

THE BULLETIN—VOL 43, NUMBER 30 August 20, 2017

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Harvey Allen

PM: Harvey Allen

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

**"BE NOT OVERCOME OF EVIL,
BUT OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD" - ROMANS 12:21**

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

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

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

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

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

Jesus' Resurrection and the Life of a Christian

Is the fact that Jesus rose from the grave about 2,000 years ago really all that important to a Christian's faith? What if Jesus had never risen from the tomb in which He was buried? What if He were in the grave today? Could we still be Christians if Jesus had never arisen?

Consider what the apostle Paul told the Christians at Corinth about the resurrection of Christ. In a passage where he was writing about the reality of the resurrection of the dead at the end of time, he also mentioned Christ's resurrection, saying, "If Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty" (1 Corinthians 15:14). Then, three verses later, he made a similar statement, saying, "If Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (15:17). In other words, without Jesus' resurrection, no one would have any hope of going to heaven. The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of our faith (cf. Romans 1:4).

The early church multiplied quickly in just a few short years. They grew by "leaps and bounds." People were obeying the Gospel by the thousands, and one central message laid at the heart of their decision—the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4). Had Jesus never been raised from the grave, the Gospel never could have been preached. The Gospel is not about a "lifeless lord," but a "risen Redeemer." Jesus' resurrection gives meaning to a Christian's faith.

1. Every Sunday when Christians partake of the Lord's Supper, we remember the Lord's death "until He comes" (1 Corinthians 11:26). If Jesus were not risen, however, we would have no hope of His coming again, and Paul's statement here regarding the Lord's Supper would be meaningless.
2. Every time Christians pray "in Jesus name," we are relying on a risen Savior—Jesus—to mediate on our behalf (1 Timothy 2:5; cf. John 14:6; 1 John 2:1). But, if Jesus were not risen, our prayers would not be heard, and our petitions to have our sins forgiven could not be granted.
3. The only reason that preaching and baptizing (Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16) are of any importance at all is because **Jesus is not dead**, but alive. When a person is baptized "for the remission of sins" (Acts 2:38), he is raised from a world of sin, "just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father" (Romans 6:4).

Christians always need to keep in mind how important Jesus' resurrection is to our faith. We must not let the fact that Jesus' resurrection occurred nearly 2,000 years ago lessen the importance of His victory over death.

- by Eric Lyons, M.Min.

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www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org South Carolina 8/20/2017

“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.

- **Paula Kennedy's** cousin **Jeannette Lockey** is doing much better, off the ventilator and might get out of ICU soon to a rehab center.
- **Kim Beasley, Kelly (Kennedy) Beasley's** mother-in-law had a heart cath.
- **Stuart Schurr**, preacher at the Plaza church in Sumter has a serious cancer.
- **Judy Cornelius' son** is not well. **Also remember in prayer Stephanie Rigney** suffering from a recurrence of cancer; **Margaret Herring** with many ills; **Dorothy Gray** dealing with the many needs of her family; **Pat Joyner**, greatly concerned about leg problems; **Jan Kelleher** continuing in chemotherapy and a painful fight with metastatic disease.
- **Pray for all these**, and our search for an **evangelist** to help us with the work of the Lord here at West Columbia. Give **thanks** to God for his goodness and love for us.

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." - Philippians 4:6

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **David Paher**, missionary to Guyana will be speaking here Sunday 8/27/17 and **Ron Fleet**, potential new evangelist for us, will be speaking Sunday 9/3/17.
- **MEN!** Sunday AM and PM please find **Jason**, or whoever is putting together the assembly duty roster and volunteer to help with prayer, Lord's table, singing, etc.
- **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.

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. " -Philippians 4:13

IF YOU ARE GOING TO SERVE GOD, SERVE!

“And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? If the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him.” - 1 Kings 18:21.

If you've made the choice to serve God—Good! That's what God wants, because by serving, we'll make it to the end. But, then watch out for this one:

"For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire." - 2 Peter 2:20-22

Remember! He said we need to take up our cross **daily**—to die to self daily. It isn't done all at once, baptism is the beginning, not the end. Do something for God **each day**. It will build you up. Otherwise, we'll windup as He says.

The One Body

"There is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time." (1 Tim. 2:5-6). Christ is the *only* mediator between God and men, and we cannot be saved except through him. Those who reject Christ will be left out.

Not only is there one God and one mediator between God and men, but there is one body (**Eph. 4:4**). **"But now are they many members, yet but one body." (1 Cor. 12:20).** That one body is the church (**Eph. 1:22-23**). Christ is the head of the church, as the man is the head of his wife. **"For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body." (Eph. 5:23).** That church is the one body, which is made up of Christians.

There are not two bodies — a kingdom and a church — for the church is the kingdom of Christ. This harmonizes with the statement that there is one body. Then there is *"but one body"*, whether it be called "church" or "kingdom." Christ is the head of the church, or He is the King of the kingdom.

- E.M. Borden, Gospel preacher, late 1800's— early 1900', in Texas

The Same Way Now

Since the church of Christ is still in existence, should I be considered out of order when I contend that people enter the church now just as the people in the first century? **"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41).**

Peter preached the word, the people heard, believed, and repented, and the preachers baptized those who demanded it, but Christ accepted their obedience and received them into the church. **"And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved" (Acts 2:47).** Are people added to the same church in the same way now? The answer is, "Yes," for the Bible has not changed, and neither has Jesus Christ. Will you obey the Lord as they did on Pentecost and be added to His church by Him?

- E.M. Borden, Gospel preacher, late 1800's— early 1900', in Texas

DON'T BE DISCOURAGED BY OTHERS

Don't be discouraged by what others do or don't do. Our prime responsibility is for our own heart and what we do. We can pray for our brothers and sisters to be more faithful. And we certainly should be encouraged by the faith of others, as Paul was:

"And from thence, when the brethren heard of us, they came to meet us as far as Appii forum, and The three taverns: whom when Paul saw, he thanked God, and took courage" Acts 28:15

This encouragement is God's work—so strive to encourage others also.

But to be **discouraged** or **lose heart** because of others is **Satan's** doing, don't give in to it! Guard your heart against this discouragement.— Ed Kelleher, West Columbia