

Ministers:  
the congregation

Kenny Chumbley  
217.493.8905

Sunday:  
8:00 AM: WGCY  
9:00 AM: Worship

Wednesday:  
6:30 PM: Bible Study

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Christ.com](http://gibsoncitychurchofchrist.com)

**This Past Week:**  
Worship-28  
Wednesday-

**For meditation:**  
**Ecclesiastes 11.3-4**  
Clouds come and go;  
trees stay in one place  
till they are blown  
over. What life lessons  
can you infer from  
these facts? What hap-  
pens when you sit  
around waiting for the  
“right” circumstances  
(v 4)?

**Radio program:**  
WGCY FM, 106.3  
Sundays at 8 AM

## *A husband's headship*

Few Biblical statements on marriage are more intimidating or more misused than, “the husband is *head* of the wife” (Eph. 5.23). Here are some things this phrase does and doesn't mean.

The context is crucial. Ephesians 5.18 says, “be filled with the Spirit,” and we ask: what does being “filled with the Spirit” look like in a marriage? What does it produce? The generic answer in 5.21 is that those filled with the Spirit will “submit to one another in the fear of God.” Verse 22 and 25 provide details. “Wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord . . . Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the church.” I'm concerned here only with husbands. A husband shows he is filled with the Spirit when he loves his wife sacrificially just as Christ loved the church, which means, among other things, that his role in the marriage is to provide *loving leadership*.

For God to appoint someone as *head* means his job is to *bless* the lives of those under him. To bless means you *make their lives better*. Far too often, sinful men have interpreted headship as *dictatorship* and have given their wives pause to neither submit to nor respect their authority. A husband whose authority in a marriage relies upon him insisting on his authority, or being a bully, or resorting to self-assertion, or “pulling rank on his wife,” has no real authority at all.

A husband commands respect by loving his wife and by a sacrificial submission (see v 21) that is so good and true his wife cannot help but respect him. To abandon love for a dictatorial, unilateral, autocratic approach to leadership is to show the seeds for a broken marriage.

Fathers, let your sons see a loving leader; mothers, teach your sons the kind of husband they're to be.

kenny

# Gibson City church of Christ

Highway 47 South, Gibson City, IL



**Dave Schirer**

**1944-2026**

**Dave has gone home**

Sermon: Matthew 5.33-37

**Truth**

21 June 2026

## *A great text from Malachi*

**You offer defiled food on My altar, . . . Offer it then to thy governor! Would he be pleased with you? Malachi 1.7,8**

The watermarks in Malachi suggest the prophecy should be interpreted in light of the book of Nehemiah. If you'd like some examples, compare Nehemiah 13.29 with Malachi 2.8; Nehemiah 13.23–25 with Malachi 2.11–12; and Nehemiah 13.10,11a with Malachi 3.8–10. The conditions described at the close of Nehemiah closely match the conditions addressed by Malachi.

The spiritual decline of the Jews in Malachi's time is illustrated by seven questions the Jews were asking.

- Yet you say, "In what way have You loved us?" 1.2
- Yet you say, "In what way have we despised Your name?" 1.6
- But say, "In what way have we defiled You?" 1.7
- Yet you say, "In what way have we wearied Him?" 2.17
- But you say, "In what way shall we return?" 3.7
- But you say, "In what way have we robbed You?" 3.8
- Yet you say, "What have we spoken against You?" 3.13

Solomon's Temple had been put back together and services were being held, but the people were just playing at religion. They thought any old thing they offered to God was good enough for Him. They kept up religious forms, but there was no power, substance, or piety in what they were doing.

To the question in 1.7, "In what way have we defiled You?" Malachi replying with sacred sarcasm—"Take it to your governor! See what he says."

Would the boss accept from me the level of devotion, loyalty, and respect I bring to worship? Talk about a test for our devotion! When going to a job interview, dress the way you do for worship and see if you get the job. Prepare for a meeting at work the way you prepare for a Bible class and see how it goes. Enter something at the county fair that reflects the level of attention to detail, intensity, and focus with which you sing at worship or prepare some thoughts for the Lord's table, and see if you win a ribbon.

Years ago, I was at the church building when a good brother dropped off some electronic equipment. I can't remember if it a computer, copier, or something else, but whatever it was, it was broke. He had no use for it, but he thought the church might.

To treat worship with the same attitude we have when making a drop-off at the Salvation Army, says Malachi, is evil.

kenny

## *What tale will our Bible tell?*

A long time ago, I read where someone (can't remember who) referred to the Old Testament prophets as "the white pages of the Bible," meaning that in most personal Bibles, the pages in the prophetic section (Isaiah to Malachi) look new. They aren't dog-eared or marked up with notes for the simple reason that the prophets are often ignored in our study of the Bible. Yancey said it this way, "If you examine the Bibles of even the most diligent students you may find a telltale band of white on the paper edges just over halfway through, a mark of cleanness indicating how seldom fingers touch the Old Testament prophets. Although those seventeen books fill about a fifth of the Bible's bulk, they tend to go unread" (*The Bible Jesus Read*, 171).

The Scottish preacher James Stalker told a story about "a friend of mine [who] died, and I was asked by his family write a brief life of him. For this purpose his papers were put into my hands, and it was in many ways a sad and solemn task to go through them. . . . He was not a minister, but he had made a very decided profession of religion; and I was no wo see how far his profession was real. As I advanced, I came on evidence more and more clear that beneath the surface his religion had deep, healthy roots. But the decisive evidence was his Bible. This also had been put into my hands along with the other documents, and when I opened it it told a tale. Everywhere there were the marks of constant and loving use—favorite verses underlined, brief comments here and there, sometimes a few rods of prayers for the blessings which the verses promised. But—most significant of all—the finest books, such as the Psalms and Isaiah in the Old Testament and St. John in the New, were so worn with constant fingering that they were old bank-notes" (*Christian World Pulpit*, xlv, 203).

So here's a question: when we die, should someone go through our Bible, what will it tell them about the kind of Bible student we were?

kenny