

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—better lately
- ◆ Candace Derrick—tests run
- ◆ Katelynne Hilburn—sick
- ◆ Florene Howze—health issues
- ◆ Rick Laux—sick
- ◆ Brenda Ray—sick, hospitalized
- ◆ Brooks Taylor—back pain
- ◆ Jim Ward—health problems

Others in Need

- ◆ Thomas Bush—11, cancer
- ◆ Mary Cobb—stroke
- ◆ Tim Dixon—sciatica
- ◆ Keith Grimes—doctor in Oct.
- ◆ Dawn Holloway—fibromyalgia
- ◆ Maxine Knoll—hospital; tests
- ◆ Patsy Luke—home health care, improving
- ◆ Jason Rickmon—home health after throat cancer surgery
- ◆ Sidney White—short of breath

Continued in next column...

◆ Pray also for those who have lost loved ones, first responders, police officers, government leaders, military, those traveling, alien sinners, those fallen away, the church at Baker and worldwide.

Events



- ◆ July 29-Aug. 1 Gospel Meeting at Union Hill
- ◆ Aug. 5-9 Gospel meeting, church of Christ in Jay, Jared Knoll
- ◆ Aug. 5-8 Gospel Meeting, church of Christ in Fairhope, AL with Jason Hilburn speaking
- ◆ Oct. 14-18 Our Gospel Meeting

Faithful Worship — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

To Our Visitors

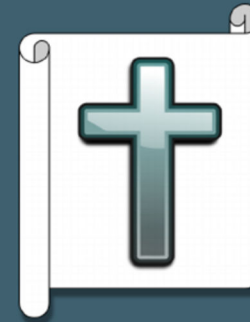


We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Privileged to Serve



Announcements—Leo Derrick
Song Leading—Mark Howze (Wed.)
 David Howze (Sun.)
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Glenn Howze; Helpers: Justin Derrick, Rick Laux, Josh Lawson
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Justin Derrick
 Helper: Ethan Howze
Scripture Reading—Caleb Howze



THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

July 29, 2018

Meeting Times

Sundays:

- 10AM Bible Class
- 11AM Worship
- 5:30PM Pew Packers
- 6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

- 7PM Bible Class

Other Information

5761 Hwy. 4
 P.O. Box 285
 Baker, FL 32531 USA
 850-669-9117

Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM

Jason Hilburn's Info:

850-826-8198
 jasonhilburn@yahoo.com
 TheBibleDomain.com

Are We Wrong to Say They are Wrong?

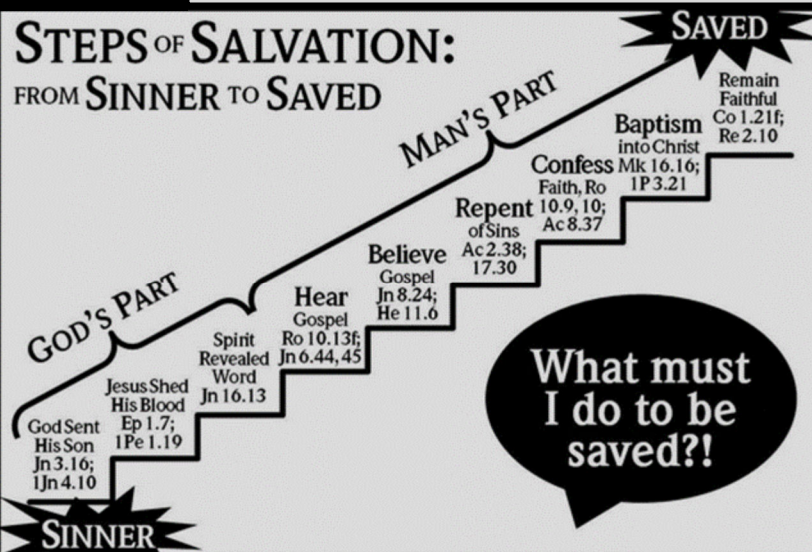
Jason Patrick Hilburn

In today's "politically correct" world, most people do not want to hear anyone saying that someone else's beliefs are wrong. This is a controversial subject that is often avoided at all costs. In the early days of the church, men did not avoid subjects that were "too controversial." The message of Christ was extremely offensive to the non-believing Jews, but notice Jesus' reaction to this: *"Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying? But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up"* (Matthew 15:12-13). Jesus did not go back and apologize to the offended ones for His preaching of the Truth. These same people who were offended later tortured and killed Jesus and almost all of the apostles for declaring their controversial Message.

Many people of the world have this politically correct attitude, but even many people who claim to be Christians have become influenced by this. Some who call themselves Christians consider it wrong to teach against what others believe or to say that someone else is wrong. I wonder if these people have considered the fact that when they claim to be Christians, they are saying that their faith is the only valid faith, and all others are wrong. Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me"* (John 14:6). By agreeing with Jesus' teachings, Christians are rightly saying Jesus is the only way to Heaven. The Christian must then conclude that people who follow Buddhism are wrong, and the same is true for people who follow Islam, Hinduism, or anyone who fails to faithfully follow Christ (Matthew 7:21).

