

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 41, NUMBER 39 September 27, 2015

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T.J. Bolen— The life now lived. Galatians 2:20

PM: T.J. Bolen—Here's what you do. Ecclesiastes 9:1-10

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

"Let your light so shine before men,
that they may see your good works,
and glorify your Father which is in heaven." - Matthew 5:16

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

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

BULLETIN EDITOR

Ed Kelleher

Office Phone (803) 796-8858

E-Mail: Ed@macro-inc.com

Email: TeeJayBolen@gmail.com

(803) 807-2754

T.J. Bolen

EVANGELIST

Saturdays 3 pm

Bring your Bible questions

Everyone Welcome!

Informal Bible Study

Bible Classes for all ages

Nursery provided

Office Phone (803) 794-5320

Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study

Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study

SERVICES

West Columbia Church of Christ
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www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

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The Bulletin



WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Order in the Church

Do you ever consider how dysfunctional the world is? It has become ridiculously hard to find satisfactory customer service across any industry. Good customer service is not extinct, but it is on the endangered species list.

How backwards has beginning a career become? Most employers require education and experience. The purpose of a job is to provide income. In order to get the income one has to spend tens of thousands of dollars (if not more) on education only to use the income from the job to repay loans necessary for education. How does one get experience necessary for a career if no employer will give a job to someone without existing experience? This whole process is insane.

Much worse than either of those is the rampant dysfunction which has found its way into so many, if not most families in the U.S. A significant problem without a fix in sight is the lack of fathers in many homes. A problem on the rise will be same-sex couples raising children whom God intended to be raised by a mother and father. There are also the children who never made it out of the womb because they were murdered by their mothers.

It's almost paralyzing to see how sin has been permitted to tear up so much. For many who find themselves caught in the midst of the devil's dysfunction they feel trapped. A great message the church must carry to the world is found in **Ephesians 2:1-3** “**And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you formerly walked according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath.**”

Notice how this was a description of who they *used* to be. Sometimes life can knock you down so fast you're not sure how you fell, and you have no idea how to get up. The answers to how aren't easy nor are they usually quick. But they are real in God. People need to know the church is a place to rid themselves of dysfunction because it is full of people who have done such, and continue to work to prevent themselves from leaving the order provided only in Christ.

- **T.J. Bolen**, Gospel preacher, West Columbia South Carolina

“... Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. - Ephesians 2:20-22

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Jan Kelleher, Margaret Herring, Stephanie Rigney, Dorothy Gray and family, Pat Joyner, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, also Richard Ramkinson.*

- **Steve Rigney’s** step mother **Fran** was to have open-heart surgery 9/21.
- Infant **Zakai Gray** hernia surgery has been postponed till **9/25**.
- **Remember: Janet Boyd** tending her mother, **Eileen Lester; Gwen Pittman; Anna Porter** who is very weak; **Amos Jones’** brother **Timothy**, in VA hospice.
- Pray for those our **evangelist is studying with**, that they will be receptive to the Gospel.
- **Pray for these**, send them a card, show them you love them.
- **Be thankful that God hears our prayers and answers! (1 John 5:15)**

"Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord." - Psalms 27:14

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **Church Survey** forms are in the foyer, please fill one out and put in the box by Oct 4th.
- **Church Devo**, Friday 10/16 at the Gamble’s home, 6:30 pm, check signup sheet.
- **Gospel Meeting, Windsor Lake Fri-Sat 7pm, Sunday, 10/9-10/11.**
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**

“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.” - 2 Corinthians 9:8

REGARDING DENOMINATIONS

“Then departed Barnabas to Tarsus, for to seek Saul: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.” - Acts 11:25,26

“Every denomination (Catholic or Protestant) had its origin this side of the New Testament. Every denomination has something in its teaching or practice that marks it as different from the church of the New Testament. Otherwise, it would not be a denomination.

As it was possible for an undenominational church to exist at Antioch, so it is possible now. Any church today that has the same faith and practice as did the church at Antioch (and other faithful New Testament congregations) is not a denomination, but a church of Christ”.—**David Pharr**, Gospel Preacher

“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.” - 1 Corinthians 1:10

IF THE ANSWER IS YES

“... upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” - Matthew 16:18

In determining whether or not any given denomination is the one true church revealed in the New Testament, a simple question can be posed to its sectarian adherents. The question is as follows: ***“Can an individual be saved outside your denomination?”*** If the answer is yes, then that religious group is most assuredly not the church. Here is why.

In Matthew 16:18, Jesus promised that He would build His church. Notice that Christ said HE would build the church and that only one would be built. That church is identified by the apostle Paul as the body (Eph. 1:22-23) and is said to be the only body (Eph. 4:4), hence the only church. This church is also identified as the bride and Christ as its bridegroom (Eph. 5:22-23; cf. Matt. 9:15; 25:1). Christ is not a polygamist. He has but one bride for which He nourishes and cares.

The beautiful bride of Christ, the church, consists of a blood-bought people who, by faith, have been baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38,47). Collectively, these baptized believers are known as the saved, the church, the body, the temple, and the kingdom (Acts 2:47; Col. 1:18; 1 Cor. 12:27; 1 Cor. 3:16; Col. 1:13, respectively). They belong to Christ, and wear His name (Rom. 16:16; 1 Pet. 4:16). It is this entity of people whom Christ will take to glory at the Judgment. Christ is clearly and unmistakably the Savior of this body - His body, the church (Eph. 5:23). Undeniably, salvation is to be found in the church and only in the church. Since the church is the body of Christ, and salvation is only in Christ (2 Tim. 2:10; Acts 4:12), it follows that one cannot be saved outside the church. When Christ comes again, He will save only those who are in His church.

Therefore, if an individual tells me that I do not have to be a member of their church to be saved, then I can know with certainty that their church is not the church of our Lord. Nearly all denominations assert that you can be saved even though you are not a member of their church. However, no one can be saved apart from the Lord's church. Thus, any religious group espousing the doctrine that salvation can be procured outside the church is not a church which belongs to Christ. Salvation is in the church. If you want to be saved, then you must be in the church.

“And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved” - Acts 2:47

John Moore, minister, Dripping Springs church of Christ, Texas

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!