THE BULLETIN—VOL 43, NUMBER 12 March 26, 2017 SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Harvey Allen PM: Harvey Allen

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

HOW TO WALK WORTHY? Remember:

"He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in <u>this</u> world shall keep it unto life eternal."- John 12:25

Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called!

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! <u>SERVICES</u>

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study Office Phone (803) 794-5320 Nursery provided

<u>INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY</u> Saturdays 3 pm *Everyone Welcome!* Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members none at present time Full time position open

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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?

If 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 <u>doing</u> 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: <u>the word</u> that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day." - John 12:47,48

Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called!

"PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER" - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Merrie Christmus, Dorothy Gray & family, Margaret Herring, Richard Ramkinson, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, Stephanie Rigney.

- Ed Kelleher's had successful back surgery 3/13/17 and is having an excellent recovery at home..
- Remember also: Karen Wyatt with eye problem; Stephanie Rigby with recurrence of lymphoma; Margaret Herring was in the hospital for 4 days with esophageal problems; Dorothy Gray dealing with the many needs of her family; Tommy White and leg problems; Jamie Sheppard with upper respiratory infection; Jason Parks Traveling; Pat Joyner with vertigo; Laura Nichols friend and co-worker Tammy with spread of cancer, not much time and not much hope, pray that she desire to hear the word of God and a door be opened to her heart; Jan Kelleher continuing in a painful fight with metastatic disease.
- Visit **Anna Porter** at National Health Care on US 378. **Pray for all these** and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia. Give **thanks** to God for his goodness and love for us.

"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

"AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY" - Acts 2:42

- North Columbia church Gospel Meeting with Paul Powers to be the last week of March starting Mon-Thurs @ 7 PM subject "Walking by Faith".
- Remember signup sheet for college student meals on Wed! All are invited to stay.
- INVITE SOMEONE TO VISIT US! Give them one of the church cards that are on the table in the foyer. If you take some, please use them.
- See the thank you and visitor cards on bulletin board in foyer.
- Invite people to come to the informal Q&A **Bible study**, Saturdays 3pm.

"That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another." - 1 Corinthians 12;25

Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called! (Ephesians 4:1)

"REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!" - Romans 12:15

• Ed and Jan Kelleher are now GRANDPARENTS! David and Hale Kelleher had a baby boy (5 1/4 lbs) Jack Sheppard Kelleher 3/15/17 in Nashville TN. By all reports the baby is the most beautiful in the world. Jan was able to stay and help them get started with the nursing/diaper/ parent things, and got home safely Friday, though exhausted.. Praise God for his infinite mercy and care for us.

Don't despair! Remember:

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

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

Abraham believed God—and Obeyed! Noah believed God– and Obeyed! Want to be like them in God's sight? Have you—Obeyed?

"Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works." - James 2:17,18

Preaching The Truth In Love

Much is said about preaching the truth in love, and so it should be preached. But in love of what? The preacher should so love the truth that he will not sacrifice any of it nor pervert it, and he should so love people that he will not withhold from them even an unpleasant truth. He that does either of these things loves neither the church nor the people.

We frequently fool ourselves, thinking we do thus and so to spare the feelings of others when it is our own feelings that prompt us. "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Tim. 4:2-4).

- R. L. Whiteside 1869-1951, Gospel Preacher