

THE BULLETIN—VOL 42, NUMBER 06 February 1, 2016

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T.J. Bolen— What are we praying for?

PM: T.J. Bolen— Purposed in Heart, Daniel 1:8

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

**“But seek ye first the kingdom of God,
and his RIGHTEOUSNESS;
and all these things shall be added unto you.” - Matthew 6:33**

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

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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

THANKFULNESS

How do you **thank** someone? You might shake their hand, or give them a kiss and tell them so, or you might even write them a note. But the best way is to show them by valuing and using what you’ve received. Jesus gave the principle here:

**“My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue;
but in deed and in truth.” - 1 John 3:18**

Have you thought of how we show our “thanks” to God? God hasn’t left us guessing here. In 2 Peter 1:3 God said He would give us **“all things that pertain unto life and godliness”**. One thing is: He has given us a way we can **show** Him we are thankful for the gift of life, hope and peace He has given us through His Son:

“And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging. As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” - 1 Peter 4:8-10

The gifts (manifold grace) we have received He wants us to give to others—as richly and as full of grace, as God has given to us. As good stewards; He doesn’t want us to lock up and hoard what we’ve received. He wants us to minister (give, dispense) the same to others. So, show Him you’re thankful! He expects it:

“freely ye have received, freely give” - Matthew 10:8

God gave us His word, to **keep** us from sin, so we might live and be with Him— So **STUDY IT!** Use it, show Him you appreciate it as the gift of God. The following portion of God’s Word tells us **what** we should do (walk, even as He walked) and a good reason **why** (he is the propitiation, offering, that can remove our sin).

“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.” - 1 John 2:1-6

- Ed Kelleher, West Columbia church of Christ

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 2/7/2016

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

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

- **Prayers are requested** for: **Jan Kelleher** working in Hilton Head next week; **Mattie Charney, Paula Kennedy's** aunt (Garland's sister); **Jack Berrier**, in **LMC**, a neighbor to **Anna Porter** ; **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.

**"Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart,
all ye that hope in the Lord." - Psalms 31:24**

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **First Sunday Luncheon**, all are invited to stay and visit with one another. Men's meeting following.
- Fifteen from W. Columbia were at the **Twin City Church** singing and Gospel meeting last Sunday afternoon. It was good.
- **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.

“For with the same measure that ye mete it shall be measured to you again.” Luke 6:38b

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

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

- **Jennie Caldwell**, a friend of **Keith Carter** passed away last week after a fight with cancer. Please remember Keith and the family in your prayers.

“Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust. O my soul, thou hast said unto the LORD, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee; But to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight.” - Psalms 16:1-3

“If ye love me, keep my commandments.” - John 14:15

**Jesus had commandments. Do you know what they are?
Do you love him?**

Truth and Controversy

It is a recognized fact among those who seek to follow God that truth is absolute and attainable. We do not deny this. While some would have us believe that truth is subjective and elusive, the words of Jesus that ***“ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free”*** serve as our compass in these matters. In addition to truth being absolute, it is also dogmatic to the core. Two plus two equals four - there is no room for error. Sincerity of heart or honesty of motive does not annul this fact. Truth is also narrow. A college teacher writes the problem on the board. Twelve divided by two equals six. There is absolutely no room for deviation. The answer is NOT seven, nor is it five. But society does not argue, nor do they accuse the mathematician of being unloving, unkind, or bigoted.

Now we move to the "truth" that makes men free. It is not mathematical truth, nor is it scientific truth, but that which is revealed from God Almighty through holy men ***“moved by the Holy Spirit”*** (2 Peter 1:21). This truth is dogmatic to the core. It will not co-exist with error, nor can it. By its very nature it is narrow in its application. But unlike the mathematical truth that two plus two equals four, or twelve divided by two equals six, this "truth" of which we speak has eternal consequences. But how do men react when faced with this truth? Sincerity is placed above simplicity, and feelings take precedence over fact. Men become angry at the truth because it restricts their freedom to act and behave in their own chosen way. Rather than simply accept the truth and obey it, they argue with the facts presented, become agitated at the one speaking the truth, and close their ears and heart, as if their rejection of the same will annul their responsibility toward those things spoken.

Since the truth and only the truth will set me free, it would seem that all men, everywhere, would have such a disposition as to receive the truth at all costs. May we be like the Bereans who were more ***“noble than those in Thessalonica in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, examining the scriptures daily, whether these things were so”*** (Acts 17:11).

- **Tom Wacaster**, Gospel preacher, missionary, church of Christ

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

HE TOLD US TO BE CAREFUL!

“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort *you* that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.” - Jude 1:3,4

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