

THE BULLETIN—VOL 46, NUMBER 19, May 3, 2020

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ethan Allen/Daryl Macon/Harvey Allen

PM: cancelled

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

"WANT MORE?"

**"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly;
and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."**

- 2 Corinthians 9:6

**"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

BULLETIN EDITOR

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WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

"Christ Sent Me Not To Baptize"

The above title is only part of a sentence taken from First Corinthians 1:17. The verse from which it was taken reads, **"For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect."**

In order to get this verse in its proper connection, the context should also be considered. Beginning with verse 12, the writer says, **"Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you, but Crispus and Gaius; lest any should say that I had baptized in mine own name. And I baptized also the house of Stephanus: besides, I know not whether I baptized any other. For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel."**

It should be noted that not one word was said about the design of baptism, or the position it occupies in the scheme of redemption. Many assume that since Christ sent Paul not to baptize, but to preach the gospel, baptism has no part in the salvation of man. Paul usually had a traveling companion with him. Timothy, who was with him much of the time, could have done the baptizing.

It took an inspired man then to preach the gospel. There was no New Testament written then, and the people were dependent upon inspired men to preach the gospel. But anyone with the physical ability, and sense enough to lead one into the water and bury him, could do the baptizing. I know one debater who has a chart with this quotation: **"Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel."** He seems to think that as baptism is not mentioned in that text as a condition of salvation, it is, therefore, not essential to salvation. He does not look to any other place to find anything on the subject of salvation. According to his thinking, it is not mentioned there and, therefore, is no part of salvation. Strange reasoning, it appears to me.

— **(Continued on page 3)**

"The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us" - 1 Peter 3:21

"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.*

Lord willing, the church doors will be open at 11 AM each Sunday for the worship assembly. This assembly is broadcast on Facebook and it is recorded for later viewing. Most members are participating remotely. All other meetings are canceled.

For help connecting through Facebook, please call **Connie Richbourg 413-8533**.

"And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them " - Acts 20:7

The Bulletin is sent to an email list and posted each week on the church website. We're also **mailing** the bulletin each week to those without computer access. When you contact other members, see if they're getting the bulletin, and if not, let **Ed** know.

We want to share news on members in this bulletin — How they're doing and any needs they might need. Members are calling each other, which is a good thing we all should be doing! Some members don't have family they can count on for help.

Here are some who are **NOT** connected electronically and need to be checked on by phone regularly. Call them, see how they're doing and then let **Paula** know so it can get in this bulletin:

- **Trevia Parks** 673-8411, 129 Duchess Trail, Lexington 29073
- **Judy Cornelius** 606-6401, 2402 Breeze Rd, Cayce 29033
- **Pat Joyner** 807-9332, 5 Chicorana Rd, W Cola 29169
- **Margaret Herring** 926-1786, 1146 Pinecroft Dr, W Cola, 29169
- **Barbara Reeder** 834-4265, 216 Burlie Ct, Apt K, W Cola 29169

- **Trevia** is doing well and they (**Jason, Sarah and Trevia**) are worshiping at her house.
- **Amy Carlton** called Trevia and said they are doing fine, the baby is due June 27th.
- **Ernie Richards** has contracted the coronavirus, please keep him and the family in your prayers.

IMPORTANT! If you have news on members, even just to say you've contacted them and they're ok, please share it with **Paula Kennedy** by call or text to 260-2000 or by email to **KennedyPaulaM@Gmail.com**. She will summarize it on Thursdays to be included in the next bulletin.

This will greatly help maintain our fellowship during this troubled time!

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him." - Psalm 27:1

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

"Christ Sent Me Not To Baptize" — (Continued from page 1)

Jesus, the Lord, spoke to Paul on the road to Damascus and said, **"But rise and stand upon thy feet: for I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom I now send thee, to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me" (Acts 26:16-18).**

The Lord did call Paul to preach the gospel, but in preaching the gospel, which is the good news of salvation, he preached what man should do to be saved, for this salvation was conditional. Peter also — on the first Pentecost after the ascension of Christ — preached the gospel, and when the people were convicted of sin the record says, **"Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call" (Acts 2:37-39).**

The Gentile world was embraced in this call, but only those who accept the conditions are embraced in the promise. But some may say that Peter did not mention faith. No, but he did mention that which is equivalent to faith. In verse 36, he said, **"Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ."** They could have known this only by faith, by believing it with all their hearts. Peter, therefore, preached faith, repentance, and baptism for the remission of sins. These are what an alien sinner should do in order to be saved from past sins.

In Romans 6, beginning with verse 3, the apostle said, **"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?"** Of course, this means into the benefits of His death. Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sins (Heb. 9:22). It is only through the blood of Christ that sins can be forgiven. The death of Christ is, therefore, the procuring cause of salvation.

But when and how can sinners reach the benefits of His blood? The apostle continues, **"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."**

Notice that the new life begins at the resurrection from the grave of a burial in baptism. Christ died for our sins. Man should die to sin. Christ was raised from the grave. We too are raised from the grave of baptism. Why will men attempt to destroy the picture of salvation from sin to save a thing that is not taught in the New Testament?

- **F. B. Srygley**, 1859-1940, Gospel Preacher