

## Prayer List



### Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek Rehabilitation Center
- ◆ Eloise Hoffman—lung cancer
- ◆ Florene Howze—health problems
- ◆ Donna Parish—injured ankle
- ◆ Brenda Ray—eye problems
- ◆ Jim Ward—health problems

### Others in Need

- ◆ Janet Andrews—cancer
- ◆ Belinda Crawford—eye issues
- ◆ Emma Derrick—tests
- ◆ Bob Duke—health problems
- ◆ Randy Emerson—broken leg
- ◆ Freddie English—kidney issues
- ◆ Anna Erickson—improving; undergoing tests
- ◆ Lynn Johnson—health problems
- ◆ Brenda Mateer—stage 4 cancer
- ◆ Joann Medford—stage 4 cancer
- ◆ Thad McCall—health problems
- ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer

Continued in next column...

- ◆ Merle Moss—heart bypass
- ◆ Roy Wooten—skin cancer
- ◆ Maureen Zephaniah—cholera
- ◆ Pray also for those who have lost loved ones, public servants, government leaders, military, those traveling, alien sinners, those fallen away, our enemies, the church here and worldwide.

## 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).

## Events



**February 9**  
*Men's Meeting at 3:30*

**February 26**  
*4th Wednesday Singing*

## Privileged to Serve



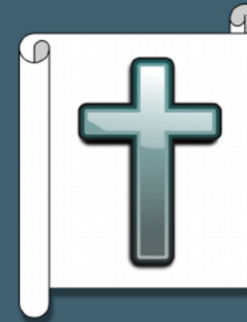
**Announcements**—Leo Derrick  
**Song Leading**—David Howze (Sun.)  
Caleb Howze (Wed.)

**Serving the Lord's Supper**  
Head: Glenn Howze  
Helpers: Caleb Howze, Ethan Howze, Josh Lawson

**Lord's Supper PM**  
Head: Mark Howze  
Helper: Justin Derrick

**Scripture Reading**—Logan Holt

**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).



# THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of  
**The church of Christ in Baker, FL**

**February 9, 2020**

## Meeting Times

### Sundays:

- 10AM Bible Class
- 11AM Worship
- 6PM Worship

### Wednesdays:

- 7PM Bible Class

## Broken-Hearted Because of Lost Souls

Roger Campbell

Maybe it is a life of unbridled immorality. It might be a fellow defiantly refusing to accept the Lord's authority. Perhaps it is a person who has been swept away by false teaching. For others, it could be that indifference has taken root in their heart. Regardless of what the reason(s) might be, when a soul is lost, it is an immeasurable tragedy.

Sin stains the soul. Sin slays those who practice it. Sin separates its participants from the Lord. Sin slams shut the door to heaven. Yes, sin stains, slays, separates, and slams. Sin is one hundred per cent detrimental.

As we think about the horribleness of sin, we are reminded that our Father calls on all of His children to be tenderhearted (Eph. 4:32). Each of us has his/her own unique personality/character/makeup. Some Christians rarely show their emotions outwardly, but they have a tender, caring heart. Others among us tear up, blubber, and sob at the slightest provocation. Surely we all have this in common, though: we are saddened by the fact that people live and die outside the Lord.

The God of heaven is devastated when humans refuse to submit to Him and accept His salvation. In speaking about the rebellious Jews of Ezekiel's generation, God said, "...I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall loathe themselves for the evils which they have

## Other Information

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

### Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

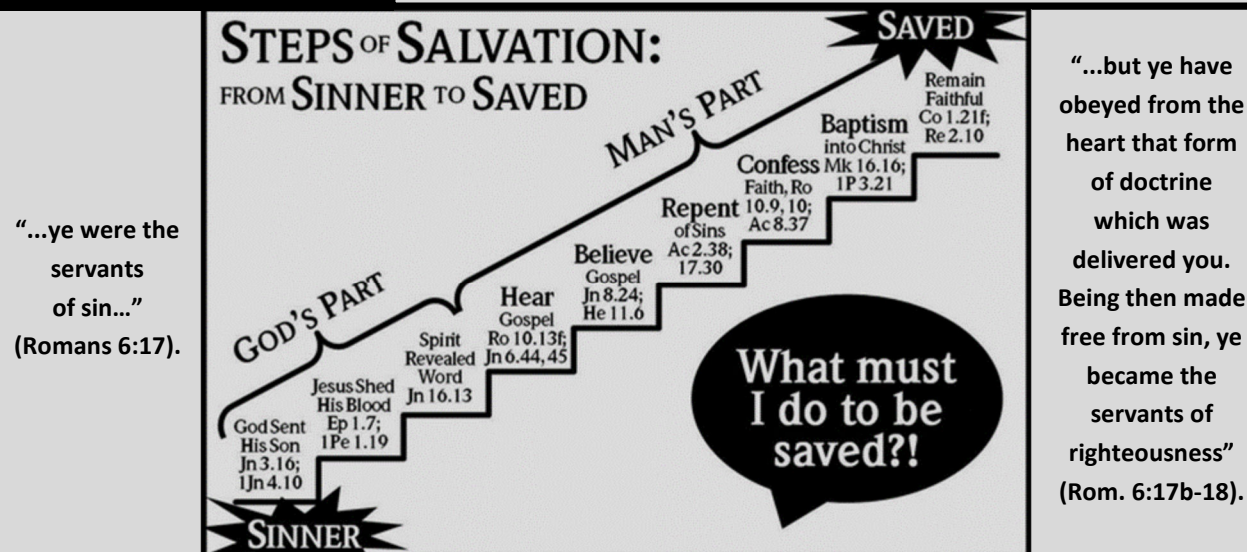
### Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM

### Jason Hilburn's Info:

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

## STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED



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

*committed in all their abominations*” (Ezek. 6:9). Man’s sin crushes God’s heart.

