

# View

*"...Having the eyes of your heart enlightened..." Ephesians 1:18*

## 2Co 5:18 - 19

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

## Welcome Visitors!

You are our honored guests and we are pleased that you have chosen to visit us today. Our goal is to do everything according to God's word, including respecting its silence. This is a church of Christ; we are not a denomination, not part of anything larger than this local church and we have no earthly "headquarters." The five elders oversee this work and, ultimately, we answer only to Christ. The comments you hear today are primarily aimed at our own members, as we examine Scripture and seek to be built up in our faith in Christ. If you don't understand something, please do not hesitate to ask one of the elders. We welcome and appreciate your comments and questions on any issue and especially if you see or hear anything that you feel does not corre-

**Please Fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection plate. Thank you**

## Schedule

### The Lord's Day

**9:30 - Classes**

Auditorium: The Gospel

**10:30 - Assembly**

Speaking today: Zach McGinnis

**2 PM Class at the building**

Room 13/14 Hebrews

**5 PM (building)**

Proverbs

**Weekly Young Adult Class**

5PM @ Jeff & Sara's home

**Tuesday, 10 AM Class**

At the building

**Wednesday, 7 PM**

Auditorium: The Gospel

**Singing at the Folsom Care Center**

3rd Sunday each month at 3:15 PM (see Grant Mulligan)

**Men's Saturday Morning Meeting**

7 AM, second Sunday of the month (see Tyler Wade)

## Information

### Children's Classes

We have classes for children from 18 months and up. Please see the map in the hallway or ask any of the members which room is appropriate for you and/or your child. There are several Bible studies in progress on Sunday afternoon and evening. Check with David Posey if you have questions.

### Restrooms

There are two sets of restrooms: one off the first hallway to the right of the lobby and another at the end of the first hallway to the left. Ask anyone and they'll be happy to point you in the right direction.

### For Small Children

There is a special room for nursing mothers and a separate "cry room" at the rear of the auditorium. You enter them from the first hallway to the right, across from the restrooms.

### Online

You can find copies of class material and archives of previous editions of the View and listen to sermons online at [www.folsom.com](http://www.folsom.com). Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/folsomchurch>.

### View & Junior View

Be sure to pick up a copy of the View and Junior View; both are sent out weekly, plus there are some hard copies printed on Sundays.

# The Beauty of God in You

Jeffery Kingry

It is possible to tell something about man in the things that he makes. Take the back off of your T.V. set or look at the circuitry in your stereo amplifier, and it will tell you something about the intellect of man. Gaze at a Rembrandt painting, or a sculpture from the hands of Michelangelo and it is possible to infer something of the eye and talent of man. If we can tell that there is intelligence and personality in man by looking at the things he creates, is it not also possible to infer something of God from looking at His creation? Indeed, that which can be known of God is plainly seen in his creation. We can tell something of the power and character of God in the things he has created (Rom. 1:19,20). Whether it be a butterfly upon a flower, or the vastness of space, we can look to all and say, "God is greater than these."

This is what is so repugnant in the idea of reducing God to our level. The God who created the universe and all that it contains must be greater than His creation. He does not live in man-made shrines, neither can he be waited on by human hands, as if the Power who made all things needed anything that man has to offer Him. Indeed, it is God who gives us life and breath, and our existence in this life. It is not right for us to imagine that the Divine Image can be represented in gold or silver or stone—a work sculptured artistically by the inventive ingenuity of man's thought (Acts 17:24-29).

This entire creation—from the intricate mathematical precision of the atom, to the raging power locked in the heart of the sun in its swift orbit—all proceed forth from the power and wisdom of God. How presumptive—how arrogant—how totally deceived we are when we presume to tell God by our lives and actions that we know more about living and the true reality than He does.

## Do I Do That?

You might imagine that you are free from such presumption. But, when man is presumptive enough to set aside the will of God to follow what is aesthetically pleasing to himself—he has set his tastes above the will of God. Jesus said, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed. And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (Jn. 8:31,32). The truth is what makes men free, not man-made systems of thought. As a child, my father would sometimes bring me a model airplane to build. My first effort at putting the pieces together resulted in a lopsided plane, with many bits and pieces left over. My father viewed the disarray, reached into the box, and pulled out a folded piece of paper I had overlooked. "When all else fails, son, read the directions." God did not give us this life and creation to "put it all together" by ourselves. All the unhappiness we see in this world is a result of men trying to put it together without the directions.

