

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

Polish Your Shield

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!" (Psalm 34:8, ESV).

The devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8). If you are a child of God, Satan's eyes are upon you, watching for your slightest weakness, looking for a way to take you. You may not know it, but he is constantly chipping away at your shield until it becomes damaged enough for him to attack.

Our shield is our faith in God. Satan never ceases sending his flaming arrows at it, and they have many names: the death of a loved one; illness and pain; disappointment in ourselves and others; discouragement; the lure of the world, always tempting us to take the easy way out, enjoy ourselves, and give up on following God's teaching and commandments; the lust for power, wealth, and the praise of men; false teaching.

Let's face it. We are weak, and Satan knows how to tempt us. He is waiting for us to take our eyes off God and Jesus and let life's circumstances get to us. We need to polish our shield now and not wait until one or more of Satan's flaming darts pierces our faith.

So polish your shield. Look to the things above and not below. Take refuge in God and His Son. Reach for His hand to guide you as you study His Word for encouragement and strength. Pray always. Wait for our blessed hope, the appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ. Remember that you are heirs of eternal life and look forward to the hope of glory in heaven with God and Christ. A strong faith in our God who is our refuge will keep you from Satan and His schemes.

- by Donna Wittlif



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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Friend or Enemy? by Joe Slater

At first the Galatians Christians counted Paul as a friend - indeed, as a beloved brother who had led them to the Lord. They would have done anything to help him, even to the extreme of plucking out their own eyes, had that been possible (Galatians 4:15). Now, however, false teachers had slandered Paul, and the fickle Galatians had fallen for it. The frustrated apostle asked in the next verse, "Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?" How tragically foolish to treat a faithful proclaimer of truth as an enemy!

But it was nothing new. Centuries beforehand, God sent Elijah to rebuke King Ahab for murdering Naboth to steal his vineyard. Ahab reproached the prophet thusly: "Have you found me, O my enemy?" (1 Kings 21:20). Truth be told, Elijah was Ahab's best friend. Warning the king of impending judgment gave him opportunity to repent. But evil Ahab and his wicked wife, Jezebel preferred to kill the messenger!

Even before the time of Ahab, the apostate King Saul attempted to murder his faithful warrior David despite having sworn in the name of the Lord not to do so. Saul reprimanded his own daughter for hiding David, referring to him as "my enemy" (1 Samuel 19:17). Like Ahab and the Galatians, Saul's own sins twisted his mind into treating a true friend as an enemy.

Loyal servants of God will not simply tell you what you want to hear. Because they are your friends, they will tell you the truth.

Do not expect worldly people to appreciate you when you speak the truth. They may well see you as their enemy! "If the world hates you, know that it hated Me before it hated you" (John 15:18).

HORSE CAVE CHURCH OF CHRIST
120 Cave Street
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NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Lois Edwards continues to improve after her stroke; Becky Hatcher continues further treatment and rehab at home. Wayne is serving as her caregiver. Home Health is providing some teaching & nursing as needed twice a week; Lori Brewer had back surgery Thurs. in Bowling Green, came home Sat. afternoon; Sue Bunnell; Joyce Dye; Lisa Schuler; Helen Edwards; Fran Mears; Mark Hatcher; Mike Thompson; Tom & Mary Whittington; Laura Brooks; Agnes Seaton; Jerry Ann Logsdon; Bonnie Turner; Joey Palmore; Parker Bybee; Mary Thompson; Gayla Graham; Bobby Pedigo; Steve Higginbotham

Friends in our community: Jerry Cherry; Seaborn Elzey; Joey Johnson; James Gardner; Dana Reagan (CHS. friend of Janice Bybee; Billy Frank Hunt (CHS classmate of Billy Bybee)

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

Ruth Bradford

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS

Today is our 1st lesson in the Summer Quarter on the theme: "Peter's Epistles" Today's topic: "Introductions" 1 Peter 1:1-12; 2 Peter 1:1-4 Wayne Hatcher continues to serve as teacher.

