

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

Four Truths About Rules

con't from pg. 3
Even if we kept all other rules, or kept the rule we broke at all other times, we would but keep ourselves from further sin, "For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all" (James 2:10). Keeping rules today would earn no credit to atone for previous sins.

There are conditions given by God that we must meet to be forgiven, but meeting conditions is not the same as keeping all the rules. When we meet the Lord's conditions because we trust the One who gave them, we are saved by grace through faith. If we think we are saved because we have kept all the rules, we trust ourselves and our own efforts, and we are condemned by our failure to fully comply, for "there is none righteous, no, not one" (Romans 3:10).

God has rules, and they must be kept. "The royal law" contains rules: "Do not commit adultery . . . Do not murder" (James 2:8-11). They are not arbitrary rules. They are given for our benefit by One who both knows and wants what is best for us, but they are rules. Persistently willful transgressors are condemned, not justified.

He who breaks God's rules is broken by them. They are not transgressed with impunity.

—Adapted, Cecil May, Jr.

via House To House Heart To Heart

"Let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind." Philippians 3:16

The Church Family Is Like...

a deeply rooted tree with branches of different strengths all receiving nourishment from our Father in heaven. Where all members contribute and share, works together and accepts their responsibilities toward the good of the entire body.

Ephesians 4: 1-16



A Weekly Publication of the Horse Cave CHURCH OF CHRIST

120 Cave Street
Horse Cave, KY 42749

TIME OF SERVICES (CST):

Sunday: Bible Study 10 a.m. Worship 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study 6 PM

Church Webpage: www.horsecavecoc.com

Bulletin Editor: Wayne Hatcher

Focused on Christ - Thankful for our Salvation - Glorifying the Lord - Serving through Love - Preaching Christ to the World

We gladly welcome you to our congregation, trusting that - if you are *seeking Christ* you will find Him here, if *sorrowing* you will receive comfort and strength here, if *troubled in spirit* you will gain the blessing of peace here, if *discouraged* you will rejoice in encouragement and hope here, if *friendless* you will find companionship and Christian love here. That these and other blessings may be yours is our prayer.

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Give Me A Sign

by Joe Slater

God has never required trusting obedience without evidence. Biblical faith is not blind faith. Throughout the ages He has shown Himself to be infinitely worthy of our confidence.

In ancient times He used signs (miracles) to confirm His word. Jesus utilized abundant signs during His ministry. Despite such clear proof, His enemies taunted, "We want to see a sign from You" (Matthew 12:38). But Jesus, knowing their corrupt hearts, rejected their ploy. He would give them no sign except His resurrection!

God has blessed us today with His completely revealed, confirmed, and recorded word. His inspired apostles worked innumerable signs to verify it. That task being complete, no further proof is needed. Supernatural gifts, therefore, have ceased (1 Corinthians 13:8-10).

Nevertheless, many even today clamor for a sign! A difficult decision confronts us - "Give me a sign, Lord!" We want to know what the future holds - "Lord, send me a sign!"

More often than not, modern sign-seekers assume their subjective feelings are signs from God. "This decision gives me peace, so it must be God's will." Such reasoning is backward! We ought to be at peace because we know our decision is according to God's written will, not just assume it is God's will because we feel at peace.

It all goes back to "facts, faith, and feelings." God's word establishes the facts. Upon God's word we base our faith. Knowing that we have trusted and obeyed God's word should make us feel good. Many, however, have reversed this order: "I feel like this is right; therefore, that's what I believe; therefore, it must be God's will."

We have God's confirmed will. We need no signs!

HORSE CAVE CHURCH OF CHRIST

120 Cave Street

Horse Cave, KY 42749

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NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Becky Hatcher passed out while Wayne was trying to get her out of the car on Tues. after dialysis. She was released after three hrs. in the ER, thankful she is better; Lori Brewer's back surgery is on hold as needs a heart cath first before surgery can be done; Lois Edwards recovering at home from a fractured C1 in her neck; Dennis Hatcher still has to wear the boot on his foot for three more weeks; Mark Hatcher having more back issues; Sue Bunnell; Jackie Coop; Mike Thompson; Fran Mears; Laura Brooks; Joey Palmore; Becky Bush; Dixie Napier's son Randy is undergoing treatments; Daryl Lowe taking chemo treatments; Gayla Fudge Graham's surgery went well, still more treatments; Merida Brooks (Bessie Brooks' sister-in-law) is having health problems; Victoria Adams recovering from a broken leg; Mary Hatcher; Parker Bybee; Bobby Pedigo; Glenda Turner (friend of Wayne & Becky in Statesville, NC

PRAY FOR MISSION EFFORTS WE SUPPORT

Nepal and Bangladesh - Michael Brooks
House To House/Heart To Heart local mailing
Manna Project

HIGHLAND RIDGE Glasgow

Wanda Proffitt

NHC Glasgow

Jean Turner

BARREN COUNTY HEALTHCARE Glasgow

Ruth Bradford

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

We are in our Spring Quarter on the theme: Gospel Personages. Lesson 9 "Nathanael" John 1:43-51; John 21:1-4 Wayne will serve as the teacher this week.

