

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

Rules or Love?

by Johnny Hester

Long ago I grew tired of the wrangling: "Is the Bible a 'book of rules' or a 'love letter'?" The very posing of the question itself reflects an obvious need for greater spiritual maturity. Think about it ...

The small child may, at times, see his parents primarily as dictators - whose sole function in life, it seems, is to issue restrictions and rules by which he must abide. "Rules! Is that all they think about?" However, when the child matures, he begins to see that these rules were clear evidence of his parent's love. The rules were not issued to benefit the parents, but to protect, guide and bless the child.

So it is with our Father in heaven. Rules? Yes, God gives us rules by which He expects us to abide. His revelation to man, the bible, should be seen as loving instruction which will ultimately lead us to Him. He loves us and wants us to live with Him eternally in heaven.

Carefully examine the words of Jesus: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has not one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends" (John 15:12-13). Just imagine the phenomenal change and the amazing blessings which would result from our living one another in the same way Jesus loves us. He was willing to die on a Roman cross for our salvation. There is no greater love than that which would compel one to "lay down [his] life for his friends!" To love one another in just this way, said Jesus, "is My commandment." It is a rule issued in love to foster love among us.

Let us endeavor to grow in our love for the Lord. This, will, in turn, enable us to love one another as He loves us.



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**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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A Few Bible Verses On Being Thankful

Psalms 20:4 *Grant thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel.*

Psalms 30:12 *To the end that my glory may sing praise to thee, and not be silent. O LORD my God, I will give thanks unto thee for ever.*

Psalms 69:30 *I will praise the name of God with song. I will magnify His name with thanksgiving!*

Psalms 100:4 *Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.*

Psalms 106:1 *Praise ye the LORD. O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*

Psalms 107:1 *O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*

Psalms 118:1-18 *O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: because his mercy endureth for ever.*

Romans 1:21 *Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

1 Corinthians 15:57 *But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Ephesians 5:20 *Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;*

Colossians 4:2 *Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

-Wayne Hatcher

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NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Billy Bybee is in hospital having tests; Dianna Proffitt was taken to hospital on Tues. with a heart attack. We're thankful they were able to quickly open up the artery that was 100% blocked, no serious damage. She is home resting; Jackie Coop went into TJ and had surgery to break up kidney stones; Rob Miller (Joey & Susan Palmore's son-in-law is to have surgery tomorrow. We pray it will relieve his pain; Becky Hatcher at home, Wayne continues to be her caregiver; Janice Sue Bybee is scheduled for knee surgery on the 24th; Sue Bunnell; Rex Wallace waiting to see Neurologist in Feb.; Laura Brooks is staying with her daughter Rhonda and family since leaving the hospital; Lisa Schuler's ankle has made improvements; Lori Brewer; Brenda Jaggars; Mike Thompson; Mark Hatcher (back issues); Sara Brooks; Jake Quenzer (grandson of Laura Brooks); Tom Whittington; Mary Thompson; Parker Bybee; Steve Higginbotham; Samantha Richardson that she delivers a healthy baby; Christians in Afghanistan whose lives are in danger; health care workers; staffs in our school districts, first responders; today marks 1 yr. since Wayne & Becky lost their granddaughter Becca

Friends in our community:

Jerry Cherry; Seaborn Ellzey; Dana Reagan; Billy Frank Hunt; the family of Dan Lee

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

GLENVIEW HEALTH CARE in Glasgow

Jerry Ann Logsdon

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Today is our 12th lesson in the Fall Quarter "Exploits of David" Today's topic: "David, Bathsheba and Uriah" 2 Samuel 11: 1-11, 14-17, 21-27 Wayne Hatcher continues to serve as teacher.

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

PREACHING TODAY

Darrell Wallace 11 am and 5 pm
We always look forward to being together on the Lord's Day.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Last Wed. night Scott Huff a great lesson on "Discernment" The Lord willing, Darrell Wallace will be our teacher. Be here for another good lesson from him.

GOSPEL MEETING

Dec. 5-7 at Coral Hill Church of Christ "The Cross of Christ" I Cor. 1:23 Guest Speaker: Josh Allen Sun. 10 am & 6 pm, Monday & Tuesday 7 pm

GREAT REASON TO REJOICE

Lauren Neville was baptized into Christ for remission of her sins Thurs. night. She is the daughter of Les & Ashley Neville, granddaughter of Steve & Sarah Neville, Ken & Carolyn Russell and great granddaughter of Margie Gentry.

TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

What were the first words Jesus said to the eleven disciples when they saw him for the first time after he resurrection?

Answer to our question last week:

Zechariah & Zephaniah

"I want it my way"

by Jeff Arnette

Have you ever said that? I bet a lot of us have never said that! Well, I bet we haven't said it "out loud" for others to hear. Yet, I would venture a guess that we have all acted that way at one time or another. This way of thinking is almost typical of most Americans. We have grown up thinking that we are entitled to get what we want simply because we are Americans. We have been told so many times that if we want it and work hard, we will get it. I think it goes even further because we believe that we should get what we want. This mindset creates people who try to conform to Christ and Christianity to suit their wants and expectations.

This has affected the way people approach God. It doesn't matter if it is worship or how to become Christians. We want it our way, and if we don't get it, we will go in search of a place where we can get it our way. You would think that it was not a big problem, especially since Christians should be Christ-like and selfless. The problem is that the majority of those who call themselves Christian are not Christ-like. Instead, they are narcissistic, selfish, and egocentric.

This has affected the way we accept teachings about difficult subjects. As soon as someone teaches something that does not line up with what we want to believe we leave or at least try to change it. If we want a church that believes that homosexuality is ok, we will go in search of it until we find it. If we want a church that is ok with any number of sins, it is not hard to find a church that will say it is ok. If we want an exciting church, with lots of programs, and lots of

things designed to entertain us, it too is not hard to find. I could go on, but I think you get my point. The reason for the thousands of churches in America is because we want a church to cater to our wants and desires.

I have actually had people tell me, "If I don't get what I want, I will go find someone who will."

This attitude is anti-Christian and opposes everything Jesus Christ lived and embodied. Church, it is time that we lay down such attitudes and pick up the new life Christ died to give us.

Stop right here and open your bible and read Ephesians 4:20-24. Don't continue until you have read it for yourself.

Paul's point is that we should put off the "old self." The "old self" is the person we were before becoming Christians. That person was corrupt and sentenced to death, but the good news is that in our obedience to Jesus, the old person has died. This is what baptism is meant to teach us (Romans 6:3-4). As Paul said, it is time to be renewed in our thinking, in our minds, and in our spirit. It is time that we put on the new self that is created by God, to be just like Him.

So let me challenge you to learn, think, and grow. Just as important, I want you to focus on becoming more Christ-like in what you do, more Christ-like in how you treat others, and more Christ-like in your willingness to conform your life and actions to the will of God.

Romans 12:2 - "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."