

December 29, 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).

SOLDIERS OF CHRIST, ARISE

2 Tim. 2:1-4

INTRODUCTION:

1. “The Roman Army was a citizen militia. Service was compulsory for all citizens who held property”
2. There was a sort of romanticism associated with war, and so, it is no wonder that warfare terminology entered into the spreading of the Gospel
3. Every Christian is a soldier of Christ and we are urged strongly to fight the enemy-Satan.
4. Notice please, the military attitude of Paul in our present text.

I. IT IS OUR DESIRE TO ENLIST (4b).

- A. No Draft; All Volunteers
 1. Jesus and Matthew (Mt. 9:9).
 2. Jesus, the Apostles and the world (Mk. 16:15-16).
 3. Paul to the Romans (Rom. 10:13; cf. Joel 2:32). See; Acts 22:16 for clear understanding.
 4. “Whoever desires (Rev. 22:17).
 5. Army recruiter may talk to a candidate but cannot force him, and neither may one enlist w/o going through a recruiter; Christ is The Way (Jn. 14:6).
 6. Christ wants everybody to enlist and upon our agreement with Him—our “obedience to the faith” (Rom. 1:5), He adds us to His troops—His church (cf. Acts 2:47).
- B. No Selfishness; It’s All for Christ. (Rom. 15:2; Gal. 1:10)

II. IT IS OUR DESTINY TO BE ATTACKED (3).

- A. Must “Endure Hardships”: share in suffering because of association (cf. 1:8; Mt. 10:22; Jas. 1:12; 5:11; 1 Pet. 2:19).
- B. We Are Not Alone; not left alone to defend ourselves.
 1. They hated our Lord; they will hate us too (Jn. 15:18).
 2. Jesus’ disciples rejoiced when they could suffer for the Lord’s cause (Acts 5:41).
 3. As heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if we suffer with Him, we can rejoice with Him (Rom. 8:17).

III. IT IS OUR DUTY TO FIGHT (4a).

- A. No Moonlighting (Phlp. 1:21).
- B. We have a Captain to Serve; the Captain of our salvation (Heb. 2:10).
- C. We have an enemy to overcome (1 Tim. 1:8).
- D. We have a battle to fight (Eph. 6:10-20)

CONCLUSION:

1. Every person on earth *can* be victorious.
2. We must enlist in the army of the Lord and be soldiers of the cross, knowing that doing so, we could be exposed to harm, persecution, ridicule and other types of attacks.
3. Yet, it is our solemn duty to fight for what is right according to the word and law of Almighty God; waging the good warfare for the cause of Christ as did our brother, Paul the apostle (1 Tim. 6:12; Tim. 4:7-8).

“HERMAN WHO?” (4)

As we continue our surface study of the science of interpreting Scripture (Biblical hermeneutics), remember last week we looked briefly at context: who is writing? Who is reading? Another aspect that must be considered and, sadly, is overlooked almost perpetually, is, *how did the original recipients understand the message?* Are there any clues to point us to a proper understanding of a particular passage?

Among the clearest examples is found in the second chapter of The Acts of the Apostles. Peter convinced those Jews that day that they were guilty of the blood of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, and in response to Peter’s message, they asked Peter and the apostles what they should do (cf. Acts 2:37). Peter responded by saying, “Repent, and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (38).

Did Peter mean that in conjunction with repentance that they must literally be immersed in water? Or, was that some kind of figure of speech for something else, say, being overwhelmed with a feeling, or simply having some water sprinkled or poured upon them? Well, to find out how they understood Peter’s inspired directive, let us see what these men did.

Verse forty reveals that Peter spoke many other words, perhaps explaining the significance of what he had previously told them regarding baptism; perhaps he answered some questions they may have had—we just don’t know for sure. However, one thing we can know for sure is that when they understood Peter, they welcomed his words and thus, submitted to immersion in water (41).

Since you and I have this record of events from that day, we can easily ascertain the meaning of meaning of Peter’s command in Acts 2:38; he said that remission of sins is predicated upon repentance and baptism, and given that these men did just that, we draw the logical conclusion that to be added to the church, each accountable person must do the same thing today.—*JK*

IN OUR PRAYERS: Jerry & Erma Endly, Cathy Jackson, Kim Johnson, Gary & Debbie Jones, Kathy Mayo, Flavil Miller, and Russ Singleton.	SHUT-INS: Pat Behrendt, Audrey Burns, Jack Mitchell, Shirley Patterson and Marge Rothwell
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FAMILY AND FRIENDS: **Nellie Richard, Alec Blake** (grandson of Wilma Roe), **Weston Boulet**, (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **Larry Chips** (friend of the Starrett's, **Dan Doudna** (Wilma Roe's relative), **Bob & Patty Eddy, Tom Eddy** (Betsy Cook's brother), **Carmie Green** (Flavil Miller's sister), **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**.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Bruce Johnson** is suffering from gout.
- It's time to renew subscriptions to the *West Virginia Christian*; please see **Randy Cunningham**.
- **SCHEDULE CHANGE:** Mid-week Bible Study this week will be moved to Thursday (Jan. 2).

REMINDERS:

- ✓ ~~WORDWATCHER~~ will meet tomorrow.
- ✓ **Don't forget about our library**
- ✓ If there are any changes needed to the Family and Friends prayer list, please let John know- thank you.

TODAY'S LESSONS

AM: Soldiers of Christ, Arise (2 Tim. 2:1-4).

PM: Who Am I, Anyway (2 Cor. 13:5-6)?

<i>Bible Class</i>	<i>Sun. AM</i>	<i>Sun. PM</i>	<i>Collection</i>	<i>Wed.</i>
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