

WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

The New Testament — Our Guide

When the church was established and began to work, Paul wrote 14 letters to churches and preachers telling them how to live. James wrote one letter, Peter two, John three, and Jude one. These are all letters of church discipline and government, telling church members how to live.

The last book in the New Testament was written by John. The Revelation not only tells of the past and the present in the first century, but crosses the river of death and tells us of the future home God has prepared for those who love Him and do His commandments. He tells us that on the other side of the river of death there is no night, but one eternal day; no sickness, sorrow, pain, or death. The river of life and the tree of life are found there. So the New Testament — properly divided, read, understood, and obeyed — is a safe guide to lead us into the city whose Builder and Maker is God.

In summary, there are 27 books in the New Testament. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John tell me what I must believe in order to be saved. Acts of Apostles tells me what I must do to be saved. The 21 letters of Christian instruction that follow tell me how I must live and work after I am saved in order to finally reach the heavenly home we read about in the last book of the Bible.

My brethren are often condemned for preaching so much in Acts of Apostles, but this will be our leading book as long as we teach salvation to a dying world, for this is where we find the plan of salvation first taught by the apostles after they had Holy Ghost baptism which qualified them to preach the gospel to all the world. As long as we teach the same things the apostles taught them to do, we are sure we are teaching the word of God, and we are also sure we will be rewarded at the last day for so doing. So, let all be satisfied with the simple word of God, to teach and fight it out along that line, knowing that if we do this, heaven will be our home.

- J. D. Tant, 1861—1941 Gospel preacher

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” - John 17:17

“Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.” - Psalm 73:24

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 37, NUMBER 30 July 31, 2011

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ed Kelleher

TO GROW IN CHRIST—Part 1

PM: Ed Kelleher

TO GROW IN CHRIST—Part 2

“We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is meet,
because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward
each other aboundeth;” - 2 Thessalonians 1:3

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

**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

Bible Classes for all ages

LADIES CLASS

To be announced

EVANGELIST

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“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Betty Mathis, Margaret Herring, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier* and *Phyllis Johnson*.
- **Remember Margie DeYoung in your prayers.** She'll be in rehab awhile after surgery and complications.
- Also keep **Margaret Herring, Anna Porter** and the **Willson** family, and especially **Lisa**, in your prayers as they deal with health problems..
- **Margaret Herring** requests prayers for her two daughters, who live in the area, that they'll be receptive to God's word. We're glad for Jessica and Andrew, let's hope to rejoice also in Margaret's other daughters—and all those who come to obey the Gospel.
- Let's remember **Gwen Pittman** who has several aunts that aren't at all well.
- **Jan Kelleher** should be back Monday, after being in Virginia for several weeks.

**“For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this;
Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” - Galatians 5:14**

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- An **attendance sheet** is being updated in the foyer. Please give a call or drop a card to encourage those we've been missing!
- Next Sunday is the **first Sunday of August!** All are invited to stay after the morning assembly to share a meal. Also, we'll discuss the work of the church here with the congregation, and have men's business meeting around 1pm.
- **The youth are organizing a car pool to see that Lorraine Porter** gets a ride to our assemblies. If you can help, please see **K. C. Dunbaker**. Lorraine is at the Rapha center, on Fish Hatchery Road. Directions are in the foyer. This is a very good work if you can do it.
- Please choose a month, or week if that's all you can plan on, to help **clean the building!**
- **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.

“Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us” - Hebrews 12:1

EYES ON HEAVEN IN 2011

When Ye Pray

We are praying the wrong kind of prayers when we endeavour to reverse the proper relationship between God and man. Properly speaking, God is the Creator, man is the creature. If this is true, as we glibly assert, then our prayers should respect and exemplify that relationship.

But how often are we found praying as if God lives to provide us with what we want; so that, instead of seeking divine guidance, our obvious efforts are to obtain divine reinforcements. Prayers which are "thing-centered" or "self-centered," rather than "God-centered" are wrong kinds of prayers.

- **Leslie G. Thomas** 1895-1988 Gospel preacher

"GIVE BACK A PORTION . . ."

"Give back a portion of the things you've so richly blessed us with..." is a phrase you'll often hear in a prayer before an offering is collected. It's good for us to be reminded, and remember, **where** what we have comes from.

But we should also remember **what** the Lord had given us, so we'll be sure return a portion of **everything** He's given us and not leave anything out. Yes, He provides us with food, clothing and shelter, but these are nothing when compared to the **other** things He gives us. Things like: righteous **JUDGEMENT**, **MERCY** when we're helpless, **FAITHFULNESS** in His promises, **FORGIVENESS** of sins against Him, **GRACE** to be like Him, **PEACE** with Him, **HOPE** for an eternity with Him.

Say each one of these **aloud**. Thank God for them. **Each** one is an incomparable **gift** from Him. But **guess what?**, God wants us to **give** a portion of **these** back to Him also! The Lord rebuked the Pharisees for not doing this and we certainly don't want to be like them:

"Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, JUDGEMENT, MERCY and FAITH: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." - Matthew 23:23

And how might we give these things back to the Lord? He said, like this:

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." - Matthew 25:40

Have you given anyone **FORGIVENESS**? Have you given anyone **MERCY**? Have you been **FAITHFUL** to others? Have you shown anyone **GRACE**? Have you given anyone **HOPE** of eternal life? Remember:

"Freely have you received, freely give." - Matthew 10:8

It's good that we give of the **physical** things the Lord has given us. We ought to. But let's not leave the **other** things undone, for they are **eternal!** (2 Cor 4:18)

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

Faith Alone Is Not Belief In God

"He that obeyeth not the Son shall not see life" (John 3:36 ASV). This truth is seen when **"Jehovah said unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed not in me, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel" (Num. 20:12 ASV).** They had not the "conviction" to do just what God said do. God said unto them, **"...speak ye unto the rock before their eyes" (Num. 20:8 ASV).** But they **"smote the rock" (Num. 20:11).** Hence God says, **"Ye believed not in me" (Num. 20:12 ASV).**

What is it to "believe in" God? It is to do trustingly and lovingly just what He says. This "faith alone" system is the popular doctrine in pulpits and on rostrums of the modern pastor and money-loving evangelist. There is nothing that they put over with a show that is more deceiving and soul-blighting.

- **A. G. Freed**, 1863—1931 Gospel preacher