



WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

WHY THINK ABOUT BAPTISM?

Again, most people in religion, especially preachers of religion (and some think they are preaching the gospel of Jesus) will tell you very quickly that baptism does not matter when considering forgiveness of sins, or eternal welfare. This preaching even shows up occasionally in the church of our Lord indirectly.

From the attitudes and words we see and hear one would think that the preachers of error would think that some bunch of humans thought up an action called baptism, and began to teach it to the world.

In truth God began baptism through John, the baptizer. It was not the idea of any human. John's immersion was not the same as that Jesus commanded in the great commission (Matt 28:19, Mark 16:15-16). Consequently after Jesus commanded baptism, John's immersion was not to be practiced.

So we would think about baptism because of where it came from — because of its origin, or who originated it. God.

We should think about baptism because of who commanded the one baptism that now stands between men and forgiveness. Jesus.

We should think about baptism because of what it is. It IS a burial in water - Romans 6:3-4 and Acts 10:47-48

We should think about baptism because of what it does, or accomplishes. This is revealed to us in many passages, notably Acts 2:38; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:20-21.

We should think about baptism because of what must precede it before it can be of value to us. Acts 8:37 tells this.

We should think about baptism because of where we are, or a person is, without it, and before it. 1 Corinthians 12:13 and Galatians 3:26-27 tell us this.

We should think about baptism because of the wrong practices involving the subject — the sprinkling of water on a person and calling that “one of the modes of baptism.” The same is to be considered in the pouring of water, ceremoniously, on a person. God said that it is burial in Romans. 6:3-4 and Colossians 2:14. God DOES NOT mention modes — this is entirely a man made subject. It was introduced into religion centuries after the gospel was completed.

Likewise the idea that baptism has no bearing on forgiveness or man's eternal welfare. This, too, is a man-made idea and teaching. When you hear either, ask the one presenting them to refer you to the book, chapter & verse in God's word. Behold, he can't

- C. R. Franks, Gospel preacher, from West Columbia bulletin Feb 27, 1975

BE TRUE TO GOD ... NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 40, NUMBER 30 July 27, 2014

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: TJ BOLEN—Restoration "Momentum"

PM: TJ BOLEN—Grace

“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world,
and preach the gospel to every creature.
He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved;
but he that believeth not shall be damned.” - Mark 16:15,16

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JOIN US IN
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY!

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!
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
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Everyone Welcome!
Bring your Bible questions
Saturdays 3 pm

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson, Wilson Burton.*

- Sister **Lisa Jenkins** is in the VA hospital in Greer. Remember her and Josiah in your prayers..
 - Remember also, **Anna Porter** with a serious foot wound, and **Margaret Gamble**, Jones' sister
 - **Margaret Herring** is also having severe foot problems and is in much pain.
 - We're thankful those traveling have returned safely.
 - Remember also: **Hannibal Davis** in Marine Corps recruit training at Parris Island; **Gwen Pittman, Stephanie Rigney, Floyd Richbourg** and **Carolyn Stidham**.
 - Remember to pray for and send cards to those we've not seen for awhile.
 - Pray also that we all grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge**.
- "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

- **Wed night is singing, First Sunday** next week, share a meal at the building.
- **Area wide Singing**, St. Andrews Road, Friday 8/1/2014, 7-9 pm
- **South Eastern Children's Home** Change Cans, 7/13—9/21, pick one up.
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**
- We need **volunteers** to take the DVD and the Lord's supper to our shut-ins.

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." - John 13:34,35

NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!

HOW DO WE LOVE?

"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." - 1 John 3:18

Let's not **say** it, let's **do** it! You know: "I'd rather **see** a sermon than **hear** one!"

“If you love me, keep my commandments.” - John 14:15

Sun AM Sermon— Restoration "Momentum"

Outline:

1. Restoration is an on going process.
2. Restoration has always been necessary among God's people, (Various texts from 2 Chronicles).
3. Why restoration is relevant to "restored people."

CHURCH LEADERSHIP — IS YOU!

God's word is replete with the work, power and necessity of examples:

- **Elders** are to lead the flock—by example. 1 Peter 5:4
- **Woman** convert their non-Christian husbands—by example. 1 Peter 3:1
- **Jesus** left us an example to follow. 1 Peter 2:21
- **Disciples** are followers, looking to be like their master. Luke 6:40
- **Sons** do what they see their father's do. John 5:19

The Lord condemned the Pharisees for not leading by example: **“but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not”** - Matthew 23:3 Read the whole chapter.

Paul commanded Timothy to be an example; not in dress, or grooming, or table manners, but in things that each and every Christian must possess: **“... be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”** - 1 Timothy 4:12 These are things we must do for ourselves—and for others!

I got the below list at a local preacher elder meeting (a meeting where men influence others by their example, thanks Mickey!). Ask yourself these questions and see if you are happy with the answers (*see scripture below*):

What if everyone in the church:

- **Loved** as I love?
- **Prayed** as I pray?
- **Sang** as I sang?
- **Studied** the Bible as I study?
- **Attended** as I attend?
- **Paid attention** to preaching and teaching as I do?
- **Gave** to the Lord's work as I gave?
- **Ministered** as I do?
- **Lived** as I live?

Would you want to be there? Would it be a church pleasing to God? Do you then see your role in leading the church by doing what the Lord commanded? Are you fulfilling it? If not, why not?

Jesus led by example. What can be more compelling, more forceful in producing obedience to the Lord's command to minister to others than the example of our Lord and Master washing the disciple's feet. He said as much:

“For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you. ... If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.” - John 13:15

Be happy! Be a good example, and a leader in the Lord's church! And remember, the Lord will be the judge, not your “friends” on Facebook.

- **Ed Kelleher**, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina

DO! ... or DON'T! There is ... NO IN BETWEEN IN 2014!