PREACHING TODAY

Since today is a 5th Sunday, **Robbie Fudge** will be back with us to preach at 11 am and 5 pm. This is home for Robbie, Tanya and Gayla. Their dad the late B.A. Fudge

preached here for a little over 30 years. We will not have a potluck meal today.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Wayne is scheduled to teach this Wed. as we meet at 6 p.m. Scott Huff had an excellent lesson last Wed. introducing the book of Colossians.

OUR RADIO PROGRAM

We are sponsoring "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" heard on our local radio station WLOC 101.7 FM and 1150 AM each Sunday morning from 8:30 - 9:00 with **Phil Sanders**. Please pray for this work as we sow the seed of the gospel His lesson for April 30 - "*Can A Christian Be Lost?*" Lessons in May

May 7 - "*Finding the Truth*"

May 14 - "*I Am Not Ashamed*"

May 21 - "*Rejoice in the Lord*"

May 28 - "*Can I Repent?*"

RECOMMENDED TV PROGRAMS

"*Light of the World*" Lehman Ave. Church of Christ in Bowling Green Viewed on SCRTC cable channel 7 from 6:30-7:00 am

"*In Search of the Lord's Way*" with Phil Sanders carried by WNKY TV on channel 7 on SCRTC cable - Sun 7-7:30 am

GBN seen on our local SCRTC cable on 113

ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

4 days John 11:39

Make the Right Choices

by Edd Sterchi

A miser who had worn the same hat for fifteen years decided with a heavy heart that it was time to buy a new one. Going into the only hat shop in the neighborhood, he said to the clerk, "Well, here I am again." Decisions, decisions! We have to make them all the time. We will make a lot of choices in life and with each decision we make, let us remember this: Life has many choices – but eternity has only two. con't next pg.

Think about it. Every choice we make either helps or hinders us concerning getting to heaven. Now, some decisions we make seemingly do not affect eternity, like whether to purchase a different car or not. But it still affects us in many ways: our financial condition affects much of our lifestyle which affects our lives which affects our spirituality. So, in a way, every decision potentially affects our eternity.

Jesus talked about this when He said, "He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad." (Matt. 12:30). If we make decisions that do not involve Jesus and His will, then we make decisions that are against Him. We need to make every choice as if our eternal destiny was held in the balance – for it may very well be.

Some people try to have it both ways or "straddle the fence" and think the decisions they make really don't make that much of a difference one way or the other. But, in reality, that's not possible. It's always either one or the other. Jesus also said in Matt. 6:24, "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." With every important decision we make, we are either serving God or Satan.

So make every decision very carefully – your eternity may very well depend upon it. Yes, life has many choices, but eternity has only two. Keep that in mind the next time you have a decision to make.

"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is

the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it." (Matt. 7:13-14)

Four Truths About Rules

Christians are not subject to man-made rules. Paul warned against commandments of men such as, "Do not touch . . . taste . . . handle" (Colossians 2:21-22). Such rules, he said, "have an appearance of wisdom" in man-made religion but are of no value in restraining fleshly indulgence (2:23).

Jesus rebuked those who were "teaching as doctrines the commandments of men" (Matthew 15:9). He never violated a commandment of God, but He almost seemed to go out of His way to demonstrate His refusal to keep the "tradition of the elders" (Matthew 12:1-9; 15:2).

Those who bind man-made rules on the church claim authority that belongs only to God. Those who submit to them as essential to salvation, at least in some instances, doubt the sufficiency of the gospel to save, and fall from grace (Galatians 5:4).

Rules are not the essence of Christianity. Christ is the essence of Christianity. The gospel is good news. God loves us and gave His Son for us. Christ paid the penalty for sin, which we had no ability to pay. This is the essence of Christianity and makes the gospel.

Rules are not the basis of our salvation. To be saved on the basis of keeping rules, it is necessary never to break a rule. When we break a rule of God, we become sinners. A sinner must be forgiven to be saved, and only God can forgive.

We can neither formulate rules that would earn our forgiveness, nor earn our forgiveness by keeping rules God has given.

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