

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 41, NUMBER 36 September 6, 2015

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: T.J. Bolen— Contacting the Blood of Christ

PM: T.J. Bolen—Still Searching, Ecclesiastes 7:23-29

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

“As we said before, so say I now again,

**If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received,
let him be accursed.” - Galatians 1:9**

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

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

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EVANGELIST

T.J. Bolen

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Sunday 10 AM Bible Study

Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly

Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study

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

WE NEED GRACE

Titus 2:11–14: ¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men, ¹² instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age, ¹³ looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

Have you ever thought of grace as a need? Normally “needs” are defined as what is necessary to sustain life: food, clothing, and shelter. For the sustenance of physical life these are indeed essential. However the needs of people are not strictly physical. We all have emotional, mental, and spiritual needs as well. In each case needs must be met to survive.

In Titus 2:11 we can understand grace is a spiritual need of men which is met by God (as all our needs can be when we trust Him). Paul does not seem to be speaking synonymously of Jesus in this section of scripture when he wrote “grace.” Even though to say we need Jesus is completely accurate. It is also true to say as of the writing of Titus that Jesus had already “appeared” on earth and His teachings could certainly be described by what is written in verses 12 and 14. Later in Titus Paul wrote of another item in 3:4 which had “appeared.” In that verse he said the kindness of God had “appeared.” When Paul wants to speak of our Savior he identifies Jesus in some way by a familiar name or title as seen in 2:13.

Making this distinction between grace and Jesus emphasizes the fact that grace has been made available for all men for all time. Knowing that grace “has appeared” we are told it was “bringing salvation to all men.” All men need to be saved and grace is what we need in order to be saved and stay saved as well. The grace delivered through Christ has made it possible for anyone to be saved; no one is excluded if they are willing to live by the standards of grace. This is a welcomed message for all of humanity since every last one of us need grace.

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

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 9/6/2015

“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.*

- **Margaret Herring** is in great pain, continuing radiation treatments and chemotherapy and trouble upon trouble, has been diagnosed with another serious cancer. **Keep her in your prayers!**
- **Jan Kelleher** and **Stephanie Rigney** continue chemo also. **Gail Allen** is doing well, recovering from knee replacement surgery Sept. 2nd.
- Infant **Zakai Gray** is to have hernia surgery **this** week.
- **Marshall Mancuso** is recovering from oral surgery and awaiting results.
- **Pat and Boyd Joyner** celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary last week.
- **Remember: Janet Boyd** tending her mother, **Eileen Lester**; **Gwen Pittman** feeling lonely in room **101** and **Anna Porter** who is very weak.
- Pray for those our **evangelist is studying with**, that they will 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)

“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” - 2 Tim 3:12

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **First Sunday** luncheon and men’s meeting, all are invited to stay and spend time together.
- **Save the Date!**—Friday evening 9/11 DEVO at the Bolen home.
- **Bible study, Saturdays, 3pm, informal, bring friends and your Bible questions.**

Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart,
and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling;” - 1 Tim 1:5,6

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!

THE WORD OF GOD—THE POWER OF GOD—ISAIAH 55:8-11

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

OVERCOMING HUMAN TRADITION

Many times a person will have difficulty accepting the truth taught in God's Word because it goes against what was formerly believed by the individual, and perhaps contradicts what he was always taught. This very thing happened to Alexander Campbell, who set out to restore New Testament Christianity in the 19th century. Campbell's family had always practiced infant baptism, and Campbell himself had been sprinkled. But when a child was born to Campbell and his wife in March of 1812, he determined to study the subject in light of the Bible alone.

Throwing aside the Presbyterian tradition in which he had been raised, Campbell was convinced through a study of the Bible that only penitent believers were appropriate subjects for baptism. He studied further and looked at the original language, and discovered that baptism was actually immersion.

Alexander related these conclusions to his father, Thomas Campbell, who agreed with his study. They realized that they had never been baptized into Christ. On June 12, 1812, Alexander Campbell and six others — his wife, sister, father, mother, and James Halen and his wife — were all baptized into Christ for the remission of sins.

The gospel is the power of God to save (Romans 1:16), but when men pervert the gospel it loses its power. This is the reason there are such stern warnings against changing what is revealed. "As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:9). Adding to and taking away from the message is strictly forbidden (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Campbells recognized and respected the Lord's authority on the question of baptism by immersion by penitent believers, as well as other points. While Alexander Campbell is not the founder of the church of Christ, nor is he our authority in religious matters, he serves as a good example on this point that we would all do well to imitate. Search the Scriptures for the answers to religious questions, and submit to the ordinances of God.

- **Jason T. Carter**, evangelist, Mt. Vernon Church of Christ, Park City, Kentucky

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) ...” - 1 Peter 3:21

Throwing aside man’s traditions, is one way to ...

Wake up! Strengthen the things that remain!