

FATHERS

are VITAL to the Family, Church, Nation.

"The glory of children are their FATHERS"

(Proverbs 17:6)

"Honor thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee that thy days may be prolonged..." (Exodus 20:12; Deut. 5:16). God's order for the family requires fathers and mothers which honor God's creative purpose and makes for God's blessings. GOD AND HIS BLESSING ARE TO BE FOUND BY THE BELIEVING HEART. "BLESSED are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. BLESSED IS THEMAN to whom the Lord will not impute sin" (Rom. 4:7-8). "But WITHOUT FAITHit is IMPOSSIBLE to PLEASE HIM: for he that cometh to God MUST BELIEVE THAT HE IS, and that He is a rewarder of them that DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM" (Hebrews 11:6).

FAITH KNOWS AND SHOWS THAT GOD IS. God has spoken and "we have heard and known, and <u>OUR FATHERS</u> have told us. We will not hide them [even the message of God's mercy and grace] from their children [sons], showing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He hath done" (*Psalm* 78:3-4). "Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare WHAT HE HATH DONE for my soul" (*Psalm* 66:16). "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (*John* 5:24).

GOD DESIRES HIS WORD TO BE KNOWN. "For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded <u>OUR FATHERS</u>, that they should make them known to their children: That the generation to come might know them, EVEN THE CHILDREN which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children" (*Psalm 78:5-6*).

GOD'S PURPOSE IS A HOPE-FILLED RELATIONSHIP. "That they might SET THEIR HOPE IN GOD, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments" (*Psalm 78:7*). "My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from Him" (*Psalm 62:5*).

THE PERSON WHO BELIEVES ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (Acts 16:31) will know God's SAVING GRACE in his HEART and for his HOME. The heart that knows God's SAVING GRACE will seek to exercise God's gracious management in one's HEART, in one's HOME and thus rightly influence one's SOCIETY. God said of <u>ABRAHAM</u>, "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment" (*Genesis* 18:19).

THE NATIONS BENEFIT as God-honoring persons encourage God-honoring families. Such an influence leads to or makes for a God-blessed nation. "Blessed is the NATION whose God is the LORD" (*Psalm 33:12*). "There is no God else beside Me. LOOK UNTO ME, and be ye SAVED, all the ends of the earth: for I AM GOD, and there is none else" (*Isaiah 45:21-22*).

What is your relationship to the living God? Are you in need of God's saving grace as provided in the Lord Jesus Christ? Will you receive Him as your personal Saviour today? Come and worship with us this Sunday!

Middletown Bible Church • 860-346-0907 349 East Street, Middletown, CT 06457

Route 217 (East Street, Westfield) midway between Routes 66 and 372

SUNDAY:

9:30 am Sunday School - all ages 10:45 am Morning Worship 7:00 pm Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY:

7:30 pm Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

www.middletownbiblechurch.org

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