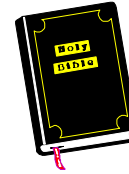


# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

## Jesus' Resurrection and the Life of a Christian

Is the fact that Jesus rose from the grave about 2,000 years ago really all that important to a Christian's faith? What if Jesus had never risen from the tomb in which He was buried? What if He were in the grave today? Could we still be Christians if Jesus had never arisen?

Consider what the apostle Paul told the Christians at Corinth about the resurrection of Christ. In a passage where he was writing about the reality of the resurrection of the dead at the end of time, he also mentioned Christ's resurrection, saying, “If Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty” (1 Corinthians 15:14). Then, three verses later, he made a similar statement, saying, “If Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins” (15:17). In other words, without Jesus' resurrection, no one would have any hope of going to heaven. The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of our faith (cf. Romans 1:4).

The early church multiplied quickly in just a few short years. They grew by “leaps and bounds.” People were obeying the Gospel by the thousands, and one central message laid at the heart of their decision—the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). Had Jesus never been raised from the grave, the Gospel never could have been preached. The Gospel is not about a “lifeless lord,” but a “risen Redeemer.” Jesus resurrection' gives meaning to a Christian's faith.

1. Every Sunday when Christians partake of the Lord's Supper, we remember the Lord's death “until He comes” (1 Corinthians 11:26). If Jesus were not risen, however, we would have no hope of His coming again, and Paul's statement here regarding the Lord's Supper would be meaningless.
2. Every time Christians pray “in Jesus name,” we are relying on a risen Savior—Jesus—to mediate on our behalf (1 Timothy 2:5; cf. John 14:6; 1 John 2:1). But, if Jesus were not risen, our prayers would not be heard, and our petitions to have our sins forgiven could not be granted.
3. The only reason that preaching and baptizing (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16) are of any importance at all is because **Jesus is not dead**, but alive. When a person is baptized “for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38), he is raised from a world of sin, “just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father” (Romans 6:4).

Christians always need to keep in mind how important Jesus' resurrection is to our faith. We must not let the fact that Jesus' resurrection occurred nearly 2,000 years ago lessen the importance of His victory over death.

- by Eric Lyons, M.Min.

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## VOLUME 35, NUMBER 29 July 26, 2009

### RECORDS 7/19/2009

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 32  
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 65  
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 40  
Weds 7 PM Bible Study:  
CONTRIBUTION: \$1563

### SERMONS 7/26/2009

AM: Jerry Manning  
**DEALING WITH DISCOURAGEMENT NEH:4**  
PM: Jerry Manning  
**FACING OBSTACLES IN LIFE**

**"BE NOT OVERCOME OF EVIL,  
BUT OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD" - ROMANS 12:21**

*A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!*  
[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org)

The Bulletin  
USPS-994-500  
Periodicals Postage Paid  
West Columbia, SC  
Published Weekly By:

West Columbia Church of Christ  
1701 Augusta Road  
West Columbia SC 29169

### *SERVICES*

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

**LADIES CLASS**  
2nd Tuesday of month 7-9 PM

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## **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Lamar Reeves, Beryl Parks, Nina Ruth Meadows** (Marcella Klieves' mother), **Jack and Elma Berrier, Lynn Drago** (Jerry's sister) and **Phyllis Johnson**.
- Prayers are requested for the Lowe's grand-daughter, **Sabel Patten**, 10 who had surgery for a brain tumor.
- **Don Fields** is having double vision and is to see a specialist.
- Keep the **Manning family** in your prayers as their son Joshua's wedding has been canceled.
- **Carolyn Lee** will be going to the beach with her daughter Heather and her family.
- **Anna Porter** requests prayers for a gospel preacher Cletus in W. Virginia who is in very serious condition health wise and his wife Betty is ailing also.
- **Ann and Kelly Kennedy** are traveling to London, keep them in your prayers.
- **Ron Banks** is doing well after back surgery, as is **Jean Boyd**.
- **Elgene Sanders** brother is home after surgery last week.
- Keep **Mike Alverson**, the **Klieves'** son-in-law in your prayers as he recovers from an infection after having a heart attack several weeks ago.
- Also, keep **Janet Boyd's great nephews** in your prayers as they are in a stressful family situation.
- We're thankful God answered our prayers and brought **Evan and Lynn Manning** home safely from a trip to Orlando where Evan participated in a national karate tournament and took **Gold and Silver medals!**
- Our thanks to all who made our **VBS** such a memorable success!
- Prayers for **Lynn Drago** are especially coveted as she is in final stages of cancer.
- **Brother Manning** has many Bible studies during the week, remember these, those that are recovering from loss, in your prayers.

**"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." - Philippians 4:6**

## **“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42**

- **GOSPEL MEETING! North Columbia starting Sunday 8/9 with brother Don Walker from Texas, a gifted and sound Gospel preacher. Plan to attend!**
- We need some volunteers to **clean the building in August**.
- **Pantry items** are needed, things with pop-top lids are good.
- **Contributions** to our youth activities fund are needed.
- **No Ladies class** in June and July as people are traveling.
- **Transportation** needed for sisters **Betty Mathis, Jean Boyd and Marilyn Brooks**.
- **ON HOLD! WORSHIP SERVICE** training for the men, Wed 6 pm, till after VBS.
- **Check the bulletin boards**, there are many announcements posted there.

**"I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHICH STRENGTHENETH ME" - PHILIPPIANS 4:13**

## **The One Body**

**"There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Tim. 2:5-6).** Christ is the *only* mediator between God and men, and we cannot be saved except through him. Those who reject Christ will be left out.

Not only is there one God and one mediator between God and men, but there is one body (**Eph. 4:4**). **"But now are they many members, yet but one body." (1 Cor. 12:20).** That one body is the church (**Eph. 1:22-23**). Christ is the head of the church, as the man is the head of his wife. **"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body." (Eph. 5:23).** That church is the one body, which is made up of Christians.

There are not two bodies — a kingdom and a church — for the church is the kingdom of Christ. This harmonizes with the statement that there is one body. Then there is *"but one body"*, whether it be called "church" or "kingdom." Christ is the head of the church, or He is the King of the kingdom.

- E.M. Borden, Gospel preacher, late 1800's— early 1900', in Texas

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## **The Same Way Now**

Since the church of Christ is still in existence, should I be considered out of order when I contend that people enter the church now just as the people in the first century? **"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41).**

Peter preached the word, the people heard, believed, and repented, and the preachers baptized those who demanded it, but Christ accepted their obedience and received them into the church. **"And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47).** Are people added to the same church in the same way now? The answer is, "Yes," for the Bible has not changed, and neither has Jesus Christ. Will you obey the Lord as they did on Pentecost and be added to His church by Him?

- E.M. Borden, Gospel preacher, late 1800's— early 1900', in Texas

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## **“... PEOPLE, ZEALOUS OF GOOD WORKS.” - Titus 2:14**

**WORK TEAM SCHEDULE: 7/26—A 8/3—B 8/10—C 7/19—D**

**Members, see Michael Stoyk for a Work Team assignment**

**Check your Work Team assignment—your participation is vital!**

**Let Your Light Shine in 2009!**