The things we see as quality-worthy-of lasting value, ultimately decay and pass away. The new car rusts, the flowers fade and fall, the fame passes away in the history books, beauty turns to wrinkles and grey hair, and eventually the dust receives them all. This is the crux of the whole of existence. What is enduring? What is of lasting beauty and quality? What is life for? Only the One who made all this to start with has the answers. We find the answers only when we submit to what He has said.

## The Answer of God

When you submit yourself to God in true humility, then God will make you enduringly beautiful, and transport you into a way of life whose fruit is everlasting life. Not everlasting existence alone, but everlasting life! An eternity of pure beauty—unrivaled by any created glory which we can experience in this life. "For the Lord taketh pleasure in His people: He will beautify the meek with salvation" (Psa. 194:4). The beauty of this world will all eventually pass away, but the beauty of an eternal spirit, cleansed of all that is unclean, can never pass away. That spirit is you. Not your body, what you own, your job, or anything else tangible—but you.

Sin is what keeps us from eternal life. The only thing that can take away sin is the blood of Jesus Christ, His sacrifice upon the cross (Eph. 1:7). That blood bought the church of Christ (Acts 20:28), and the church is the body of Christ (Eph. 1:22, 23). There is only one way to partake of the sacrifice of Jesus: Baptism for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). In baptism we are added to the church (Acts 2:41, 47). We are baptized into one body (1 Cor. 12:13). We are baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27). This baptism is a burial in water (not sprinkling or pouring) and a planting (Rom. 6:3, 4).

Man's soul is the only thing of eternal value worth saving in this world. Do not throw away the beauty that could be in your life upon the beauty that fades away like a flower. What is a life? It is here but for a little while, like the brief existence of a frosty breath on a cold day. Why don't you invest in the future what no man can take away from you? Why not become a Christian today?

Truth Magazine - July 10, 1975

## Be Worshipful

by Bubba Garner

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord,'" wrote David in Psalm 122:1. How many people had those words or a similar thought run through their minds this morning? It seems that we are losing our sense of delight and enthusiasm when it comes to worship. We think more about we should be getting than what we're giving to God. But we owe it to the Lord and to ourselves to offer our very best on His day.

How can you do your part to be worshipful?

**Be here.** There is no way that you can benefit or be benefited if you choose not to come. And it amazes me what flimsy excuses people come up with for why they can't come to the services. Please tell me, what could you possibly be doing that is more important than worshipping God? When we allow other things to interfere with our devotion to Him, we reduce religion to a matter of convenience instead of conviction.

**Be prepared.** This speaks not only of the need to prepare your lesson for Bible class, but to prepare your mind. And if you wait until the song before the Lord's Supper to prepare, you've waited too long. David said that the one who is worthy to come before God is one who "walks with integrity, and works righteousness, and speaks truth in his heart" (Psalm 15:2). Those qualities do not come about without prior meditation, reflection, and consideration. It takes time to be holy, to be prepared. Perhaps that means, perish the thought, that to be ready on Sunday you might need to cut Saturday night a little shorter.

**Be reverent.** Remember what you're doing. This is not a football game or a movie. This is a worship service. We are communing with the God of heaven. Does He not deserve our utmost respect and admiration? "Let us show gratitude, by which we offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe" (Heb. 12:28). Sometimes that means you stand in awe of Him. But other times it means you bow down in reverence.

**Be a participant.** Nothing is more discouraging to the song leader than one who does not sing and to the preacher than one who does not listen. But how do you think the Lord feels about it? "I will give thanks to the Lord with all my heart in the company of the upright and in the assembly" (Psa. 111:1). Wholehearted worship means giving it your all and making every effort to be an active participant in the services. Just because you are not the one leading the singing, saying the prayers, or doing the preaching does not mean your duties are relinquished. Be in tune with what is going on.

You will get no more out of today than what you put into it. Give the Lord your best and receive the best of what worship can do for you.

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## No Time or Place to Quit

by R. J. Evans

"While I live I will praise the Lord; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being" (Psa. 146:2).

The above words of the Psalmist reveal his plans to faithfully serve the Lord as long as he lived. No doubt, he realized that faithfully serving the Lord brings many bless-

ings and joys now, as well as the eternal reward in heaven later. To be a child of God who faithfully serves the Lord is more important than anything else one can do in this life. Yet, there are some Christians who are not always faithful to the Lord. In my own mind, I can think of a large number who I've known through the years who have fallen away and no longer serve God.

It is easy serving God when all is going well. But everyone needs to realize that self-denial and cross-bearing are involved (Matt. 16:12, 15). The Apostle Paul tells us that "all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Tim. 3:12).

