

# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

## BELIEF DEMANDS OBEDIENCE

On Pentecost, those who accepted Peter's preaching were commanded to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus, the Christ, unto the remission of their sins, and about 3,000 rendered prompt obedience. And so in other cases in the book of Acts. In reports of these cases of conversion under the preaching of these inspired men there is not a hint that sinners were saved the moment they believed. "And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number that believed turned unto the Lord." (Acts 11:21). If they were saved the moment they believed, they were saved before they turned unto the Lord; but healing, or salvation, follows the turning to the Lord (Isa. 55:7; Matt. 13:15; Acts 28:27).

No arguments of the "faith-only" advocates can do away with the plain statements of our Lord and His inspired preachers on the necessity of obedience. The fact is that in their arguments they array Scripture against Scripture. Our Lord makes this plain statement: “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 7:21). To say, "Lord, Lord," shows some degree of faith; but it is a dead faith, for there is no obedience to God's will. Such faith profits nothing — puts no one into the kingdom of heaven.

The writer of Hebrews says of Jesus, the Christ, “Though he was a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became unto all them that obey him the author of eternal salvation.” (Heb. 5:8-9). No one can misunderstand that plain statement, nor twist its meaning into something that it does not say. Some are so set on evading its force that they seek to array some other passages against it, and that is not fair dealing with the word of God. If a man does not obey the Lord Jesus Christ, He is not the author of salvation to such a man.

- R. L. Whiteside, 1869-1951, Gospel Preacher

**Obeying God's commands is one way to ...  
Choose the Straight Gate in 2008**

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 12    March 23, 2008

RECORDS 3/16/2008

SERMONS 3/23/2008

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 54  
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 94  
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 71  
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 62  
CONTRIBUTION: \$2331

AM: Jerry Manning  
THE CROSS OF CHRIST, Part 1  
PM: Jerry Manning  
THE CROSS OF CHRIST, Part 2

**“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ:  
for it is the power of God unto salvation  
to every one that believeth;” - Romans 1:16**

*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:  
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

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

Tuesdays (except 1st) 10 AM

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

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Beryl Parks, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Nathaniel Manning (Jerry and Lynn's grandson), Lynn Drago (Jerry's sister) and Phyllis Johnson.
- Lamar Reeves continues to be in severe pain with what may be general bone deterioration. Pray for his relief.
- Ruth Boggs is having severe problems and pain with her knees.
- Phylis Johnson had surgery this week. Pray for a quick, full recovery.
- Ron and Margie Banks are in Florida visiting family for a week or so.
- Remember all these and Dianne and Tiffany Dillard as they recover from the loss of Paul, and Ron Banks and Eddie Sheppard as they all continue to fight illness, and brother Manning and those he studies the Bible with, in your prayers.

“Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.” Psalm 150:6

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

- The youth are meeting on a regular basis at the building, Mondays at 7 pm to work on murals for our upcoming VBS.
- Sister Ruth Raines needs folks to visit her at home on a regular basis.
- **WORK TEAM C—Meet at the Gamble's home, 7pm Sunday, 3/23/2008.**
- Ladies work on the visual aids every **Tuesday** 7:00 pm, at the building.
- **Gospel Meeting—Twin City church with Eddie Craft**
- **SAVE THE DATE!** Our Fall Gospel Meeting is scheduled Sun-Wed, Sep 14-17, 2008 with Billy Bland, well known Gospel preacher and instructor at MSOP.
- **SAVE THE DATE!** Ladies Day at West Columbia, Saturday April 12, 2008.

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."  
- Matthew 24:40

Giving of your means, and yourself, is God's will, and one way to ...

**Choose the Straight Gate in 2008**

### **NT BOOKS (27):**

Matthew	1 Corinthians	2 Thessalonians	1 Peter
Mark	2 Corinthians	1 Timothy	2 Peter
Luke	Galatians	2 Timothy	1 John
John	Ephesians	Titus	2 John
Acts	Philippians	Philemon	3 John
Romans	Colossians	Hebrews	Jude
	1 Thessalonians	James	Revelation

## **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**