## Morning Sermon 6/26/2022 – Let Everything Praise ... Psalm 150:6

<sup>6</sup> Let everything that has breath praise the LORD. Praise the LORD! Psalm 150:6 (NKJV)

I had a time in my early Christian life when I watched no tv, not even the news, read no secular books and prayed about every "Christian" book I might purchase or read.

I went through three years at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School this way, and yet when I did my seminarian internship at Grace Church and Glen Eyrie, with the Navigators, I soon found myself praying about and making a change ...

Every morning, noon and evening we would eat together at Glen Eyrie ...

I'd have opportunity to talk with my companions there ...

*Yet, I had two problems:* 

- 1. I was SHY!
- 2. Conversation was rarely about the Bible, rather morning conversation was about:
  - A. The latest movie everyone saw
  - B. Something going on in the news ...
  - C. Sports ...

I realized in order to talk even with my "Christian" companions I needed knowledge of some things beyond the Bible ... I went PRAYERFULLY to movies with some of my friends, with the goal being to use movie material in such a way to Praise the LORD ...

Later, when seeking a pastoral position at the Congregation Church in Limington, Maine, I was counseled by one of their elders, in order to get to know Mainers, to relate to them — READ Stephen King — The Horror writer ... he told me to read "The Eye of the Dragon" in that book the hero Prince Peter wins the day with 40 days of fasting and prayer ...

Yet, the movie I have related to **Psalm 150:6** is "Indian Jones and the Temple of Doom" The theme of that movie is communicated in the opening song which is "Anything Goes" sung mostly in Chinese ...

Indy is poisoned, his get-a-way-car is driven by a child, he gets on his enemy's airplane, is forced with his companions to jump out of that plane without a parachute, on an inflatable life raft ... they are served (to eat) insects, monkey brains, live baby snakes, and eye ball soup ... and that is just the start ... basically in the movie – ANYTHING GOES!!!!

Some have brought this idea to the church so in some churches we have animal / pet communion ...

Clowns serving the Lord's Supper ... Bounce houses on the Lord's Day ... Whatever it takes to get people in ... but in to WHAT????

Some churches have drama, plays, skits, every Sunday, instead of a sermon ... is that okay?????

I believe certain things are necessary to worship, especially on Sunday
 Mornings –

1. Apostles' doctrine, meaning for us, Biblical teaching, Biblical preaching –

16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

- 2. Fellowship –
- <sup>24</sup> And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another,* and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:24–25 (NKJV)
  - 3. Breaking of bread the Lord's Supper
  - 4. Prayers –
- <sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:31 (NKJV)
  - 5. Offerings, or beyond an ordinary offering ... –
- <sup>45</sup> Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, <sup>45</sup> and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. Acts 2:44-45
  - 6. Praise Acts 2:47 / Psalm 150 ...
  - 7. God's favor :47 And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Because we focus on the things above, at least on Sunday Mornings we don't have skits or bounce houses ... but CAN WE do these things, or other things? On other days?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. <sup>43</sup> Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, <sup>45</sup> and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. <sup>46</sup> So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. Acts 2:42–47 (NKJV)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Preach the word! Be ready in season *and* out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 2 Timothy 4:2 (NKJV)

II. Remember, the Word of God is your staple, your necessary "daily" food –

We may not meet together daily, but we should read the Scripture – DAILY, we should pray – DAILY ... We should spend more time in God's Word than we do watching television / movies / entertainment ...

- III. We live in an entertainment-oriented society, how do we reach them?

  19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more;
  20 and to the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might win Jews; to those who are under the law, as under the law, that I might win those who are under the law;
  21 to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law;
  22 to the weak I became as weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.
  23 Now this I do for the gospel's sake, that I may be partaker of it with you.
  1 Corinthians 9:19–23 (NKJV)
  - 1. Right after saying these things Paul uses a sports illustration ...
  - 2. I am credited leading one young man, by his mother, through my sports card collection ...
  - A. I have not done this lately
  - B. But in North Port it is a possibility ...
  - 3. My house, our houses, places for hospitality ...
  - 4. Food / Cooking ... some of you are amazing cooks ... for me I need to be careful with FOOD! For me sometimes it is ....



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, Acts 2:46 A

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4 (NKJV)

- 5. A merry heart –
- <sup>22</sup> A merry heart does good, *like* medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones. Proverbs 17:22 (NKJV)
  - A. Medicine is taken in small doses ...
  - B. Now, some drugs are recreational ...
  - C. Don't be drunk with wine, but we are allowed wine ...
  - D. Entertainment (a merry heart) can be like a medicine, be careful not to over-dose ...

    Compare -
    - I will extol You, my God, O King; And I will bless Your name forever and ever. <sup>2</sup> Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever. Psalm 145:1–2 (NKJV) Praise can be daily ...

To Stephen King's dead, murdered, ghostly girls --- "Hello Danny, come <u>play</u> with us, forever, and ever, and ever ...."

Be careful entertainment, play, can steal time for praise and prayer from your life and pull you to Hell!

- 6. Game nights ...
- 7. A bounce house, but not on Sunday ... a child's birthday party? 🥰
- 8. Online communication ...
- 9. Ed Gross donut shop praying ... restaurants ...
- 10. Movies both those that teach according to Scripture and some that can be used that way ...

Dr. James Montgomery Boice; was an excellent Bible teacher and yet he did not have a Sunday Evening service ... he used Sunday Evening to take people out to movies, he would use those movies as doorways for sharing the Gospel....

Many things can be outreach ... but our heart must be the Word, prayer, the Lord's Supper, spiritual fellowship ...

Arnold A. Brevick