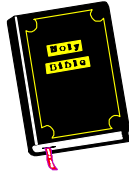


WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

A DEEPER LOOK AT CHRISTIANITY

It is easy to talk Christianity, but God expects more. God expects action; Christian living. Christians must take a deeper look at Christianity and come to understand the things involved in godly living. Observe the following:

Take a deeper look at the works of darkness: Christians are to "have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light." (Ephesians 5:11-13) Christians must not practice, condone or defend works of darkness. They must actively oppose those evil things. This is done through reproof of those things, avoiding involvement in them, refusing to consider their practice and taking no pleasure in the doing of them. Christians must cause God's light to shine because the light makes manifest (known) works of darkness.

Take a deeper look at spiritual sleep: We must be careful not to sleep spiritually. "Therefore He says: Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light." (Ephesians 5:14) Those who sleep spiritually need to awaken. Those that are spiritually dead need to arise to real life. Every Christian must receive the light of Christ. God's purpose is to awaken man from spiritual death caused by sin to eternal life brought through Jesus Christ. Those that turn sinners from their ways are imitating God. Let us go forth to awaken those who are spiritually sleeping and dead.

Take a deeper look at the wise walk: The challenge for Christians is, "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise." (Ephesians 5:15) Some foolishly walk in sin. Others walk wisely. The life of those who would turn others to the light must be a godly life. It does no good and, in fact, does much harm for the unfaithful member of the church to try to defend Christ or His kingdom. To "walk circumspectly" is to walk in the right way; God's way.

—Continued on page 3

Choose the Strait Gate in 2008!

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 50 December 21, 2008

RECORDS 12/14/2008

SERMONS 12/21/2008

Sun 10 AM Bible Study: 62
Sun 11 AM Assembly: 102
Sun 6 PM Assembly: 62
Weds 7 PM Bible Study: 70
CONTRIBUTION: \$2176

AM: Jerry Manning
TODAY'S PROVOCATION
PM: Jerry Manning
MOSES, A TYPE OF CHRIST

**"Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture." - Psalms 100:3**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided
Bible Classes for all ages

LADIES CLASS
2nd Tuesday of month 7-9 PM

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A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!
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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Beryl Parks, Nina Ruth Meadows (Marcella Klieves' mother), Jack and Elma Berrier, Lynn Drago (Jerry's sister) and Phyllis Johnson.
- **Carolyn Stidham** is recovering from knee replacement surgery at Richland Memorial Hospital, room 816.
- **Ron and Margie Banks** have traveled to Ohio to see Ron's brother Carl and Margie's mom, Martha Brendonburg who are both very ill.
- **Ruth Raine** is traveling Friday to Chicago for eye surgery and will be with her daughter.
- **Eddie Sheppard's** lungs and heart are bad.
- **Dianne and Tiffany Dillard** aren't well either.
- Little **Maddie Mann** was in the hospital for pneumonia and dehydration but is home now, but the **Joe, Amanda and Dianne** aren't doing too well either.
- The **Stoyk's** will be traveling next week to visit family, back 1/7/2009.
- **Jeanette Reeves** continues to struggle with sin. Pray for her repentance.
- Remember all these, our new brothers and sisters in Christ, and brother **Manning** and those he studies the Bible with, in your prayers.

"For we are saved by hope" - Romans 8:24

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Youth Bowling**, meet at building Monday 12/22, 3 pm, back around 6 pm.
- **Ladies Bible** class now meets monthly, **Second** Tuesday evenings, 7-9 pm.
- **SINGING! SAVE THE DATE!** At the Twin City church in Batesburg Leesville, last Sunday in January (25th) 2-4 pm
- **Work Team B meeting** Monday 12/22 7 pm at the **Palmgren's** home.

"Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves TOGETHER, and edify one another, even as also ye do." - 1 Thessalonians 5:10,11

WORK TEAM SCHEDULE: 12/21—B 12/28—C 1/4—D 1/11—A

You better hurry! There's not much time left to:

Choose the Strait Gate in 2008!

Before you have to:

Let Your Light Shine in 2009!

A DEEPER LOOK AT CHRISTIANITY —(continued from page 1)

Take a deeper look at time and your use of it: "Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:16) One preventative for sin and wrong doing is to fill your time with good things. Brethren, do good while it is in your hands to be able to do so. The time of opportunity passes quickly. Let us double our efforts to make wise use of our time in serving others and in evangelism. Their days were evil because of great persecution. Our days are evil because of much sin. What are you doing with your time?

Take a deeper look at the will of the Lord: "Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is." (Ephesians 5:17) Christians should allow nothing, not even hard times, to make them ignorant of their duty to God. Nothing should cause us to neglect our souls. Knowing God's will and doing it under every circumstance of life is true wisdom.

It is our duty to do more than just talk. We must **LIVE** the Christian life. To become a Christian you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17), believe in Jesus (John 8:24), repent of sins (Acts 2:38), confess Christ as Lord (Acts 8:37), and be baptized to be saved. (Mark 16:16) A deeper look at the matter shows us that Christians must be wise enough to do the will of God!

- **Charles Box**, Evangelist, Walnut Street Church of Christ, Greenville, Alabama

Psalm 1

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.