TUNE IN TO OUR RADIO PROGRAMS

on WLOC-FM on Sunday mornings to hear our radio 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

RECOMMENDED TV PROGRAMS

In Search of the Lord's Way is on WNKY channel 7 or 307 (HD) on Sundays at 7 a.m. on SCRTC cable. Speaker: Phil Sanders

Also, we recommend GBN (Gospel Broadcasting Network) seen 24/7 on channel 113 on SCRTC cable.

PREACHING THIS MORNING

Wayne returns to the pulpit this morning at our 11 worship. Sermon: "What Saul Was Finally Able to See While Blind"

At 5 pm: "Our God of a Second Chance"

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

Beginning tonight, June 6, we will resume meeting at 5:00. As things are beginning to return to some "normalcy", you are encouraged to resume the practice of coming on Sunday evenings.

ELDERS DEACONS MINISTER

monthly meeting this afternoon at the building at 3:00. As always if any member has any questions or concerns, contact one of our elders.

POTTER CHILDREN'S HOME

has ask us to donate the following items for their pantry needs:

Yellow Cake Mix All Purpose Flour
Canned Vegetable Soup Pancake Syrup
Peanut Butter & Cheese Crackers

They will be here the week of July 11 to pick up ours donations.

TEST YOUR BIBLE IQ

In Saul's first battle against the Philistines who were the only two in the Israelite army to carry swords?

The answer to our question last week:

until the Son of Man is raised from the dead Matt. 17:9

The Gospel of Matthew

by Jeff Arnette

One of the first things I want you to notice about Matthew's gospel is the fact that it's anonymous. Nowhere in the text does it clearly say who wrote it, but there is no need to worry about the authorship of the first gospel since the early church and scholars all agree that it was Matthew, the apostle.

Matthew was a Jew whose name means "gift of Yahweh." He was employed as a tax collector in Capernaum, which implies that he was engaged in taxing fishermen like Peter and John. Matthew's response to Jesus' call to discipleship is immediate, decisive, and sacrificial. He even throws a celebration dinner for Jesus (Matt. 9:9-13), inviting all his friends (fellow tax collectors and sinners) to meet Jesus.

Matthew's purpose for writing is clear from the text. He writes as a Jew for Jews. He wants these Greek-speaking Jews to that Jesus is the Promised Messiah of God. In Jesus, the promises of God to send a Messiah and restore Israel have begun (Matt. 5:17-18). From Matthew, we learn that Jesus is the promised Messiah and the fulfillment of the entire opus of God's word.

In the opening chapters of Matthew (1-4), we see Jesus as "the son of David," "the son of Abraham," and as "God with us." In the later chapters, Jesus is revealed as the "Son of Man" of Daniel 7 and the "Suffering Servant" of Isaiah 53. Throughout the book, the events of Jesus' life are represented as the fulfillment of God's promises to Israel yet, they rejected their Messiah and placed themselves in the most perilous position (Matt. 11:20-24; 21:33-46).

An interesting point for you to consider is that Matthew includes five major sermons or teaching discourses of Jesus (Matt. 5-7, 10,

13, 18, 23-25), each one ending with these words, "...when Jesus finished..." (Matt. 7:28, 11:1, 13:53, 19:1, 26:1). What is intriguing about this is that Matthew seems to present Jesus as the new Moses complete with his five books (Moses and the five books of law).

Like Moses, Jesus' birth was surrounded by miracles and caused turmoil among the leaders. He survives when the other male children are massacred, and like Moses, Jesus goes into and is called out of Egypt. Like Moses, Jesus spends 40 days separated from everyone in the wilderness, in preparation for his ministry, and then gives his teachings about what God wants (Matt. 5-7).

Matthew teaches us that Jesus is God (God with us), that the kingdom is God's rule and reign in the hearts of His people, that salvation comes through Jesus' sacrifice for our sins, the servant king of promise, and the people of God will become a redeemed community of both Jews and Gentiles.

Use What You Have

Shamgar had an ox goad;

David had a sling;

Dorcas had a needle;

Rahab had some string;

Samson had a jawbone;

Aaron had a rod;

Mary had some perfume;

All were used by God.

--Author Unknown