

GOD'S PLAN FOR SAVING US

God's Grace - Ephesians 2:8
God's Love and Mercy - Ephesians 2:4
Christ's Blood Shed - Romans 5:9-11
The Gospel - Romans 1:16

Our Response of Faith:

Believe - Acts 16:31; Mark 16:15-16
Repentance - Luke 13:3
Confession - Romans 10:10
Be baptized for remission of sins -
Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21
Be faithful, committed, walk in light -
Revelation 2:10; 1 John 1:7-10

When God Chooses

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physical trait that is important and God seeks the meek and humble, not the proud and arrogant. The Lord said many times, *"So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."* (Matthew 20:16). Therefore, even though we may not be the best, the most talented, or the best looking, there is always a place for us in God's family (1 Corinthians 12).

His Truth Marches On

by Dalton Key

The indictment of Isaiah against his generation, a people who had temporarily succeeded in turning truth upon its head, is no less applicable today: *"Woe unto them that call evil good; and good evil, that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!"* (Isaiah 5:20,21).

Though Isaiah's generation perished in captivity the truth continued to march on. Their calling "evil good; and good evil" did not make it so.

We face a similar challenge today, when right is called wrong and wrong is called right; when all things "gay" are assumed to be good, while God, oddly enough, is portrayed as one of this world's larger problems.

Everything we once thought was true is now decried as false; all we once thought to be false is now lauded as true. But never forget this: truth will prevail. In the final analysis, when all has been said and done, when once-powerful nations have long-since crumbled into the dust of oblivion, God's truth will prevail.

Men may deny truth's very existence. They may denounce it and demonize it. They may debate it incessantly. But truth will prevail.

In the words of James Russell Lowell, "There is no good in arguing with the inevitable. The only argument available with the east wind is to put on your overcoat."

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The Fear Factor

by Bill Brandstatter

We are all afraid of something. Some are afraid of snakes. Others are afraid of spiders. The Greek word is phobia. We know about claustrophobia and hydrophobia. Have you ever heard of phobia phobia? It is the fear of being afraid. Many today have this. As we look at our nation and the lives and deaths of neighbors, friends and family, fear seems to be part of our lives on a regular basis. There were Bible characters that may have been afraid. Being afraid is not the problem. The problem comes when we let fear control our lives and consume our thoughts and actions.

"God did not give us the Spirit of fear" (2 Tim. 1:7). Perhaps the young preacher Timothy had some fears as he ministered in the city of Ephesus. I can identify with some fears young preachers might have. As an older preacher, I still have some. In the text above Paul mentions love and a sound mind. This simply means God wants us to think correctly. Fear often warps and changes our thinking.

God wants us to fear but not be fearful. There is a right and healthy fear. Solomon wrote: "Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man" (Eccl. 12:13,14). The fear of God includes reverence and respect. It also includes the justice of God upon those who disobey (Matt. 10:28). We should have fear of evil and what it can do to us if we are overtaken by it.

God wants us to not be afraid of other people. The writer of Hebrews states, "So we may boldly say: 'The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?'" (Heb. 11:6). Do we fear men? Sometimes we may fear those in positions of high authority. We might fear a boss, a governor, or a president. We might fear someone who is aggressive and threatening. The Bible says not to fear them.

God wants us to place our trust in Him. We need to pray to Him and He will take care of us (Phil. 4:6). We need not be fearful but faithful.

NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Billy Bybee is home from the hospital. He and Janice Sue are recuperating at home; Margie Gentry is at home and is on oxygen; Becky Hatcher is at home. Wayne continues to be her caregiver; Lisa Schuler's mom Juanita Ward; her sister Linda with COVID complications; Mike Thompson; Mark Hatcher (back); Joyce Dye had a Caudal Nerve Block in her spine a few days ago; Laura Brooks staying with her daughter; Lori Brewer; Brenda Jaggars; Chad Davis undergoing treatments for colon cancer; Tom Whittington; Mary Thompson; Parker Bybee; Bobby Pedigo; health care workers; staffs in our school districts; first responders; all the victims from the recent storms

Friends in our community:

Jerry Cherry; Chris Houk; Greg Gore (cancer); Brad Bailey

IN THE HOSPITAL

Malon Schuler's mom, Ann Schuler was admitted to Medical Center at Caverna.

