

August 25, 2019

CHURCH *of* CHRIST



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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....7 p.m.

Minister, John Keith
(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We of the Cambridge church of Christ
invite you to all our services.

"...the churches of Christ salute you" (Romans 16:16).

UNITY: COMMON SALVATION, A

Jude 3-4

INTRODUCTION:

1. Jude was the brother of James, and ½ brother of our Lord; did not initially believe Jesus was the Christ (Jn. 7:5), after the resurrection, he did believe, being convinced by the power of the resurrection (Phlp. 3:10).
2. His initial intent for this letter: to extol the blessing of the common salvation. But was directed by the Holy Spirit to write warning of false teachers and to encourage the saints to “contend earnestly for the faith” (3).
3. What would Jude have written had he been at liberty to write re: his original theme of “the common salvation”?

I. A COMMON FAITH.

- A. A Common Faith in Different Communities: Paul addressed one of his letters, “To Titus, a true son in *our common* faith” (1:4).
- B. A Common Faith in Different Circumstances.
- C. There will be cultural or community differences about incidental matters, but the doctrine should be the same (1 Cor. 1:10).

II. A COMMON NEED.

- A. A Common Need for Salvation (Rom. 3:10, 23).
- B. A Common Mission for Salvation (Mk. 16:15).
 1. Jesus commanded and lived this universal mission (Jn. 4:21-24).
 2. Jesus also dealt with a Syro-Phoenician (Mk. 14:24-30).

III. A COMMON PLAN OF SALVATION.

- A. A Common Need to Hear (Mt. 7:24).
- B. A Common Need for Faith (Jn. 1:12).
- C. A Common Need for Repentance: (Acts 17:30).
- D. A Common Need for Confession: (Mt. 10:32).
- E. A Common Need for Baptism (Gal. 3:27; cf. Mk. 16:15-16).

IV. A COMMON HOPE.

- A. There will be no compartmentalization according to gender, race, social standing, profession.
- B. All the saved will be there because through Christ.
- C. We will then enjoy the eternal fruit of our common, precious faith (cf. 2 Pet. 1:1).

CONCLUSION:

1. The Christians of the early church had all things in common (Acts 2:44; 4:32).
2. They were commanded to weep and rejoice together (Rom. 12:15).
3. They had a common doctrine, needs, plan of salvation, hope because they answered a common invitation: (Mt. 11:28).

A MORE ABUNDANT LIFE

“How grotesque and unreal are the ideas of those who think the Christian leads a life of boring inhibition, sitting out his years in the chilly twilight of monastic gloom, forbidden to do anything that everyone else wants to do, and always cowering in fear before an angry God! On the contrary, the Christian life is the happy life, free, abundant, and overflowing, adventurous and exciting beyond any other kind of existence. Why cannot men believe their Creator, to the effect that the way of Christ is the way of joy and fulfillment?” (James Burton Coffman)?

I found the above quote a week or so ago while studying for one of our lessons and it struck me how the author had so precisely capsulated the mind of the un-churched with regard to Christianity, or what he probably calls, “Christianism”. I’ve heard similar views expressed by unreligious people who think God is some vindictive being who is unfair and unloving, and only wishes to stifle our fun. At this point they attempt to argue that God does not exist and that the evil in the world proves it. It strikes me odd that God, in whom they do not believe, has the ability to anger them.

More to the point, the Christian life is not simply the best life, it is the only life that guarantees eternal life—an eternity of joy and gladness, peace and serenity, love and happiness. Jesus expressed it this way: *“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may **have life**, and that they may have it **more abundantly**”* (John 10:10 emp. added).

The abundant living with the idea of preserving, was in contrast to the killing and destroying. This idea is common to man—that of preserving—and we spend billions of dollars annually to preserve health, the oceans, trees, animals. Some contend that no expense should be spared for the saving of the planet, and yet, these are the same folks who think a life of righteous submission to Christ is far too high a price to pay for their redemption and eternal life. Is it not ironic that our planet, which will someday be burned (*continued on back*)

We encourage our visitors to fill out one of the blue cards and place it in the collection plate.

<i>IN OUR PRAYERS:</i> Cheryl Cowgill, Jerry & Erma Endly, Cathy Jackson, Gary & Debbie Jones, Hazel Leap, Kathy Mayo, and Flavil Miller	<i>SHUT-INS:</i> Audrey Burns, Jack Mitchell, Shirley Patterson and Marge Rothwell
FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Nellie Bichard, Alec Blake (grandson of Wilma Roe), Weston Boulet, (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Larry Chips (friend of the Starrett's, Kenneth Crookshank (son of Dannelle Gilmore), Dan Doudna (Wilma Roe's relative), Bob & Patty Eddy, Tom Eddy (Betsy Cook's brother), Carmie Green (Flavil Miller's sister), Doris Hall, Herb Hamilton (friend of the Starrett's), Bob & Donna Henthorn (Laura Jamiel's parents), Collene Keister, (Mo Smith's sister), Les McCollum (friend of Deb McGath), Erica Rich, Shirley Roe, Mona Stoffer (Flavil Miller's daughter), Mitch Vick, Bob & Marge Watson, Kedra Wyatt and remember to pray for one another .	

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ✓ ~~WORDWATCHER~~ will meet tomorrow.
- ✓ If anyone would like to take a turn creating a bulletin board for the entry, please sign up on the board in the foyer.
- ✓ **Be sure to check the bulletin board for upcoming area events.**
- ✓ We still need a teacher to take over **Brendyn Herald's** class.

TODAY'S LESSONS

AM: A Common Salvation (Jude 3-4).

PM: Christians Abstain and Attain (1 Pet. 2:11-12).

<i>Bible Class</i>	<i>Sun. AM</i>	<i>Sun. PM</i>	<i>Collection</i>	<i>Wed.</i>
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(continued) up completely (cf. 2 Pet. 3:10), garners so much attention to the exclusion of man's own soul which shall exist perpetually? "It is not the Christian doctrine of Heaven that is the myth, but the humanist dream of utopia" (Roy Clements). Christ offers abundant life, receive it while you may—*JK*.