

The Bulletin

Meeks St. Church of Christ

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August 11, 2024

“The Salvation Of The Corinthians”

By David A. Cox



“Moreover brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, and in which you stand, by which also you are saved...” (1 Corinthians 15:1-2).

By the inspiration of God, Paul wrote to the church at Corinth and spoke of the Corinthians being saved. By looking at the scriptures, one can see how the Corinthians were saved, and what we must do to be saved.

The Conversion of the Corinthians

When Paul first came to Corinth, what did he preach, and what was done to save the Corinthians? In Acts 18, when Paul first came to the city of Corinth he “testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ” (Acts 18:5). What this involved is answered by Paul in his letter to the church at Corinth.

1. It involved his preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified (1 Corinthians 2:2).
2. It included preaching to convict men that Jesus was the Christ “according to the scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).
3. It convicted men of their sins and caused them to repent and change from the former sinful life to a life the Lord requires (1 Corinthians 6:11).

Luke, in the historical account of Acts concerning the conversion of the Corinthians, wrote, “*Then Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed on the Lord with all his household. And many of the Corinthians, hearing, believed and were baptized*” (Acts 18:8). Notice three things involved on the part of the people of Corinth:

1. They heard the word that Paul preached, the gospel.
2. They believed that Paul was indeed preaching the truth of the gospel.
3. Based on their hearing and conviction of the truth that Paul had taught them, they were baptized in obedience to the preaching of the gospel to wash away their sins so that they would be cleansed from their sin, sanctified, and justified.

The Corinthians were saved as they heard the gospel preached, believed it, and obeyed the Lord. In doing so, they were cleansed, sanctified, and justified, and we can do the same too. God's plan is simple and open to all willing to receive it.

“Struggle”

By Terry Francis

The verb struggle is defined as “to proceed with difficulty or with great effort.” The noun struggle is defined as “an act of strong motivated striving.” That’s a good description of life—or at least my life. We spend our lives struggling with life.

I struggle with being a good person. I struggle with being a good husband, father, neighbor, friend, and Christian example. I don’t always say the right things. I don’t always do the right things. I don’t always do what I know I should or even what I say I will do. It’s not that I want to fall so short. I just do. And that causes more struggle. That sounds somewhat familiar though...

“For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?” (Romans 7:18-24).

“Jesus Increased in Favor with Men”

By Paul Earnhart

The Bible says very little about the early childhood of Jesus. It does inform us in Luke 2:52 that He increased in favor with man. This tells us that Jesus was the kind of child that adults admired. Every parent desires to have such a child.

How did Jesus grow in favor with good men. Certainly not by being a smart-alecky spoiled little brat. No adult likes to be around that kind of child. Rather, as we are told in the other parts of this verse, Jesus grew in wisdom, in stature and in favor with God. Good people admire that. In addition, they appreciate children who are respectful of adults, obedient to their parents, careful with property and considerate in their relations with other children. Growing in favor with God would require all of this, and what we see of Jesus in His teen years (and later) clearly indicates that this was the kind of child he was.

If you are a child, let me remind you that if you want to be like Jesus, this is the kind of boy or girl you must be. It is not time yet for you to be travelling over the country preaching as Jesus did. But it is time for you to be applying yourself to getting a good education, to developing a strong body and to being right with God. One way to determine whether you are succeeding in this is to watch how good adults feel about you. If they admire you and speak of you as a good child, then you must be doing as you should. If they dread being around you and clearly do not like you, then you probably need to make some changes in your behavior and attitude to be like Jesus.

If you are a parent, let me remind you that you are responsible for the development of your child. If your child is a terror to others, you need to be making some changes in your method of handling the child. As the child grows older, the problems will only increase. Perhaps you should begin with yourself. Disciplined children must have disciplined parents...it’s the only way..

~via *Growing In Godliness*; Louisville, Kentucky.

Memory Verse of the Week:

Ephesians 5:1 (NKJB)

“Therefore be imitators of God as dear children.”



Those Who Need Our Prayers & Encouragement:

Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Daniel Holloway, Debbie Keplinger, Robbie, Sheila, & Sherry Doles, Sandi Poole, Sandra Oliver, Chad Harris, Eli Johnson, Jamie Jones, Mary Ann Holley, LuAnne Parrish, Billy Grisham, Burt Ward, Wesley Trimble, Anita Harris, Fred Johnson, Bill Hall, Carla & George Hutto, Nathan Cox, Angela Warren (Lisa Busby's friend who has cancer), B.J. Graves, Danny Cottrell, and Chandler McCain (Cancer).

Karey Trimble passed away last Friday. Prayers for the Trimble Family
Visitation Funeral services Booneville Funeral Home today 2:00 PM to 4:00 Pm.
Funeral Service at 4:00 pm.

Those Who Serve:

Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:

Opening Prayer: Conner Whittemore
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #1: "Who Is The Holy Spirit?"

Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am:

Workbook: Jerry Kennemur
Hebrews
Author: Daniel H. King, Sr
Starting Page & Question: Page #57, Question #13

Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:

Announcements: Paul Busby
Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading: Paul Johnson
Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 5:11-14
Song Leader: Lee Busby
Lord's Supper: Fred Johnson
Assisting: — —
Preaching: Brian Meade
Sermon #2: "Mistakes Naaman Made Before He Was Healed"
Closing Prayer: Russell Briggs

Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.

August 14, 2024

Auditorium Bible Class: Paul Busby
Workbook: The Minor Prophets
Author: By Marc Gibson
Starting Page & Question: Page 49, Question #1
Invitation: Russell Briggs
Song Leader: Tim Harris Sr.
Closing Prayer: Danny Sheffield

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“Who Is The Holy Spirit?”

