

# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

## DEATH OFFERS HOPE

To some that statement is a shock. Most people feel there is no hope in death, but notice what the apostle Paul said in First Thessalonians 4:13, “**But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.**” Unlike the world which has no hope, the Christian has a lively hope — a hope built upon the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead:

“**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead**” - 1 Peter 1:3

In First Corinthians 15:55-57, the apostle Paul again enlightens us as to death. In this passage, Paul teaches us that there is victory over death of which the faithful will be a part. He said, “**O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**”

It is through death that we gain the victory! Heaven is not ours until we pass from life unto death. We cannot be with the Lord until we are raised, and we cannot be raised until we die. Therefore, death offers hope because through death we gain life eternal. It is with these thoughts Paul said, “**Wherefore comfort one another with these words.**” (1 Thess. 4:18).

Death sometimes catches us off guard and shocks us back to reality as to what is really important. We can all be thankful that certain incidents happen in life that help us to keep a proper perspective on life and on death. These incidents help us deal with the cold reality of death. Yes, they come as a shock, but with God's help and instruction, we are able to deal with them trusting in Him to carry us through.

- **Chuck Northrop**, minister Mayflower church of Christ, Arkansas

**KEEP YOUR HEART CLEAN IN 2013**

[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org) South Carolina 2/10/2013

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**SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:**

AM: **STEVE RIGNEY**

PM: **STEVE RIGNEY**

JOIN US IN  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY!

“Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator.” - 1 Peter 4:19

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*A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!*  
[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org)

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### 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**

To be announced

**EVANGELIST**

### BULLETIN EDITOR

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## **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Judy Walker, Miles Johnson, Richard Ramkinson, Margaret Herring, Wilson Burton, Betty Mathis, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier.*
- **Stephanie Rigney** has been diagnosed with lymphoma and will be starting chemotherapy shortly. Keep her and **Steve** in your prayers through this difficult time.
- **Marshall Mancuso** is recovering slowly from a flu like thing.
- **Dallas Grey** is better though.
- **Judy Walker** and others were able to be with us last Sunday.
- **Trudy Rail** fell and shattered her elbow and knee very badly. Extensive surgery is required. **Trudy** and **Ellis Rail**, attend at Long Creek and were members here at West Columbia years ago. Ellis' father was a leader in the church here.
- Keep all these, and **the church here**, in your prayers. Our thanks and gratitude to those who watch, and work and pray for the church here. To those faithful in visiting and attendance, encouraging others by talking with them. To those quietly doing the many jobs necessary to keep the congregation functioning.

**"There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God." - 1 Samuel 2:2**

## **“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42**

- **SAVE THE DATE! CAROLINA MEN'S FELLOWSHIP, SATURDAY MARCH 9th.**
- Remember to send cards and letters to our sister **Lorraine Porter** who is unable to get out or receive visitors or phone calls due to her medical condition and sorely needs the encouragement.
- **BULLETINS BY EMAIL** sent each Friday. To subscribe, send email address to Ed.
- Remember to **send cards to our visitors.** **Marshall Mancuso** had had a bunch of nice cards printed, and **Jones Gamble** faithfully gets visitor cards posted with addresses. So help out yourself! Send a card, invite people to visit, then send more cards! Postage for a post card is \$.32, Send 3 for a dollar and keep the change!

**"What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." - Micah 6:8**

**KEEP YOUR HEART CLEAN IN 2013**

## **THE GOSPEL—1 Corinthians 15:1-4**

**“Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:”**

## **The Claims Of The Bible**

The Bible claims to be the word of God. And not that only; it claims to be the inerrant word of God, the infallibly and verbally inspired word of God. "All Scripture is given by inspiration" — Theopneustia, God-breathed words. "Unto us God revealed" these things "through the Spirit... Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth; combining spiritual things with spiritual words" (1 Cor. 2:10-13 ASV). Divine thoughts and divine words to convey them is Paul's statement, with emphasis, of the verbal inspiration of the Bible.

Who says it is not the inerrant word of God? The devil (Gen. 3:3-4) and worldly-wise men of today (Rom. 1:22); but we are warned against such and should shun them, for they cannot be converted (2 Thess. 2:10-11) and may destroy faith in you "through philosophy and vain deceit" (Col. 2:8).

**- Foy E. Wallace, Jr., 1896-1979, Gospel preacher**

**“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.” - 2 Timothy 3:16,17**

## **CAROLINA MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

**Saturday March 9, 2013, 9:00am-3:00pm, at Rock Hill.** It's an encouraging thing for young and old. Just ask **Tommy White!** Men, let's especially try and encourage our young men to go - with us. **Ed Kelleher** plans on going and has room in his van for 7.

## **DEATH MUST BE PREPARED FOR**

Life is actually a preparation for death. Jesus said, **"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal" (Matt. 6:19-20).**

The things of this world will be consumed in a fervent heat (2 Pet. 3:10), but we will live on — **"they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:29).** Since we will live on, we must prepare for death. We prepare for death by obeying God in becoming a Christian and by obeying Him in faithful living. We become a Christian by obedience to the plan of salvation. God has made the way for us by sending forth His Son to pay the price of sin. We live faithfully by worshiping and serving the Creator according to God's word with the motivation of love and faith. When we come to the realization that life is a preparation for death, we will have the proper outlook on life and on death.

**- Chuck Northrop, minister Mayflower church of Christ, Arkansas**