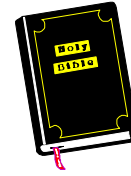


# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

## Is Salvation My Way Or God's Way?

"Thou believest that God is one; thou doest well: the demons also believe, and shudder" (James 2:19 ASV).

Believing in God is not enough. One must believe God and obey Him in order to be right with Him.

The wise man said, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man; But the end thereof are the ways of death" - Prov. 14:12. Jeremiah stated, "O Jehovah, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" - Jeremiah 10:23 ASV. God teaches us through these scriptures that what feels right and what seems good is determined by what He says, not how I feel and think about something. God directs our steps, showing us what is right and what is wrong.

Many people daily tell God how it is that He is going to save them. However, we cannot determine how God will save us. God has already determined this, and we must conform to his will in order to receive salvation. We know that Jesus is the only way of salvation (John 14:6) and He taught explicitly, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned" (Mark 16:16 ASV). Yet people say "He that believes shall be saved and then baptized." Do you believe God or man?

Jesus stated, "Remember the word that I said unto you, A servant is not greater than his lord. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also" (John 15:20 ASV). Jesus gave his apostles authority to teach the whole world everything that he had taught them (Matthew 28.18-20). Jesus said that if we believe and accept his word, we would believe and accept their word also. Consider what Christ's apostles taught about baptism.

Peter stated, "Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38 ASV). Yet people say, "Believe for the remission of your sins, and then be baptized". Do you believe God or man? Peter also stated, "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us" (1 Peter 3:21). Yet people say, "Even faith alone doth also now save us, then you should be baptized". Do you believe God or man? - (Continued on page 3)

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011!

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 5/28/2011

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### SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ed Kelleher

Psalm 100

PM: Ed Kelleher

(to be announced)

"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." - 2 Corinthians 9:6

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

COME JOIN US THIS  
NEW YEAR!

*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

Ed Kelleher

Office Phone (803) 796-8858  
E-Mail: [Ed@macro-inc.com](mailto:Ed@macro-inc.com)

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

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Margaret Herring, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier and Phyllis Johnson.**
- Keep **Frank Allen** in your prayers as he is home in Missouri visiting his mother and we've had no word if he has been affected by the recent tornados there.
- **Ryan Sheppard** has gone to Fort Hood Texas, preparing to deploy to Iraq.
- **Remember those who have suffered loss in recent tornados.** Relief for **tornado victims** may be sent to the elders:  
Shades Mountain Church of Christ, 959 Alford Ave, Birmingham, AL 35226  
"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him." - Psalm 27:1

## **EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011**

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

- Our thanks to those who are patiently working in the church here: making calls, writing cards, encouraging others to attend, greeting visitors in a friendly way, keeping the building up and grass cut, etc. Thanks!
- Next Sunday will be the **first Sunday in JUNE!** We plan to have our luncheon and congregational and business meetings at the building after the AM assembly. All are invited and encouraged to attend.
- We've posted a **new building cleanup schedule** with weekly slots to better accommodate folks who are unable to do an entire month.
- **Sorry! No bulletin last week, the editor was on vacation.**
- **Bible Study at Church Building, Saturdays 10 am**, all are invited. An informal session around a table with everyone using their bibles and Strong's Concordances.

"For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which you have showed toward his name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister." - Hebrews 6:10

## “WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP” - Romans 12:15

- We regret to announce that **Deborah Stoyk** passed away after a long illness. Funeral services were held with her family in Virginia. Remember **Michael and Rebecca** in your prayers.

"But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered awhile, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." - 1 Peter 5:10

## **Is Salvation My Way Or God's Way?** - (Continued from page 1)

Paul was told, "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). Yet people say, "Have faith, and wash away thy sins, then be baptized". Do you believe God, or man?

There is much for us to do in order to be saved. We must have **faith**, (Romans 10:17). We must **believe God** and **confess the name of Jesus**, (Romans 10:9-10). We must **repent** of sins (Luke 13:3). We must **live faithful** lives until we die (Revelation 2:10; James 2:14, 17, 20, 24). James said, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only" (James 2:24). Yet people say, "Ye see then how by faith only a man is justified". Do you believe God or man?

We must follow God's instructions for salvation. **Baptism** is a necessary part of our salvation, just like believing, repenting, confessing, and faithful living. Without baptism, a person cannot be saved. Baptism puts us into Christ (Romans 6:3-4), yet people say that we invite Christ into our hearts through the "sinners prayer." Do we believe God or man? Baptism clothes us with Christ, (Galatians 3:27) and puts us into His body (1 Corinthians 12:13). Yet people say, "We must receive Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior, then be baptized to show the world our faith". Do we believe God or man?

Without baptism friends, none of these blessings are possible. Baptism comes before salvation and is just one of the things required in order to be saved. These other means and sayings are the inventions of men. Do you believe God or man? Jesus once asked a powerful question to a group of Pharisees. "**The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or from men?**" (Luke 20:4 ASV). His point was to prove that anything authorized from heaven must be obeyed by those living on earth. The Bible has authorized the way of salvation. It is from heaven. Are these other sayings from heaven, or from men? Do you believe Jesus, or the words of men?

We must believe the words of Jesus and his apostles and reject the false ideas invented by men. Jesus, quoting Isaiah, said, "**But in vain do they worship me, Teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men**" (Matthew 15:9 ASV). Any and every time we teach and believe the invented doctrines of men, our worship to God becomes vain. We must believe God rather than men.

Do you believe God? I know you do. Follow his word and teaching only, and reject the false teachings of men.

- **Josh Haley**, Gospel preacher, Piedmont church of Christ, Oklahoma

**“For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.  
For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”  
- Galatians 3:26,27**