

# The Bulletin

## Meeks St. Church of Christ

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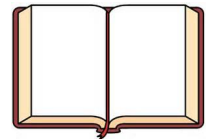
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January 28, 2018

## The Bible's Message to Man

By Brian Meade

Just what is the major theme of God's word, the Bible? What is the message that God is communicating to mankind through the scriptures? From Genesis to Revelation, there is a common theme that must not be overlooked. It is clear and simple in its message.



### I. A Savior is needed.

In the book of Genesis, we have the origin of man (Genesis chapters 1-2) and shortly after that the fall of man by sin (Genesis chapter 3). In Genesis 3:1-6, Eve was tempted by the serpent and her and Adam both partook of the tree of knowledge of good and evil (verse 6). Adam and Eve broke the commandment of God (Genesis 2:17) and ever since that day, man has been in need of a Savior. A Savior is needed because of the sin of the garden and it is in Genesis 3:15 that we have these words, *“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”*

This is the first prophecy of the coming Savior—the seed of the woman (Galatians 3:15). The Bible's message is that all of mankind has sinned (Romans 3:23) and that sin condemns (Romans 5:16), separates us from God (Isaiah 59:1-2), brings death (Genesis 2:17; Romans 6:23), and will be punished (Matthew 25:46; Revelation 21:8).

The major theme in the Bible is, that all are in need of a Savior. We cannot fix or ignore our sins by ourselves (Isaiah 1:18; Proverbs 28:13). We must trust in our much needed Savior— Jesus Christ (I Timothy 1:15).

### II. A Savior is coming.

*“Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.”* (I Peter 1:10-11)

The role of a prophet was to convey the oracles of God to mankind (Isa. 42:9). It was their job to tell men of God's plans and purposes, sometimes hundreds of years in advance of their fulfillment (II Chronicles 36:22). God wanted the whole earth to know that a Savior would come to save them from the bondage of iniquity. And this gave them hope, when hope was badly needed!



**Deuteronomy 18:18-19.** Moses spoke of one prophet, similar to himself, who would come from among the people of Israel to give words from God.

**Isaiah 9:6-7.** Isaiah prophesied of a child that would be born and the establishment of His kingdom on the throne of David.

**Micah 5:2.** Micah tells of His birth in Bethlehem, the city of David.

**Zechariah 6:12-13.** Zechariah proclaims that the coming one would build the temple and be priest and king upon His throne.

**Isaiah 53:1-12,** Isaiah sees the death of the Savior for the sins of the whole world.

### III. A Savior has come.

Looking back in time to the first century, we can read in the scriptures of the greatly anticipated arrival of the one who was foretold as a coming Savior. The Jewish people longed to see all the fulfillments of prophecy concerning this mysterious figure.

John the Baptizer announced the coming of Him in John 1:26-27, “John answered them, saying, “I baptize with water, but there stands One among you whom you do not know. <sup>27</sup>It is He who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose.”

“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29) After that day, John no longer spoke of their Savior as needing to arrive—but now they could presently see Jesus, the Messiah among them (Luke 4:16-21).

It would be revealed that God had sent His “*only begotten Son*” (John 3:16; I John 4:9) to be the one who would be our Savior. Only God’s Son could be the perfect sacrificial lamb to die on the cross for all the sins of the world (II Corinthians 5:21; I Peter 1:18-20).

Jesus would lay down His life and in so doing, become the Savior of us all (Matt. 20:28; Matt. 26:28; Acts 2:38-47). Let us ever be thankful for the coming of our Savior!



### V. A Savior is Coming Back.

After Jesus had died on the cross and arose again the third day, He was ready to go back to His Father in Heaven. The disciples were present at Mt. Olivet, as Jesus ascended up into the heavens out of their sight.

Luke records in the book of Acts the words of the two angels, as they said, “*Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.*” (Acts 1:11)

One of the greatest truths of the Bible is that Jesus is coming back. It is hardly a theme to be overlooked in the scriptures—as there are a myriad of scriptures that plainly teach this vital truth (Matt. 16:27; Matt. 25:31-46; Colossians 3:4; Titus 2:13; II Peter 3:10-14). And it is one of the most widely known Bible facts by the whole world.

When Jesus comes He will be coming back for some definite reasons:

- (1) Raise the Dead— John 5:28-29; I Thessalonians 4:16.
- (2) Judge the world— Acts 17:31; II Corinthians 5:10.
- (3) Punish the wicked— Matt. 25:46; II Thessalonians 1:7-9.
- (4) Reward the Righteous— II Tim. 4:8; Rev. 2:10.
- (5) Deliver the kingdom back to God— I Corinthians 15:23-27.
- (6) Destroy the earth— II Peter 3:10-11.



Our life is to serve and await the Savior— Who is coming back to redeem us from this earth. Note the words of Paul, as he says, “*Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.*” (Colossians 3:1-4)

The New Testament gives us all we need to prepare (2 Peter 1:3) and be ready for that day.... “*But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up. Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless.*” (2 Peter 3:10-14).

Let us put all our focus in saving others and ourselves, as the message of the Bible should not fall on deaf ears!

**News and Notes:**

Sick and recovering: Tim Harris Sr, Tim Harris Jr, Chad Harris, Betty Hurst, Steve Switcher, Gail Armstrong, Nicky Curtis, Janis Johnson, Cheryl Ridgeway, Elmo Wilson, Martha Little, Kimberly Mccullough, Martha Norvell (in Ripley Rehab)  
Charlene Newborn (had a fall). Sandi Poole (recovering from flu)  
Mackenzie Whittemore is recovering from surgery.

**Local Meetings:**

Southside Church of Christ is having a 3 day meeting with their new preacher, Brother Joseph Lachausse— February 15th, 16th, & 17th. 7:30 PM Nightly.

Our Gospel Meeting is coming up April 22-27, with Kevin Kay.

**Those Who Serve:**

**Sunday Morning 9:00 A.M. Service:**

**Opening Prayer:**

Russell Briggs

**Preaching:**

Brian Meade

**Sermon:**

*“Why The Gospel is Good News!”*

**Auditorium Bible Class: 9:35am**

**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

Fred Johnson

The Book of Luke (Mike Willis)

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**Sunday Morning 10:30 A.M. Service:**

**Announcements:**

Russell Briggs

**Opening Prayer & Scripture Reading:**

Paul Johnson

*Hebrews 2:1-3*

**Song Leader:**

Chris Callahan

**Lord's Table:**

Jerry Kennemur

**Assisting:**

Russell Briggs & Adam Harris

**Preaching:**

Brian Meade

**Sermon:**

*“Why Do Some Fail to Obey the Gospel?”*

**Closing Prayer:**

Lee Busby

**Wednesday Evening: 7:00 P.M.**

**February 7th:**

**Auditorium Bible Class:**

Brian Meade

1 & 2 Samuel (Mike Willis)

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**Invitation:**

Paul Busby

**Song Leader:**

Adam Harris

**Closing Prayer:**

Tim Harris Jr.