

THE BULLETIN—VOL 42, NUMBER 12 March 20, 2016

**SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:**

AM: T.J. Bolen— Why Christians Don't ...

PM: T.J. Bolen— The Hope of His Calling

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

**DO YOU WALK FUNNY?**

**"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:  
Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught,  
abounding therein with thanksgiving." - Colossians 2:6,7**

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

West Columbia Church of Christ  
1701 Augusta Road  
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[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://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**

**WHEN DOES GOD MEAN WHAT HE SAYS?**

From what we are hearing in some circles, the answer would be: "Whenever the subject of grace enters the picture."

You probably thought that you have to be baptized in order to be saved, since that is what the Son of God said, along with the inspired writers who wrote the Bible (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21). But now we are being told that to teach the essentiality of baptism for salvation is to be legalistic even though the Bible teaches it.

You also probably thought that repentance is necessary for salvation, since that is what Christ taught (Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 17:30-31). But supposedly only self-righteous people now teach that, because grace covers all our mistakes.

Perhaps you also thought that faith is absolutely demanded of mankind in order to be saved (John 8:24; Heb. 11:6), but even faith is a work (John 6:29), and that would bring us back to the legalistic charge being hurled once again! However, since the works that God demands of us are not the meritorious works of men, then we are still obligated to work the works of God.

No, we cannot earn our salvation, but doing what God says is not earning salvation. It is loving the Lord (John 14:16; Luke 6:46). Since Paul taught that we are not to "continue in sin, that grace may abound?" (Rom. 6:1-2), we better just keep on trying to obey God, truly relying upon the grace of God, instead of accepting man's perverted version of a cheap grace that makes no demands (Titus 2:11-12). Cheap grace ultimately leads to universalism!

- Wayne Price, Gospel preacher, Radford Virginia

**"If ye love me, keep my commandments" - John 14:15**

**"And if any man hear my words, and believe not, I judge him not:  
for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.**

**He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him:  
the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." - John 12:47,48**

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org) South Carolina 3/20/2016

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

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

- Marshall's mom, **Mary Ann Mancuso** is doing better after reactions to medication.
- **Jan Kelleher** is improving, but still in pain after surgery.
- **Remember also: Betty and Bill Voss, Stephanie Rigney's** aunt and uncle; **Debbie Sightler**, daughter of **Vince** and **Helen Reusser; Elgene Sanders; Mattie and Suzie Charney**, relations of **Paula Kennedy; Barbara Shives**, a friend of the Gamble family; and **Mary Ann Mancuso, Marshall's** mom, diagnosed with Parkinson's..
- **Give thanks to God and pray for all these**, and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia.

**"He that loveth his life shall lose it;**

**and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal."- John 12:25**

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

- The **Wed night adult class** has completed their study of the book of Revelation. Suggestions are sought for an Old Testament book for a textual study.
- **Scrap Booking class**, at the building 4th Saturdays 12-3, see **Paula or Faye**.
- **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 God be for us, who can be against us?” - Romans 8:31**

**Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!**

## **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**

God has told us He wants us to **do**, not just **say**. Remember the parable of the 2 sons? (Matthew 21:28) One said he would—but didn't. The other son said he wouldn't—but he did. Which was better? The latter son who **did** his father's will. Let's be wise and not kid ourselves. Sitting in the chicken coop, calling yourself a chicken and going *cluck cluck* occasionally won't make you a chicken. Neither will sitting in a church building, calling yourself a Christian and occasionally going through some acts of worship make you one either. Let's not **say**, let's **do!** It's the, "I'd rather **see** a sermon than **hear** one" idea. Study God's word diligently and **do** what He says out of love for Him. Tell others, invite them to visit, bring them to our Bible studies, come yourself!

## **Justification By Faith Includes Baptism**

**"By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were swallowed up" (Heb. 11:29 ASV).** The Israelites crossed the Red Sea "by faith," but they were not on the other side the moment they believed. They spent a night of anxious toil and great fear before they could sing the song of deliverance on the other side. Here the phrase "by faith" spans the Red Sea, and includes every step they took in crossing.

By some it is thought that because Paul says we are "justified by faith" (Rom. 5:1) that baptism is excluded. But the phrase "by faith," instead of excluding the acts of faith, which, in reality, make faith perfect, actually includes obedience. And it can be plainly shown that "by faith" in this case includes baptism. Paul says, **"For I would not, brethren, have you ignorant, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea" (1 Corinthians 10:1-2 ASV).**

They crossed the Red Sea "by faith," and in crossing they were baptized. "By faith" includes what was done in crossing. But in crossing they were baptized. Therefore, "by faith," in this example includes baptism.

**- C. R. Nichol, 1876-1961, Gospel Preacher**

## **A Matter Of Bible Authority**

My objection to mechanical instruments in worship is not out of bitterness toward them; not because I think there is harm in the instrument, per se, but the objection is simply this: I have adopted the principle and pledged myself to the platform of not going beyond that which the Bible authorizes.

My digressive brother asks me, "Where does the Bible prohibit it?" I answer, "Where does the Bible authorize it?" Christians walk by faith (2 Cor. 5:7). No man can use mechanical instruments and walk by faith.

By searching the scriptures you will find that God does not authorize it, does not command it, does not demand it, and that there is no example in all apostolic history for such a practice. The man who is faithful and loyal to God's word will not go beyond it.

**"Whosoever goeth onward and abideth not in the teaching of Christ,  
hath not God" - 2 John 9 ASV**

**- N. B. Hardeman, 1874-1965, Gospel Preacher**

**“For we walk by faith, not by sight:” - 2 Corinthians 5:7**