

# 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 doing 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:  
the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.” - John 12:47,48

**KEEP YOUR HEART CLEAN IN 2013**

[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org) South Carolina 3/24/2013

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**SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:**

AM: **ED KELLEHER**

PM: **ED KELLEHER**

**JOIN US IN  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY!**

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

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*A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!*  
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To be announced  
**EVANGELIST**

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

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** *Judy Walker, Miles Johnson, Richard Ramkinson, Margaret Herring, Wilson Burton, Betty Mathis, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier.*
- **Carolyn Stidham** had back surgery at LMC.
- **Gwen Pittman** has had a particularly bad “common cold”, pray she’ll be with us again soon.
- **Judy Walker** is doing much better at Agape Rm 206B for rehab and may come home soon. Pray she continues to grow in strength.
- **Margie DeYoung** continues at National Healthcare Rm 108A for rehab for a broken hip, keep your prayers going up, they’re working!
- Keep **Jeremy Sailors** in your prayers, and the family as well. They requested prayers for their friend **Jody Myers**, a single mom, member of the church in Georgia, whose young son **Jaylen** has been diagnosed with leukemia.
- **Tommy White** requests prayers for **Jessie Mills** who has cancer.
- **Margie Bradford**, a member of the church in Arkansas, was visiting last Sunday and requested prayers for her son **Robert** who is serving in Afghanistan.
- Keep all these, and **the church here**, in your prayers. Our thanks and gratitude to those who watch, and work and pray for the church here. To those faithful in visiting and attendance, encouraging others by talking with them. To those quietly doing the many jobs necessary to keep the congregation functioning.

**“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**

- **Youth Rally April 20th Charlotte Ave church in Rock Hill..**
- Remember to send cards and letters to our sister **Lorraine Porter** who is unable to get out or receive visitors or phone calls due to her medical condition and sorely needs the encouragement.
- **BULLETINS BY EMAIL** sent each Friday. To subscribe, send email address to Ed.
- Remember to **send cards to our visitors.** **Marshall Mancuso** had had a bunch of nice cards printed, and **Jones Gamble** faithfully gets visitor cards posted with addresses. So help out yourself! Send a card, invite people to visit, then send more cards! Postage for a post card is \$.32, Send 3 for a dollar and keep the change!

**“If God be for us, who can be against us?” - Romans 8:31**

### **KEEP YOUR HEART CLEAN IN 2013**

**“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven;**

**but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.” - Matthew 7:21**

## **Justification By Faith Includes Baptism**

**“By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians as-saying 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**

### **KEEP YOUR HEART CLEAN IN 2013**

### **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**