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...ye were the servants of sin..."
 (Romans 6:17).



What must I do to be saved?!

"...but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom. 6:17b-18).

If people claiming to be Christians are afraid to admit this, then they should notice what Jesus said: *“Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels”* (Mark 8:38). To say that there is nothing wrong with other religions is to deny that Jesus is who He said He was—the Savior, the only way to Heaven (Acts 4:12). To say that Christ is not the only way to Heaven is also equivalent to saying that Jesus died in vain. There is nothing wrong with a teacher saying that false religions like Islam are wrong, and there is nothing wrong with him exposing the teachings of Buddhism or any other false teaching.

At this point someone may say that as long as we are all teaching under “the umbrella of Christianity,” we should not say that someone else is teaching falsely. This is basically like saying that doctrine is unimportant. If that were the case, then why would the Bible warn us so many times about false teachers and false doctrine? (Matthew 7:15-20; 2 John 9-11; 2 Timothy 4:3, 4; Titus 2:1; 1 Timothy 4:16; 1 John 4:1; Revelation 2:15, etc.). If doctrine is unimportant as long as one believes in Jesus, why were the Galatians lost? (Galatians 1:6-9; 5:3-4). Why were Hymenaeus and Philetus and their followers lost? (2 Timothy 2:17-18). Why would the Bible give us examples of children of God who were corrected by faithful Christians for errors in their teaching or actions? (Galatians 2:11-14; cf. Acts 18:24-26).

Correction among proclaimed followers of Christ is often necessary. However, it should always be done out of love. Oftentimes today the term “judging” is used in a negative sense to describe someone who is trying to correct people because of an unscriptural belief or practice. The accusers are making it sound as if it is wrong to correct other followers of Christ, when the Bible teaches that we are to judge with righteous judgment (John 7:24; Matthew 7:15-20). They are also being hypocritical, because they are judging others for judging others! If it is wrong to correct others, then Aquila and Priscilla must have been wrong to correct Apollos (Acts 18:24-26), and Paul must have been wrong to confront Peter (Galatians 2:11-14). The truth is that what they did was right, and they were merely correcting the erring ones out of a love for them and those on whom they had an influence.

If a sincere person holds an erroneous belief or is doing something wrong, he should want someone to correct him. *“...rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning”* (Proverbs 9:8-9; cf. 19:25; Psalm 141:5). *“He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue”* (Proverbs 28:23). *“Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful”* (Proverbs 27:5-6; cf. Galatians 4:16). *“It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools”* (Ecclesiastes 7:5).

Just as Christians should try to reach those who do not claim to follow Christ, we should also try to reach and teach those who are striving to be Christ's followers, yet are lacking in some way. If they are sincere, they will appreciate it, and God will be pleased with us, whether they appreciate it or not.

Doing Our Best A Message for Older Christians

We have in our generation some of the most wonderful older Christians imaginable. They inspire our faith by their dedication. We often see them attend services when they are in pain. They smile even when they hurt. They arrange all their plans around the services of the church. Even a ladies' Bible class takes priority over personal plans; and visitors on Sunday are left at home, if necessary, so as not to conflict with their commitments to worship. Time after time we have seen shining examples of faithfulness; and we delight in it.

There are others who are almost exactly the opposite. They have “retired” from God's service. They project the attitude of “God will understand.” “Surely He does not expect faithfulness from me anymore.” They can go most anywhere else; but not to the services of the church. They break our hearts and discourage others by their bad examples. We are not nearly so concerned about what the church needs to do with them, as we are with what we fear God is going to do with them on Judgment Day.

Out of our concern for them, and to encourage the faithful, let us share these observations:

1. **There is no retirement from God's service.** Death is the only release. Faithfulness to the end is required of us all (Rev. 2:10).
2. **If you can go anywhere, you can go to worship.** Going to the grocery store and to visit friends is just as demanding as church services; and far less rewarding. You might be surprised at how good you would feel all week long, if only you will make a special effort to meet with fellow Christians in worship.
3. **Being unable to attend every service does not excuse you from services you could attend.** Truly God understands. He does not expect a thing beyond your ability, but He does expect your best. So when you are unable to attend, do not feel a moment's guilt because of it; but do not let it hinder you from returning the first time you do feel like it.
4. **Age may reduce your talents, but it will never eliminate all of them.** It is remarkable what some Christians of advanced years are still doing in God's service, and a card or call of encouragement may lift a troubled soul. A smile and a good example are priceless. Moreover, your own life will be richer because of what you do for others. Stay active doing what you can do for God and others.
5. **Age or infirmity must not become an excuse for unfaithfulness.** Why, when you are so near that “other home,” will you risk it all by neglect? You must keep your faith strong, and you do that best through faithful attendance at the assemblies. In doing otherwise, you deprive yourself of spiritual strength.
6. **You are preparing for your funeral now.** What the preacher says over your body will not mean nearly as much as what other people—and God—remember about the way you really lived.

—Jack Gray, slightly adapted