

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

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.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....6:00 p.m.

Minister, John Keith

(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We invite you to all of our services.

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

SIMON SAYS (III)

Acts 10:30-34

INTRODUCTION:

1. Early Life
 - A. Simon, original name; son of Jonas - brother of Andrew-disciple of John the Baptist, as Simon also may have been.
 - B. A fisherman from Bethsaida; later dwelt with his family at Capernaum.
2. Gospel history
 - A. 1st app. Jn. 1:35f, when Andrew, having discovered Jesus to be the Messiah, Simon," and "brought him unto Jesus".
 - B. Christ, beholding him, said, "Thou shalt be called Cephas (Aramaic) the Greek synonym is [Petros], or Peter, meaning "a rock" or "stone".
 - C. At this time also he received his first call to the discipleship of Jesus and later authored two epistles that bear his name.

I. "I PERCEIVE THAT GOD IS NO RESPECTER OF PERSONS" (Acts 10:34).

- A. Explanations
 1. "Of a truth..."- what is true in any matter under consideration
 2. "I perceive..." - to lay hold with the mind, understand
 3. "God is no respecter of persons". The idea is God does not pay regard to one's looks or status; rather, He looks on one's inherent, fundamental character.
- B. Applications
 1. Note, "all the world...every creature" (Mk. 16:15).
 2. Lk. 11:10; Rom. 10:12; Titus 2:11; Rev. 22:17; Acts 2:39).

II. NEITHER IS THERE SALVATION IN ANY OTHER (Acts 4:12).

- A. Universal Declaration: salvation only in Christ. (Jn. 6:36; cf. Jn. 14:6; 1 Cor. 8:6).
- B. Exclusive Declaration: (1 Cor. 3:11; Mt. 16:16 [THE Christ...Son...]).

III. REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED (Acts 2:38).

- A. These are the keys that Christ promised to Peter (Mt. 16:19), and to all the apostles (Mt. 18:18).
- B. Explanations
 1. "Repent": To *think differently or afterwards*, to change one's mind for better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins ^(Thayer). Mt. 21:28, 29; 1 Thes. 1:9).
 2. "And" coordinating conjunction; gives equal value and force to both commands.
 3. "Be baptized" fully immerse
- C. This is what Christ commanded in Mk. 16:16, Peter here carries out that command.

CONCLUSION:

1. Age, race, ethnicity, social status, financial position matters not to God—what matters is our faithfulness to God.
2. There are not *many* ways to God; Christ is it; you'll be saved by Christ, or you'll be lost eternally.
3. Be saved today; the way Christ has offered.

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

Stephen Pitcock

One of the greatest influences I have had in my life is my mom. I'm not sure if you were aware, but my mom has frequently been in and out of jail over the past several years. Not that she did anything to be thrown into jail, but rather she volunteers to go to the Detention Center in Elizabethtown and conduct bible studies with the women there. However, when she goes, she is only allowed to take her Bible in with her and they shut the door and lock it behind her. We've talked about it several times and there is only a couple of instances when she felt scared, when she felt like she was in danger.

Once she was having a Bible study and the topic was things we must do as Christians. **Ephesians 2:10** tells us, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." However, there was one woman there that was adamant that she did not have to do anything once she was "saved". It got to the point that the woman was furious, and my mom was scared, and she wasn't sure what to do or if the woman would harm her in some way. So, mom very calmly opened her Bible to Matthew 25 and gave it to the woman and asked her to read verses 31-46.

These verses reveal a judgment scene where the nations are gathered before God's throne and are separated as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats. Those to the right will inherit the kingdom prepared for them (meant for us) because they ministered to the least of these their brethren. Those to the left will depart into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels (not meant for us) because they did not minister to the least of these.

Upon reading the verses the woman broke down crying. She knew what she believed to be true wasn't. If you ask my mom, she'll tell you it was nothing she said that provoked this sudden and instant change in the woman, but rather it was the word of God.

Hebrews 4:12-13 tells us "For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."

Living – God's word is active, able to achieve its purpose, working in people's lives and it's as relevant today as it was 2000 years ago.

Powerful – God's word has the power to change our thoughts, change our lives and change our eternal destiny.

Pierces – God's word pierces our soul with truth, points out our sins and provides the cure.

Discernment – God's word can perceive and recognize our every thought and intention.

Isaiah 55:11 tells us "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

James 1:21 tells us, "Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls." That is, if we read and meditate in it, pray for understanding and if we are faithful and obedient to God's commandments therein. God's word is able to do instantly what man is unable to do.

Welcome! To our visitors! We are thankful for your presence. Please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection plates.

AM Bible Study: Philippians 2:7f
AM Sermon: Simon Says-3 (Acts 10:30-34).
PM Sermon: Hear the Law (Deuteronomy 4:1-8).
Wednesday Bible Study: Revelation 1:12f

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

➤ **Rick Lambert** continues to struggle with health problems. His birthday is September 17, and we would like to have a card shower for him.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ Please inform **John** of any changes to the prayer list, or directory.
- ❖ Remember to take advantage of our library.

AM Study	AM Worship	PM Worship	Wed.	Contribution (Budget)
30	59	35	37	\$1868 (\$2,420)

<p><u>IN OUR PRAYERS:</u> Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Bruce & Kim Johnson, Gary Jones, Tina Keith, Rick Lambert, Carol Mitchell, Linda Steele, Helena Tewksbury, Jean Whitley.</p>	<p><u>SHUT-INS:</u> Debbie Jones, Nancy Love, Randy Yost</p>
<p><u>FAMILY AND FRIENDS:</u> Debra Bates-Phillabaum, Weston Boulet (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Rachell Cook (Angela Herald’s friend), Tiffany Endly (Jerri Mackie’s niece), Bob Henthorn (Laura Jamiel’s dad), Trudy Kerby, Colleen Kiester (Mo Smith’s sister), Linda Potts (Joyce Starrett’s sister-in-law), Kellie Price (Richard Mayo’s cousin), Addy Reed, Rodney Reeves (Erica Cunningham’s father), John Rockhold, Wilma Roe, Bob & Marge Watson, Ukraine and remember to pray for one another.</p>	

STILL LIVING WITH GUILT?

More Christians than I would have imagined still suffer guilt over deeds done years ago, repented of, and prayed about many times. One told his preacher, who asked if he had repented, “Yes, I have, 1000 times”. His preacher responded, “You should have repented and confessed once and then thanked God 1000 times for his forgiveness”—Cecil May Jr.