

THE BULLETIN—VOL 46, NUMBER 12, March 22, 2020

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ethan Allen

PM: Harvey Allen

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

DO YOU WALK FUNNY?

**"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:
Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught,
abounding therein with thanksgiving." - Colossians 2:6,7**

GOD WON'T BE LAUGHING!

**"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18
(but make sure it's the RIGHT thing!)**

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
COME SEE!**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

Any Time On Request
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time man wanted

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CHURCH OF CHRIST

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"every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master." Luke 6:40b

WHEN DOES GOD MEAN WHAT HE SAYS?

From what we are hearing in some circles, the answer would be: "Whenever the subject of grace enters the picture."

You probably thought that you have to be baptized in order to be saved, since that is what the Son of God said, along with the inspired writers who wrote the Bible (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21). But now we are being told that to teach the essentiality of baptism for salvation is to be legalistic even though the Bible teaches it.

You also probably thought that repentance is necessary for salvation, since that is what Christ taught (Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 17:30-31). But supposedly only self-righteous people now teach that, because grace covers all our mistakes.

Perhaps you also thought that faith is absolutely demanded of mankind in order to be saved (John 8:24; Heb. 11:6), but even faith is a work (John 6:29), and that would bring us back to the legalistic charge being hurled once again! However, since the works that God demands of us are not the meritorious works of men, then we are still obligated to work the works of God.

No, we cannot earn our salvation, but doing what God says is not earning salvation. It is loving the Lord (John 14:16; Luke 6:46). Since Paul taught that we are not to "continue in sin, that grace may abound?" (Rom. 6:1-2), we better just keep on trying to obey God, truly relying upon the grace of God, instead of accepting man's perverted version of a cheap grace that makes no demands (Titus 2:11-12). Cheap grace ultimately leads to universalism!

- **Wayne Price**, Gospel preacher, Radford Virginia

"If ye love me, keep my commandments" - John 14:15

**"And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not:
for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.**

**He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him:
the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." - John 12:47,48**

"it is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Merrie Chrismus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.*

- **Pat** is still not getting any relief from being dizzy.
- **Barbara Reeder** has family visiting and needs some help with food. She and Melvin also need a ride to our assembly Sunday AM. See **Connie** or **Martha** if you can help.
- Give thanks to God for His mercy, and pray for all these, and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia that we will grow in love for Him and each other.

"He that loveth his life shall lose it;

and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal."- John 12:25

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Pray** for our preacher search, that a sound, zealous man be found.
- **Prayers** are being heard, a good, mature man has expressed interest, pray for this.

“If God be for us, who can be against us?” - Romans 8:31

"But it is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

Temporarily, in conformance with the White House guidelines, the 10 AM Sunday Bible Study, 6 PM Sunday Assembly and the 7 PM Wed. Bible Study are suspended. This will be reevaluated every 2 weeks during the emergency.

Lord willing, the 11 AM Sunday Assembly **WILL** meet as usual, but members are asked to space out in seating and leave an empty row in front of you for serving the Lord's supper. Members are encouraged **not to shake hands or hug**, instead smile and wave or bump elbows. Check the church website for the latest information. Pray the Lord will be merciful.

HOW DO WE LOVE?

**"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue;
but in deed and in truth." - 1 John 3:18**

God has told us He wants us to **do**, not just **say**. Remember the parable of the 2 sons? (Matthew 21:28) One said he would—but didn't. The other son said he wouldn't—but he did. Which was better? The latter son who **did** his father's will. Let's be wise and not kid ourselves. Sitting in the chicken coop, calling yourself a chicken and going *cluck cluck* occasionally won't make you a chicken. Neither will sitting in a church building, calling yourself a Christian and occasionally going through some acts of worship make you one either. Let's not **say**, let's **do!** It's the, "I'd rather **see** a sermon than **hear** one" idea. Study God's word diligently and **do** what He says out of love for Him. Tell others, make a date for them to visit, then be sure to greet them when they arrive!

Justification By Faith Includes Baptism

"By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were swallowed up" (Heb. 11:29 ASV). The Israelites crossed the Red Sea "by faith," but they were not on the other side the moment they believed. They spent a night of anxious toil and great fear before they could sing the song of deliverance on the other side. Here the phrase "by faith" spans the Red Sea, and includes every step they took in crossing.

By some it is thought that because Paul says we are "justified by faith" (Rom. 5:1) that baptism is excluded. But the phrase "by faith," instead of excluding the acts of faith, which, in reality, make faith perfect, actually includes obedience. And it can be plainly shown that "by faith" in this case includes baptism. Paul says, **"For I would not, brethren, have you ignorant, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea" (1 Corinthians 10:1-2 ASV).**

They crossed the Red Sea "by faith," and in crossing they were baptized. "By faith" includes what was done in crossing. But in crossing they were baptized. Therefore, "by faith," in this example includes baptism.

- C. R. Nichol, 1876-1961, Gospel Preacher

A Matter Of Bible Authority

My objection to mechanical instruments in worship is not out of bitterness toward them; not because I think there is harm in the instrument, per se, but the objection is simply this: I have adopted the principle and pledged myself to the platform of not going beyond that which the Bible authorizes.

My digressive brother asks me, "Where does the Bible prohibit it?" I answer, "Where does the Bible authorize it?" Christians walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7). No man can use mechanical instruments and walk by faith.

By searching the scriptures you will find that God does not authorize it, does not command it, does not demand it, and that there is no example in all apostolic history for such a practice. The man who is faithful and loyal to God's word will not go beyond it.

**"Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ,
hath not God" - 2 John 9 ASV**

- N. B. Hardeman, 1874-1965, Gospel Preacher

“For we walk by faith, not by sight:” - 2 Corinthians 5:7