentile- v. 16-23, 1 Peter 2:9, Isaiah 53:9, Psalm 16:10, Hosea 1:10, 2:23
  - B. Hope disparaged- v. 24-26, 1 Corinthians 2:21-23
  - C. Hope for Agrippa and Paul's Accusers- v. 27-29, John 18:20-21, John 5:46, 1 Timothy 2:4

## Worship Service

### Announcements

Song: 730 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Song: 684 This World Is Not My Home

### Prayer

Song: 80 Beneath the Cross of Jesus (v. 1, 3, 4)

### Lord's Supper and Contribution

Song: 716 Walking Alone at Eve

**Scripture Reading:** Acts 26:25-29

### Sermon

Song: 520 Only a Step

Song: 627 The Gloryland Way (v. 3)

### Prayer

## Acts 26:25-29

S	S	P	B	W	G	F	S	S	S	N	O	N	E
L	E	O	E	L	N	E	A	F	R	E	E	L	Y
P	P	N	F	P	I	S	T	E	W	W	C	E	D
U	R	A	O	D	K	T	T	P	I	O	O	S	R
K	O	I	R	P	A	U	E	C	A	R	N	C	U
A	P	T	E	K	A	S	N	O	H	D	V	A	N
E	H	S	N	N	P	O	T	R	A	S	I	P	O
P	E	I	T	O	P	T	I	N	L	T	N	E	S
S	T	R	R	W	I	O	O	E	M	O	C	S	A
S	S	H	U	S	R	D	N	R	O	T	E	G	E
P	A	C	T	P	G	A	P	M	S	A	D	N	R
O	U	T	H	I	A	Y	L	A	T	E	D	I	A
T	A	E	L	B	O	N	A	P	U	P	O	H	P
H	E	A	R	E	M	O	C	E	B	L	C	T	E

ALMOST  
FREELY  
WORDS  
CHRISTIAN  
NOBLE  
TRUTH  
PROPHETS  
CORNER  
SPEAK  
BECOME  
REASON  
ESCAPES  
FESTUS  
KNOWS  
TODAY  
AGRIPPA  
ATTENTION  
KING  
PAUL  
HEAR  
THINGS  
NONE  
CONVINCED  
BEFORE

## Acts 26:25-29

- 25 But he said, "I am not mad, most noble Festus, but speak the words of truth and reason.
- 26 For the king, before whom I also speak freely, knows these things; for I am convinced that none of these things escapes his attention, since this thing was not done in a corner.
- 27 King Agrippa, do you believe the prophets? I know that you do believe."
- 28 Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You almost persuade me to become a Christian."
- 29 And Paul said, "I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am, except for these chains."

**What must I do to be saved?**

Hear: Romans 10:17. Believe: Mark 16:16. Repent: Acts 2:38.

Confess: Romans 10:9-10. Be Baptized: Acts 2:38. Live Faithfully: Revelation 2:10