A child of God must be so careful not to allow the attractions of this world to get in his way (1 Jn. 2:15-17). Therefore, all Christians must be sincere and serious about serving God, as well as dependent upon Him for strength. The wise man stated, "If you faint in the day of adversity, Your strength is small" (Prov. 24:10).

Jesus had so many factors working against Him during His time on this earth, but He never fainted. Men despised and rejected Him (Isa. 53:3), and ultimately crucified Him. While on earth He quoted the words which had been prophesied concerning Him in Psalm 69:4 — "They hated Me without a cause" (Jn. 15:25). But through it all, in His prayer to His Father, He could say, "I have finished the work which you have given Me to do" (Jn. 17:4). Nothing ever caused Him to give up and quit!

Jesus was faithful all the way because He had a Cause to live and die for— "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God" (Heb. 10:9). It is for the same Cause that faithful Christians are assured— "that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight" (Heb. 13:20-21). Moreover, it was doing His Father's will that concerned Jesus the most. He stated, "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me" (Jn. 6:38). We should have the same desire—to always obey and do the will of God.

May we always faithfully trust and obey God so that nothing will ever hinder or stop us. There is just too much at stake. There is no time nor place to quit! "Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).



Read your Bible daily

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2Tim 2:15 KJV

# News

*“For I have given you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.”*

*John 13:15*

## Prayers for Members

Pray for Sally Clark who scheduled for surgery, November 27th. She will be having one kidney removed due to cancer. Continue prayers for Hank Wilson, the Brown family (re: Forrest's father Ramon); Mirissa Zwahlen; Dennis McAdams; Hank Wilson, Charlotte York, Donna Thompson, Stacey Leisch, Rich Ladd, Dotty Martin, Desi & Bev Vasquez, Erica Canup, Emily Robbins, Gene and Jackie Eakles, Dane Scott, Dick Gardner, Kathy Wilson, Gwen Scott, Nell Grogan and Sharon Jones. Continue to pray for those who have lost loved ones recently: the Reagan family; Rich Ladd; the Dotys, the Agees and the Rembleskis.

Pray for those who are spiritually weak.

Pray for our single moms, widows, widowers and others in difficult circumstances.

## Family Members and Others

Continue prayers for Lial Holland; Roy and Sharon Bridge's daughter-in-law, Stephanie Bridge (loss of father); Sean Jones; Sam Griffin; Pete and Grace Garcia (Luke's brother and niece); Bob Dunn, of Tampa, FL; Trevor and Justine Trokey re: their young daughter, Evie; Debbie Reagan's niece Sarah Harstvedt; Mark Perkins; Clayton Colpitts (cancer); Mark Kosct's younger sister, Dyllin and Mark's father, Paul; Debbie Walker, Dawn Brook's aunt; Bill and Linda Riemer (friends of Dawn Brooks).

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## Notes:

## The Folsom View

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900 E. Natoma St./ PO Box 492  
Folsom, CA 95630 • (916) 608-4866  
[www.folsomchurch.com](http://www.folsomchurch.com)

Editor/Evangelist: David Posey  
dpaulposey@mac.com

### Elders (6)

Forrest Brown: 530/333-5111  
fabfrost@hotmail.com

Russ Canup 916/375-1027  
hunterruss44@gmail.com

Randy Clark: 916/662-3051  
clarkft@att.net

David Posey: 530/558-5057  
dpaulposey@mac.com

Terry Raposa: 916/847-2050  
terry.raposa1@gmail.com

Dennis Reagan: 916/303-3595  
dennis.reagan@hotmail.com

### Deacons (25)

Brent Agee: 916/747-7469

Len Baker: 916/396-5737

Zac Brown: 530/308-8564

Bryan Byrd: 916/351-9320

Barrett Cain: 916/803-2619

Trey Cain: 530/306-8567

Tim Castleberry: 916/501-9506

Jeff Clark: 916/747-6883

John Daniels: 916/985-3090

Jerry Deschler: 916/595-9956

Matt Dickey: 916/420-0255

Steve Dickey: 916/983-1071

Greg Eckert: 916/757-7874

Eric Fields: 916/817-6495

Scott Gardner: 951/818-8086

Kody Marrs: 714/809-4034

Luke McNeel-Caird: 916/952-3890

Rich Mowrer: 916/221-1084

Nick Sadowy: 916/350-4473

Dave Sanderson: 916/3425-8535

Dane Scott: 916/631-7221

Dan Stegall: 818/209-9810

Russ Tarrant: 530/672-1748

Dennis Wade: 916/337-8255

Ben Woodside: 916/358-5667