

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 the
light - Revelation 2:10; 1 John 1:7

The **Great Commission Commands...** from pg. 1

The Savior said, "*he that believeth and is baptized shall be saved*" (Mark 16:16). He did NOT say, "*He who believes and prays shall be saved.*" But, that is exactly what is being taught by so many today. There is no account of any alien sinner, living under the New Covenant, being commanded to pray to become saved, but we read of thousands being baptized for the forgiveness of sins! How is it then that "asking Jesus into your heart" is perhaps the most widespread "plan of salvation" these days, even though it is not in the Bible at all?

How is it that we have so many churches convincing people they are saved, even though those people have not done what God commanded to be saved? If those churches do eventually baptize people, they tell them it is for a different purpose than what God said. Maybe this happens so often because most people do not study for themselves, but unknowingly put their trust in false teachers, or maybe they simply have not studied enough to learn how the Scriptures harmonize.

Friends, it is past time to get things like this figured out, and if you want to study this further, I will be glad to help because I love you and care about your soul.

Take time to read these passages: Prov. 16:25; 28:9; Matt. 7:13-27; 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:47; John 3:5; 9:31; 12:42, 43; 20:23; Acts 9:6-19; 17:11; 22:16; Rom. 6:3-5, 16-18; Gal. 3:27; Eph. 5:26; Col. 2:11-13; 2 Tim. 2:15-18; Heb. 10:22; James 2:19-26; 1 Peter 1:22; 3:12, 20-21; 1 John 6-9; 2:12.

P.O. Box 759 Baker, FL
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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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The Great Commission Commands Water Baptism, Not Prayer

by Jason Patrick Hilburn

Do you know how John prepared people for the Savior? He was "*preaching the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins*" (Mark 1:5; cf. Luke 24:47; Acts 2:38). People were being baptized in water "*to flee the wrath to come...unquenchable fire*" (Matt. 3:7-12). John was getting people ready for the Great Commission of Jesus who had come to save people from their sins and would thus command the whole world to be baptized in water for the forgiveness of sins. Yes, the Savior commanded baptism, knowing that the whole purpose of His Great Commission was to save people!

All four Gospel accounts of the Great Commission either explicitly or implicitly include water baptism, and on the first day the Great Commission was carried out, guess what the lost people were told to do:

1) Were they told they were already saved because they now believed in Jesus (Acts 2:37)?

2) Were they told to pray? No, they were told, "*Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins...Save yourselves*" (Acts 2:38,40).

The pattern of water baptism for salvation is seen throughout Acts - to "*wash away sins*" (Acts 22:16). Prayer was not mentioned at all in the Great Commission because that is not what people do to be saved - to become Christians. That is what people do AFTER they have been baptized in water to become saved - forgiven (Prov. 28:9; John 9:31; Acts 8:12-24; 1 John 1:9; 2:12; 1 Peter 3:12, 20, 21).
(con't on back page)

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NEWS & NOTES...

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Doris Wallace's back surgery went well Friday at St Thomas Hosp. in Nashville; Becky Hatcher dialysis 3X times a week. She is to have another surgery on her arm Dec 14 to move a vein higher up for the fistula. Wayne is her Caregiver; it was good to see Mike & Vicky Thompson out last Sunday; Billy Bybee; Malon Schuler will have out-patient surgery Dec 14 at the Med Center; Becky Bush; Mike Thompson; Joyce Dye is having melanoma skin cancers removed from her back; Mary Whittington has COVID, John Eastridge & Emily Eastridge COVID; Dixie Napier's son Randy; Joey Palmore; Helen Edwards in Bowling Green; Don Waddell (member at Center); Steve Seaton; Terry Bunnell; Mary Hatcher; Parker Bybee; Ron Hogan recovering in Anchorage from back surgery.

Prayers for our elders in search of our next minister as Wayne plans to retire this year.

BARREN COUNTY HEALTHCARE Glasgow
Ruth Bradford

PRAY FOR MISSION EFFORTS WE SUPPORT

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

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS 10 a.m.

We began our Winter Quarter on *Esther* last Sunday. Today lesson 2: "The Humiliation of Vashti" Wayne will be the teacher

PREACHING TODAY

Wayne at 11 a.m. sermon: "Key Events That Impacted the World" #1 - *The Birth of Jesus*"

Danny McCain will be preaching at 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT 6:00

New study on the *Parables of Jesus*. Wayne began with an introduction and overview of what are parables, why did Jesus frequently use them and how to study them.

Darrell Wallace will be teaching this week.

OUR RADIO PROGRAM

We are pleased to sponsor "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 the seed of the gospel is being sown in this ministry.

NOTE: If you are unable to pick up the radio signal, you can log on to **wloconline.com** You may choose to listen on your computer or use the **tunein** app for you mobile devices.

Potter Children's Home & Family Ministries Commodities Outreach

We have been asked to donate any of the following pantry items:

Granola Bars *Cooking Spray* *Rotel*
Onion Powder *Crackers with Peanut Butter*
checks or cash is also accepted to buy perishable items

Your help as we have done for years will be greatly appreciated. Pantry items will be picked up the week of **Jan. 7, 2024**

THANK YOU NOTE

To our very special brothers and sisters in Christ ~

Words cannot begin to express our deep appreciation for each and every one of you. You all have always been a significant part of our lives.

When Sue was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer four years ago, you were there for us. The send off in the church parking lot was just perfect. We knew you all would help us & pray for us through this journey.

The words of encouragement, the hugs, the cards, the tears, the smiles and the powerful prayers were always at the right time.

As you all know, the past few months were especially difficult. However, Sue's faith and smiles continued...and this faith was the basis for her great attitude and she was ready to meet her Heavenly father.

Having the visitation and funeral service at the church building was also comforting beyond measure. For that, we thank you. The

meal following the service was exceptional. A special thanks to everyone who had a hand in the preparation & clean-up...

Additionally, thank you to the ladies who cooked and planned the special meal ~ as Sue had done in yours past for others. The out of town friends & family are still talking about it.

We are blessed to call each & everyone of you our Christian family.

Love, The Bunnells & The Long's

The Source Matters

by Bart Warren

How much would you pay for a baseball? Not a baseball made of gold—one made of leather with red stitching just like any other baseball. You can get a whole bag of baseballs from a place like Wal-Mart for about \$20. So what is the maximum you would pay for a baseball?

What if I told you the ball had been used in a Major League Baseball game?

What if I told you the ball had been hit for a home run?

What if I told you the ball was Mark McGwire's 70th home run from the 1998 season?

Well, someone paid \$3 million for that particular baseball.

Why? What made that ball so valuable?

It was deemed valuable because of the person with whom it was connected. The source matters!

What makes the Bible different from any other book? It is from God. "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every

good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

What makes the Church different from any other institution? It is from God. "Pay careful attention to your selves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood" (Acts 20:28).

Why are we so special? What makes mankind different from the plants and animals? We are made in the image of God. "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...so God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them" (Gen. 1:26-27).

Because God exists and has created, there are numerous things that become valuable and important just because they are from God. "And being made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey Him" (Heb. 5:9).

The source matters!

What of Tomorrow?

I do not know what still awaits,
Or what the morrow brings;
But with the glad salute of faith,
I hail its opening wings!

For this I know - that in my Lord
Shall all my needs be met;
And I can trust the heart of him
Who has not failed me yet.

- Author unknown

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"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the is its own trouble." -Jesus in Matthew 6:34