Lesson Text: **John 14:26.**

I. The Holy Spirit In The Scriptures.

– In The Old Testament:

- The O.T. mentions the Holy Spirit 88 times.
- 23 Books In The O.T. Refer To The Holy Spirit.
- The Phrase *“Holy Spirit”* Is Only Used Three Times: **Psalm 51:11; Isaiah 63:10-11.**
- The Phrase *“Spirit Of The Holy God”* (5 Times); *“The Spirit Of God”* (14 Times).

– In The New Testament:

- The Holy Spirit Is Mentioned 264 Times In The N.T.
- The Holy Spirit Is Mentioned 60 Times In The Gospels.
- The Book Of Acts Alone Mentions The Holy Spirit 57 Times.
- The Rest Of The Books Mention The Holy Spirit 132 Times.
- Only Three Books Do Not: Philemon, 2 John, And 3 John.

II. Misunderstandings & Misconceptions About The Holy Spirit.

– The Holy Spirit Is Simply A Force Or Power God Uses To Do His Will.

Watchtower: *“The holy spirit is the active force of God. It is not a person but is a powerful force that God causes to emanate from himself to accomplish his holy will.”*

(Reasoning from the Scriptures 1985, 81).

Mary Baker Eddy, founder of *“Christian Science,”* characterized the third person of the Trinity as *“Divine Science”* (*Science and Health With Key to the Scriptures.*).

Parley Pratt, one of Mormonism’s original *“apostles,”* once described the Holy Spirit as a force like *“magnetism”* or *“electricity.”* He further spoke of the Spirit as *“a divine fluid”* and *“impersonal energy”* (*Mormonism and the Godhead. The Spiritual Sword, July.*)

– The Holy Spirit Has No Personality Or Is Not A Person.

“As for the ‘Holy Spirit’, the so-called ‘third person of the trinity’, we have already seen that it is, not a person, but God’s active force.” (*The Truth That Leads To Eternal Life.*)

– The Holy Spirit Is Jesus In Another Form— “Jesus Only Doctrine.”

United Or Oneness Pentecostals: *“The beautiful message of Scripture is that our Creator became our Savior. The God against whom we sinned is the One who forgives us. God loved us so much that He came in flesh to save us. He gave of Himself; He did not send someone else. Moreover, our Creator-Savior is also the indwelling Spirit who is ever-present to help us.”* (UPCI Website, *An Appreciation Of God’s Identity.*)

It Comes From A Misunderstanding Of Certain Scriptures: **John 10:30; Colossians 2:9-10.**

III. The Personality Of The Holy Spirit.

- He Teaches/Reminds: **John 14:26.**
- He Guides & Glorifies: **John 16:12-15.**
- He Has Knowledge: **1 Corinthians 2:11.**
- He Bears Testimony: **John 15:26.**
- He Loves: **Romans 15:30.**
- He Can Be Lied To: **Acts 5:3-4.**
- He Speaks: **1 Timothy 4:1; Acts 8:29.**
- He Has A Mind: **Romans 8:27.**
- He Has A Will: **1 Corinthians 12:11.**
- He Can Be Jealous: **James 4:5.**
- He Can Be Grieved: **Ephesians 4:30.**

“Mistakes Naaman Made Before He Was Healed”

Lesson Text: **2 Kings 5:11-14.**

Mistake #1: He Went To The Wrong Person To Be Healed.

- **2 Kings 5:1-7**; Introduced To Naaman As A Man Who Needed To Be Healed.
- **2 Kings 5:8-10**; Elisha, The Right Person, Hears Of Naaman's Plea.

Mistake #2: He Attempted To Buy His His Healing.

- **2 Kings 5:5**; He Brought Money To Buy The Blessing.
- Naaman May Have Thought Elisha Was For Hire Like Other Men; **5:15-16**.
- Gehazi Thought Like Other Men: **2 Kings 5:20**; Also Like Simon In **Acts 8:18-20**.

Mistake #3: He Thought Too Much About How It Would Take Place.

- **2 Kings 5:10-11**; Already Thought About What The Prophet Should Do.... Pre-judged.
- **2 Kings 5:12**; He Thought About The Power Of The Water And Place Only....
- He Thought He Was Right To Be Angry.

Mistake #4: He Wasn't Going To Do What The Prophet Said.

- **2 Kings 5:13**; His Servants Had To Reason With Him.
- If He Hadn't Done What The Prophet Said To Do, He Would Have Died A Leper.
- He Almost Let His Thinking And His Anger Keep Him From Being Healed.
- Why Did God Require Dipping Seven Times In The River Of Jordan?
- Why Conditions On His Healing? **Joshua 6:2-5**; **Numbers 21:9**; **John 9:11**.

Lessons We Can Learn Today:

#1: We Need To Go To The Right Source For Spiritual Healing.

- Not To The Popular Religious Teachers Of Our Day.
- Not To The Creeds And Religious Manuals Of Men's Devising.
- But To God's Word, And Those Who Teach It Accurately!

#2: We Can't Trust In Money Or Riches To Save Us!

- Salvation Is A Free Gift- **Romans 6:23**. (Even Though It Has Conditions).
- We Can't Earn It Or Buy It! **1 Peter 1:18-19**; **Proverbs 11:4-6**.

#3: Don't Pre-judge How To Be Saved— But Honestly Investigate.

- Today, Many Are Like Naaman, They Already Know How To Be Saved:
 - By Sinner's Prayer, Mourner's Bench, Faith alone, Holy Ghost Experience....
 - **Acts 17:11**; **Mark 16:15-16**; **Acts 2:37-38**.

#4: Do What God's Word Says To Do Without Delay.

- **2 Corinthians 6:2**; **Acts 22:16**.