

# COLLINSVILLE-TROY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1400 Troy Road, Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Focus on God's Word Find the Truth Follow the Lord



Sunday Worship Assembly 9:30 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes (All Ages) 11:00 AM  
Wednesday Adult Bible Class 1:30 PM  
Wednesday Bible Classes (All Ages) 7:00 PM



## The Correspondent

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### New Heart, New Spirit

Jason Wright

In Ezekiel 18, the Jews are repeating a popular proverb of the day (vs. 2) voicing their complaint that God was unfairly punishing them for the sins of their fathers. God responds by banning Israel from using this proverb and then reminds them of what is fair and just.

Because God has authority over all souls, the sins of the fathers and the sons would not go unpunished. *The soul who sins shall die* (vs. 4). In other words, God **IS** fair and would not hold the innocent accountable for the guilty. As parents, would we punish our children for what their brothers and sisters did? As grandparents, would we punish our grandchildren for what their parents did? Certainly not! In verses 5-9, we see a description of a just man. *If he has walked in My statutes and kept My judgements faithfully, he is just. He shall surely live! Says the Lord God.* In verses 10-13, we see the actions of a wicked son. Should the father pay for the sins of the son? Certainly not. The opposite is described in verses 14-18. Although a son is a witness to the sins of his father, he is not guilty of his father's iniquity (vs. 17).

In verses 19-32, God continues this teaching. *The son does not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.*

Also, the one who has been wicked, yet repents or turns from wickedness, he shall surely live. If a righteous man turns to wickedness and dies in it, then he shall surely die (vs. 26).

God tells His people in Ezekiel 18:31, *Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?* Fascinating statement, what does it mean?

God is going to judge everyone according to their own ways. Repentance ensures that our transgressions will not be our ruin (vs. 30) When we truly repent, our heart and spirit become renewed; we are clean.

Some teach that we are born into sin; that we take on the sins of our father. You might recall in John 9, Jesus heals a blind man from birth. What was assumed about this man and what was reality? Notice verses 2-3, *Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents? Jesus answered, neither this man or his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.*

Often times in this life, when something bad happens it is a direct result of sinful behavior, but not always. Sometimes bad things happen for reasons other than sin. God is not looking to strike us down or take our life because we sin. He will not hold us accountable for the sins of others. Instead, He wants us all to be saved (I Tim. 2:4). *Continues on page 2*

Lads to Leaders

Convention

Faith Works

April 2 to 5, 2026

Louisville, KY

Gospel Meeting

Rejoice Always

April 10 to 12, 2026

With Jeff Phillips

**I AM THE LIGHT**

**John 8:12**

- Truth vs. Error- Psalm 119:105, John 1:14,17, 17:17, 2 Corinthians 11:14
- Knowledge vs. Ignorance- Ephesians 1:16-18, Hebrews 6:4-5, 2 Corinthians 4:6
- Sight vs. Blindness- 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, Matthew 15:14, John 9:39
- Purity vs. Corruption- John 3:19-21, Romans 13:12-14, 1 Thessalonians 5:7-8
- Life vs. Death- John 1:4, Ephesians 4:18

**New Heart, New Spirit** *continues*

The Jews needed to realize that God was just and that the ones who needed to be punished would be. We need to realize that as Christians we can continuously have our sins washed away by the blood of Christ if we repent (I John 1:9). Thank you, Lord!

**Worship Service**

**Announcements**

Song: 680 There's Not a Friend

Song: 684 This World Is Not My Home

**Prayer**

Song: 343 Ivory Palaces (Vs.1, 2, 4)

**Lord's Supper and Contribution**

Song: 220 He Lives

**Scripture Reading:** John 3:16-21

**Sermon**

Song: 822 Heaven Came Down

Song: 870 I'm Happy Today (Vs. 1)

**Prayer**

**John 3:16-21**

E R H L L L L C L S E D N E A B N N  
 N R C M T B D E N V T L A H E V L D  
 O L E G I S D E E D O G L E R C D A  
 I D O L O R A M P E R I S H D G B S  
 S E E E V I L N M E D N O C V V V B  
 O L E N S B E G O T T E N C N O E L  
 A L N N N E O T A N E D A L L I E E  
 E E M S S E N K R A D R L O E L L L  
 R H R L S G N I T S A L R E V E A I  
 S E E O E N K I A E D E E A E A S G  
 D E S O P X E T E O B E A E L I N H  
 O A O L B F D A E D E R D A O A P T  
 K O L L E G S P G D R A Y O E P W I  
 E W O R L D L E O L D X A V G O D G  
 N I V N I E E L G P E R O L S E D D  
 D M E N E N L R A N D D D D Y E G N  
 C D D V V G N L V O C E B O O A E Y  
 N E P O E F I L E R S O E E R I R O  
 A D C O S E G O D L Y Y S N R E V L  
 E G N V A N C L E A R L Y O A D D E

GOD  
 LOVED  
 WORLD  
 GAVE  
 BEGOTTEN  
 SON  
 BELIEVES  
 PERISH  
 EVERLASTING  
 LIFE  
 CONDEMN  
 ALREADY  
 LIGHT  
 MEN  
 DEEDS  
 DARKNESS  
 EVIL  
 EXPOSED  
 CLEARLY

**John 3:16-21 (NKJV)**

- <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.
- <sup>17</sup> For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.
- <sup>18</sup> "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.
- <sup>19</sup> And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.
- <sup>20</sup> For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.
- <sup>21</sup> But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God."

**Why Worship?**

*But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. John 4:23*