

THE GOSPEL THAT SAVES

The only gospel that saves is **the** gospel of Christ (cf. Rom. 15:19; 1 Cor. 9:12; 2 Cor. 10:14; Gal. 1:7). A manmade gospel will save no one and serves only the devil's purpose to deceive the souls of men. One who refuses to believe the truth will be allowed to believe a lie (2 Thess. 2:11-12). The apostle Paul sounded forth a warning that all would do well to heed today. To the Galatian brethren he said, "*I marvel that ye are so quickly removing from him that called you in the grace of Christ unto a different gospel; which is not another gospel only there are some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach unto you any gospel other than that which we preached unto you, let him be anathema*" (Gal. 1:6-9). The gospel of Christ is the "*power of God unto salvation*" (Rom. 1:16). Another gospel need not be proclaimed because another gospel cannot save!

The gospel of Christ must be heard (Rom. 10:14). One cannot obey what he does not know. God's truth can be known and obedience to such truth will free one of his sins (John 8:32). It is incumbent upon each individual to "*study to shew [himself] approved unto God...*" (2 Tim. 2:15, KJV). In the Day of Judgment, every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord (Phil. 2:11). It is on this Day that "*God shall judge the secrets of men*" according to **the gospel** of the Lord Jesus Christ (Rom. 2:16).

The gospel of Christ must also be believed. One can hear the Word of God and not believe it. On Pentecost people heard the gospel and asked, "*What shall*

we do" (Acts 2:37)? Peter answered, "*Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins...*" (Acts 2:38). Some still, however, declare that they do not believe that baptism is **necessary** for one to be saved. The Lord Himself said, "*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned*" (Mark 16:16). Ananias told Saul of Tarsus, "*And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name*" (Acts 22:16). How can one **claim** to believe the inspired Scriptures and then declare, "I just don't believe that baptism has anything to do with one's salvation?" If one refuses to believe the Word of God, he will certainly not be motivated to **act** upon the demands of the Word.

The gospel of Christ must be obeyed. It is an idle boast for one to claim to have Bible faith while refusing to act upon such faith. A faith that will not act is a **dead** faith. James get to the heart of the matter in saying, "*What doth it profit, my brethren, if a man say he hath faith, but have not works? can that faith save him? If a brother or sister be naked and in lack of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Go in peace, be ye warmed and filled; and yet ye give them not the things needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it have not works, is dead in itself. Yea, a man will say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: show me thy faith apart from thy works, and I by my works will show thee my faith. Thou believest that God is one; thou doest well: the demons also believe, and shudder. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith apart from works is barren? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, in that he offered up Isaac his son upon the altar? Thou seest that faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect; and the scripture*

was fulfilled which saith, And Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned unto him for righteousness; and he was called the friend of God. Ye see that by works a man is justified, and not only by faith. And in like manner was not also Rahab the harlot justified by works, in that she received the messengers, and sent them out another way? For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, even so faith apart from works is dead" (James 2:14-26).

It is ludicrous for one to claim to have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and then steadfastly refuse to comply with the demands of the gospel. Such is mere foolishness, but not even a distant cousin to Bible faith!

The gospel of Christ must be lived. Obeying the gospel is only the beginning. One must live the life of a Christian. John states that only "*if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanseth us from all sin*" (1 John 1:7). There are fourteen epistles that instruct the child of God in running the Christian race. It is to no avail for one to obey the gospel plan of salvation and then when the urge strikes live like the devil. One who is genuine, sincere, and obedient to God's Word will refuse to conform to the ways of the world. Instead, he will be transformed by renewing his mind and proving "*what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God*" (Rom. 12:2).

Make sure you have obeyed the gospel that saves!

Marvin L. Weir from Bonham Street Beacon

BIRTHDAYS

George Thomas, 05-04; Robin Brown, 05-06;
John Cody Carter, 05-08.

ILL

Sunday: Lynda and Melissa Cole; Millie Robertson.

Millie Robertson has been recovering from her surgery at home.

Those battling cancer: Ledgia Campbell, Vic Cuney; Betty James and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers.

HOME BOUND

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace Nursing Home in Olathe. Marion Stone is at home. Barbara James' Aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at the Sweet Life of Rosehill in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

The Nelson's were visiting with relatives in Newton, KS last Sunday morning. The Nemechek's were visiting with relatives in Abilene, KS last Sunday. Tom Tucker and his daughter, Mary, have been visiting with relatives in New Jersey for the last three weeks.

MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING

Our monthly Men's Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 17 following our AM worship. All men of the congregation are encouraged to attend.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 38; Sunday PM, 34; Monday PM, 48; Tuesday PM, 31; Wednesday AM Bible Class, 11; Wednesday PM, 44; Thursday PM, 42.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

Romans 1:16

Those To Serve

May 3, 2009

BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Thrasher (2)

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Trent Thrasher
SONG LEADER.....Joel Nelson
OPENING PRAYERJohn Cody Carter
PRESIDE.....George Thomas
ASSIST.....John Dodson
ASSIST.....Dave Parish
CLOSING PRAYER.....Chris Edwards

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYERSteve Brown
CLOSING PRAYER.....Jared Nelson
LORD'S SUPPER.....George Thomas

WEDNESDAY 6th

SONG LEADER.....George Thomas
INVITATIONJeff Nemechek

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Bible Study 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher

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