

THE BULLETIN—VOL 42, NUMBER 09 February 28, 2016

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: **T.J. Bolen**—Pay Much Closer Attention, Hebrews 2:1

PM: **T.J. Bolen**—God Rules Over Men

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

“Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let *them* slip.

For if the word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward;

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*;” - Hebrews 2:1-3

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
COME SEE!**

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*

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

Saturdays 3 pm
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

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WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

LIVING WHERE YOU DO NOT BELONG

In Jesus' prayer to the Father in John 17, He states that His disciples are not of this world, just as He is not of this world. How can that be? Were we not born in this world? Of course we were. But, we have been called out of this world (2 Cor. 6:17, 1 Pet. 1:13-15), and we have been purchased with the precious blood of Jesus (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 1:18,19). We do not belong to this world, or even to ourselves (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

If we do not belong to this world, than how do we live in this world? Missionaries, diplomats and others could give us some insight living in a culture that is not our own, but let's learn how from one that knows more than all of these put together, Jesus - the Son of God, who left heaven and dwelt as a man in a world in which He did not belong. How did He do it, and what did He teach that will help us do it?

1. **Remember that you do not belong here** (Matt. 6:19-21; 22:17-21). Jesus knew where He was from and often spoke of returning.
 2. **Do not fall in love with this world** (Matt. 6:24; 1 Jn. 2:15-17; 2 Pet. 2:20). Jesus knew a better place, heaven, and knew that He was returning there when His mission on earth was complete.
 3. **Live holy lives** (Matt. 5-7; 1 Pet. 1:15). Jesus lived a perfect life, without sin, even in this dark world.
 4. **Stay focused** on why you are here (Matt. 6:33; Col. 3:22-24). Jesus constantly was concerned with fulfilling the will of His Father.
 5. **Stay in touch** with the home land (1 Thess. 5:17; Matt. 22:29; 2 Tim. 2:15). Jesus frequently separated himself from the mob and disciples to pray. Know the Scriptures thoroughly. He also taught others to pray, and the importance of knowing the Scriptures.
 6. **Look expectantly** to going home (Jn. 14:3; Lk. 12:36-37; 1 Cor. 11:23-26). Jesus spoke about returning to the Father and taking His disciples with Him.
- If we will observe and practice the way Jesus lived and what He taught, then we too can live as we should in this world to which we do not belong.

- **John Curtis**, minister church of Christ, Paul's Valley, Oklahoma

“And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again” - 2 Corinthians 5:15

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Merri Chrismus, Dorothy Gray and family, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Betty Mathis, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, Stephanie Rigney, Elgene Sanders.*

- **Jan Kelleher** is recovering slowly from cancer surgery and in considerable pain.
- **Jason Parks** requests prayers for co-workers **Eddie Lord** and **Steve Margoulis**.
- **Stephanie Rigney** requests prayers for her aunt and uncle: **Bill Voss** has a recurrence of shingles, and **Betty Voss** has a serious recurrence of colon cancer.
- **Debbie Sightler** is recovering from back surgery. Her parents **Vince** and **Helen Ruesser** were down to help, and visited with us, which is always encouraging.
- **Elgene Sanders** is under hospice care at home, with cancer, but in good spirits.
- **Dorothy Gray** requests prayers for co-workers: **Millie Salmon, Loretta Jamison,** and **Wilhemina Brooks** who fell in her shower and was only found hours later..
- **Prayers** are also requested for: **Mattie Charney, Paula Kennedy's** aunt (Garland's sister); **Barbara Shives**, with cancer, a friend of the Gamble family; and **Mary Ann Mancuso, Marshall's** mom undergoing physical therapy at home.
- **Give thanks to God and pray for all these**, and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia.

“For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.” - Psalms 22:24

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **BRIDAL!** shower for **Savannah Crews** and **Ryan Sheppard**, after the Sunday evening assembly **3/13/16**. See **Martha** and **Dawn** for details.
- **Next Sunday—First Sunday and men's meeting.**
- **SAVE THE DATES! 3/12/16 Carolina Men's Fellowship.** **Ed Kelleher** and **Tommy White** will be driving up, there's room for more; and **Ladies Day 4/9/16 at Plaza church in Sumter.**
- **Bible Study at Church Building, Saturdays 3 pm**, all are invited and please invite visitors to come! It's a good way for people to learn more of us. An informal session around a table with everyone using their bibles and Strong's Concordances.
- **Men!** Check bulletin board for worship assignments—if you can't make it, find someone to fill in. We're counting on you. See box below.
- Please bring **Pantry items**, pop-top canned items are good.

“If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, ...” - James 3:2

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

YOU BETTER GET READY!

**“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts:
and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you
a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:” - 1 Peter 3:15**

Saturday 3pm Bible studies will help you get ready!

OVERCOMING HUMAN TRADITION

Many times a person will have difficulty accepting the truth taught in God's Word because it goes against what was formerly believed by the individual, and perhaps contradicts what he was always taught. This very thing happened to Alexander Campbell, who set out to restore New Testament Christianity in the 19th century. Campbell's family had always practiced infant baptism, and Campbell himself had been sprinkled. But when a child was born to Campbell and his wife in March of 1812, he determined to study the subject in light of the Bible alone.

Throwing aside the Presbyterian tradition in which he had been raised, Campbell was convinced through a study of the Bible that only penitent believers were appropriate subjects for baptism. He studied further and looked at the original language, and discovered that baptism was actually immersion.

Alexander related these conclusions to his father, Thomas Campbell, who agreed with his study. They realized that they had never been baptized into Christ. On June 12, 1812, Alexander Campbell and six others — his wife, sister, father, mother, and James Halen and his wife — were all baptized into Christ for the remission of sins.

The gospel is the power of God to save (Romans 1:16), but when men pervert the gospel it loses its power. This is the reason there are such stern warnings against changing what is revealed. "As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:9). Adding to and taking away from the message is strictly forbidden (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Campbells recognized and respected the Lord's authority on the question of baptism by immersion by penitent believers, as well as other points. While Alexander Campbell is not the founder of the church of Christ, nor is he our authority in religious matters, he serves as a good example on this point that we would all do well to imitate. Search the Scriptures for the answers to religious questions, and submit to the ordinances of God.

- Jason T. Carter, evangelist, Mt. Vernon Church of Christ, Park City, Kentucky

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) ...” - 1 Peter 3:21

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