Vincent Ward (Lisa Schuler's dad) has tested positive again for COVID. He has been transferred to the Med Center in BG

PRAY FOR MISSIONS WE SUPPORT

Nepal and Bangladesh - Michael Brooks
The Barnabas Journey - Ed Bass
House To House/Heart To Heart mailing

HIGHLAND RIDGE in Glasgow
Wanda Proffitt

NHC in Glasgow
Jean Turner

BARREN COUNTY HEALTHCARE in Glasgow
Ruth Bradford

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

We meet at 6:00. Scott Huff will be the teacher this Wed. Thanks to Darrell Wallace for a great lesson on the faith of Abraham last Wed. from Heb. 11:8ff

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Today is our 7th lesson in the Winter Quarter "Isaiah Part 1" Today's topic: *"The Prince of Peace"* Isaiah 9:1-10 - 10:2 Wayne Hatcher continues to serve as teacher.

PREACHING TODAY

Wayne Hatcher will be preaching today at 11 am "The Wrath of God" and 5 pm "Without Authority"

TUNE IN TO OUR RADIO PROGRAMS

on WLOC radio on Sunday mornings to hear our broadcast: on 101.7 FM or 1150 AM or from their webpage: wloconline.com

8:30-8:45 a.m. **Words of Truth** - Billy Bybee
8:45-9:00 a.m. **Truth In Love** - Wayne Hatcher

POTTER CHILDREN'S HOME & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Special thanks to all of you for the excellent participation with the commodities and for your financial help.

Commodities valued at \$350, checks for \$270, cash \$100 and a check from the church \$300 - for a total of \$1,020 Seven coin cans were also returned.

We have six new cans available on a first come basis. They are in the foyer.

TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

What does James say is a restless evil and full of deadly poison?

Answer to our question last week:

If He was King of the Jews Luke 23:3

Are You Willing To Pay the Price?

by Al Behel

Following a concert a lady approached the great pianist, Paderewski, and said, "I would give my life to play like that." Paderewski answered, "I did."

On an average, it takes 50,000 hours to

make a concert pianist. That's 19 years, 113 days, at 8 hours a day. Some are willing to pay the price; others are not. In other words, one must give his or her life to be a great pianist.

I can't help wondering what it takes to become a real disciple of Jesus. Our religious world makes it easy. No major sacrifice of time or energy. No serious study of Scripture. No exercising of one's mental and spiritual muscles to achieve maturity in Christ. Just sign up and attend a few church services and give a little money. That's all that is required.

Is that really true? Is discipleship easy? When I read the words of Jesus there seems to be a lot more involved. He speaks of denying oneself and taking up a cross to follow Him. He speaks of persecution and suffering, of selling all that we have. He says we must seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness. He even goes so far as to say we must love others the way He loves us. He offers no salvation without baptism and a cross (Matthew 28:18-20). A cross is a place to die. Are you willing to pay the price?

Discipling others requires much time and effort, too. Some active personal evangelism leaders have estimated that it may take more than 50 hours to lead an interested individual to become a true follower of Christ. Are you willing to make yourself an instrument through whom the Lord can reach the hearts of those around you. Are you willing to pay the price?

He said, *"No one comes to the Father but by me."* There is no other way, no other option. He is the only way, and truth, and life (John 16:6) And there is salvation in no other name (Acts 4:12). Are you willing to pay the price of being His disciple?

When God Chooses

by Jay Launius

When we were kids and chose teams for a playground ballgame, the biggest, fastest and best players were always picked first. That left the scrawny and weaker kids to be chosen last. That's just the way it was and still is today. In our society, the strongest, best looking, most talented and wealthiest are the people chosen to succeed and be admired by all. Celebrity worship is prevalent in our country, thus leaving the less-famous to be considered less important and the last to be chosen by our culture.

However, when it comes to God's Kingdom, the opposite is true. God always seemed to choose the underdog to serve Him and complete His missions. He chose Gideon, the *"least in his father's house"* to save Israel from the Midianites (Judges 6). God chose David, a shepherd boy to be king over His people because *"the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."* (1 Samuel 16:7). When Jesus came to earth, He didn't appear as a magnificent specimen of a man. The old prophet said of Him, *"he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him."* (Isaiah 53:2 ESV). Jesus probably wouldn't have been first pick for the team. When it came to choosing the twelve Apostles, He didn't pick the most likely candidates. Some fishermen and a hated tax collector would be among those chosen to take the gospel to the world.

So where does that leave us? The Scriptures are clear that God has given the gospel call to every person (Romans 1:16; Titus 2:11) whether beautiful or homely, rich or poor, gifted or challenged. Jesus said it is the attitude, not the

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