

Who Was Chemosh?

By Mike Riley

Chemosh is not your average household name. In fact, you probably have never heard of him. Why would you? He doesn't belong in the 21st century....or does he?

When God gave King Solomon, the special gift of wisdom, he used his gift wisely for many years. He followed in the tradition of his father, David. As a result, Solomon's kingdom became wealthy and powerful, and his great wisdom was known throughout the world.

This mighty, powerful, and godly man soon committed the sin of idolatry. He was given wives to form political alliances with neighboring countries; cement peace treaties; provide raw materials for his many building projects, and secure the borders of his kingdom. These wives came from pagan backgrounds and brought their religious traditions with them. At one point, Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines living in his harem. (1 Kings 11:3).

While he had built the most beautiful of all temples in which to worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob....he also built a temple to Chemosh, god of the Moabites (1 Kings 11:7). Perhaps he thought if the Hebrew God didn't supply all his needs, another god just might! This shrine would also appease his pagan harem.

He brazenly defies God's first commandment, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me" (Exodus 20:3). Chemosh was a remote deity, who could be worshipped with no entanglements; no do's and don'ts; no threats of judgment. He was a fearful god. He demanded sacrifices but gave nothing in return. This god didn't love or provide comfort for his people. He was not a personal god. He was a god in name only.

Today, this god might be called a humanist. He is meaningful to people who believe that man's destiny is not involved with the God of the Bible. Man becomes the maker and breaker of his own life. He becomes his own Chemosh. To the humanist mindset, man must provide for himself. Man himself is worshipped....in his own being and identity. Evolving from some lower life forms and pulling himself up through evolutionary life forms, our humanist Chemosh, demands only that man himself is deified. He is the god of his own universe.

As Solomon was influenced by the paganism of his day, let us not fall into the same trap. Man's worldview is faulty. Truth does not come within man himself. Truth is found only in the knowledge of the Creator, who came in the form of a man, not an untouchable and fearful Chemosh.

He too has a name....Jeshua, or Jesus, our Messiah and Savior (Matthew 1:21-23).



STERLINGTON Church of Christ



P.O. Box 82
1095 Highway 2
Sterlington, Louisiana 71280
www.sterlingtoncoc.com

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshiping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Elders:

Todd Chapman
Paul Simpson

Deacons:

Wayne Fowler
Billy Granger

Preacher:

David Garris
Buddy Hollis

Those to Serve

Today

Announcements- Paul Simpson **Opening Prayer-** Charles Fricke

Communion- Todd Chapman **Closing Prayer-** David Repond

September 10th

Announcements- Paul Simpson **Opening prayer-** Travis Rogers

Communion- Charles Fricke **Closing Prayer-** Lyle Russell

Announcements

—Mini-Ladies Day: Our next Ladies' Day is scheduled for Sept. 16th. Lunch will be provided. More details to come.

—Question & Answer Series: Our next Question and Answer Series will be scheduled when enough questions are collected. Give your questions to Don.

—Children's Home Collection: Our congregation is collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection boxes are by the nursery. A list of needed items is in the foyer. **The next pick-up is scheduled for Sept 30th.**

HOLD TIGHTLY
to what is good.
ROMANS 12:9

Please Pray For:

Barbara Wheeler, Ronnie White, Aiden Richardson, Mina & Mae Fricke, Donna Llewellyn, Joanne Randolph, John McDaniel, Gena Granger, Brax Williams, Jim Rhodes, Kate Heavener, Rick Whittle.

Bereaved: Families of Judy Strickland, Randy Mitchell, Mina Fricke's Father, Randy Manning's Father, Fannie Jo Donavon.

Continue to Pray For:

Dwain Flowers, Susie McGough, Linda Garris, Sharon White-Ross, James & Lorene Johnson, Bobby Barker, Gail Sewell, Renee Gee, Malea Zuber, Bobby Simmons, Tricia Muse, Elizabeth Hollis, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross.



September birthdays

- 1 - Todd Chapman
- 9 - Carlon Hollis
- 17 - Sherry Miller
- 18 - Wanda Simpson
- 19 - Linda Herlong
- 22 - Jodie Chisley
- 23 - Maddie Magee
- 27 - Shirley Goodwin

September anniversaries

- 5 - Matt and Danielle Scharf
- 25 - Lyle and Miriam Russell