Do you recall how Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem because its inhabitants would not accept Him as the Messiah, and by rejecting Him brought condemnation on their souls? As He approached the city in what some call His “Triumphant Entry,” despite the excitement of some, His heart was broken. Luke’s concise record says, *“And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it”* (Luke 19:41). A few days later, as He was drawing ever closer to the cross, the sadness in His heart sounded forth in these words: *“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not”* (Matt. 23:37).

God’s servants are broken-hearted too, when people are lost. Jeremiah is labeled as “the weeping prophet” because we read about how his tears flowed due to the Jews’ choice not to obey the Lord God (Jer. 9:1).

Have you ever paid attention to the following statement which the writer of the book of Psalms made to God? *“Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law”* (Psalm 119:136). It is not revealed whom “they” were or what specific transgressions they had committed, but the Psalmist’s heart was devastated by their disobedience and what such did to their relationship with the Lord.

Among the early Christians, more than once we read about the apostle Paul being moved to tears because of false teachers and departures from the faith. As he was telling the shepherds of the church in Ephesus about a future departure from the truth, he reminded them that for three years he had warned them night and day with tears (Acts 20:31). While in chains in Rome, he wrote a letter to the saints in Philippi, warning them about enemies of the cross. As he brought up that unpleasant topic, he said he was weeping as he wrote (Phil. 3:18). The man was broken-hearted because of sin and its affect on people’s eternal destiny.

Some look at the masses of the world who are steeped in spiritual darkness and just seem to shrug their shoulders with the observation, “Well, it always has been like that; there is not much we can do about it.” Perhaps others of us have become desensitized to sin. We see it and hear it so much that it kinda feels like it is no big deal. May God help us if we ever get to the point that we view sin as a small matter. And God help us if we do not share His broken heart when people live and die separated from Him.

Compassion causes Christians to communicate to lost people what they need to hear, which is God’s eternal, soul-saving truth. “Oh, will you not tell it, today?”

## Christians and Lethal Force

Much has been said in recent days about the “church shooting” in Texas on Sunday, December 29, 2019—the right and wrong of it. The initial shooter was clearly wrong. He was evil incarnate, whose history of bad choices ended in a final bad choice to take innocent human life. God’s judicial standard played out in textbook fashion: “Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in His own image” (Gen. 9:6).

Which raises the question, “Is lethal force ever justified?” We are not addressing the war question or whether a Christian can be a cop. Most Christians, I assume, would not object to such, based on Romans 13 and the role of civil government. But what about individual Christians? Is it ever right for a Christian to take the life of another human being?

If killing is motivated by personal hatred, anger, jealousy, or revenge, the answer is clearly ‘no’, for those passions are themselves sinful, and any behavior flowing from them would be sinful as well (Matt. 15:18-19; Gal. 5:19-21, etc.).

But note carefully God’s reason for justifying the use of deadly force in Genesis 9: “for God made man in His own image.” The reason a murderer deserved to die was not because his life had no value, but because the life of his innocent victim did.

That principle carried forward to the Mosaic age. Though the sixth command said, “Thou shalt not kill” (Ex. 20:13), other laws justified the use of lethal force, both judicially (21:14) and individually (22:2). The unspoken reason for such provisions was clear: the life of the innocent victim, created in the image of God, had value.

The same principle is true today. We, too, are created in the image of God with great worth. No wonder that God, in the New Testament age, retained capital punishment as a just response to evil (Rom. 13:4; Acts 25:11).

But what about Christians? Although Jesus condemned the use of armed force to further the kingdom (Matt. 26:51-54; John 18:36), He actually commanded the apostles to arm themselves (Luke 22:35-39). Those swords were not used to defend against persecution (Acts 12:1-3). So, what purpose did they serve? They would have certainly deterred evil threats against their lives in their numerous evangelistic journeys.

Some push back, “Turn the other cheek” (Matt. 5:39). But this was spoken concerning vengeance (vs 38); and protecting innocent life is not taking vengeance. Others say, “Love your neighbor” (Matt. 22:39). To which we reply, “Exactly!” Is it “loving” for a man to allow an intruder to kill his neighbor, rape his wife, and sell his daughter into slavery? Pity the poor family whose head interprets love this way. First Timothy 5:8 is not just about food.

Lethal force does not negate trust in God. David trusted God even as he picked up the stones for his sling. The Psalmist wrote, “Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked” (Psa. 82:4). So, let’s do that!

—Warren King, *BulletinDigest.com*