

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Jennifer Derrick—improving after surgery and on-going fever
- ◆ Florene Howze—health problems
- ◆ Hannah Lawson—undergoing tests
- ◆ Brenda Ray—eye problems
- ◆ Jim Ward—much better lately

Others in Need

- ◆ Janet Andrews—cancer
- ◆ Kallie Autmann—severe burns
- ◆ Belinda Crawford—eye issues
- ◆ Bob Duke—health problems
- ◆ Randy Emerson—broken leg
- ◆ Brenda Mateer—stage 4 cancer
- ◆ Thad McCall—health problems
- ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ◆ Bobby Williams—brain tumor surgery 2/26
- ◆ Roy Wooten—skin cancer

Continued in next column...

- ◆ Please pray for the world regarding the coronavirus, especially hoping that people will seek God.
- ◆ Those mourning, public servants, gov. leaders, military, those traveling, alien sinners, those fallen away, our enemies, and the church worldwide.

Events



May 3-8
Our Gospel Meeting with Joel Wheeler preaching

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).

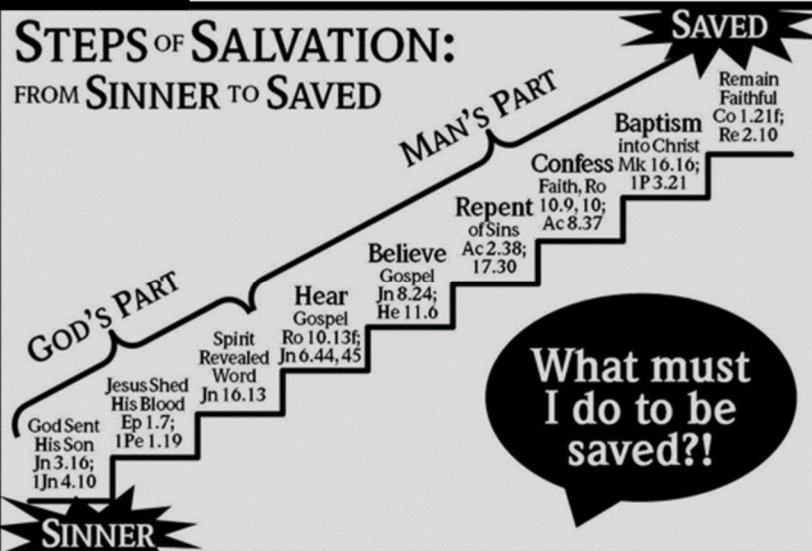
Privileged to Serve



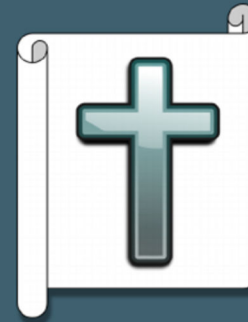
Announcements—Glenn Howze
Song Leading—David Howze (Sun.)
Mark Howze (Wed.)
Serving the Lord's Supper
Head: Mark Howze
Helpers: Justin Derrick, Wilfred Derrick, Caleb Howze
Lord's Supper PM
Head: Leo Derrick
Helper: Ethan Howze
Scripture Reading—Braden Hilburn

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

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



"...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).



THE BAKER BULLETIN

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

March 22, 2020

Meeting Times

Sundays:

10AM Bible Class
11AM Worship
6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

7PM Bible Class

The Times of Refreshing and Restitution

(Part 1)

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Acts 3:19-21 can be a difficult passage to understand, especially when trying to understand it without really examining the surrounding context and comparing with other passages. However, when one notices that the Holy Spirit (via Peter) is actually using the same kind of language He used in many other passages, the meaning becomes clearer. Acts 3 is the second recorded sermon of Peter after Christ's ascension. Many marveled at the healing of a lame man in the temple, and Peter used the occasion to preach the Gospel, with the last words of the sermon being these (Acts 3:19-26):

(19) Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; (20) And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: (21) Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. (22) For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you. (23) And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people. (24) Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days. (25) Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. (26) Unto you first God,

Other Information

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having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.

It is my conviction that Peter's sermon in Acts 3 is parallel to Acts 2 in many ways:

Acts 2	Acts 3
Delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God...ye have crucified	killed the Prince of life...God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, he hath so fulfilled
This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses	whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses
Repent	Repent
and be baptized	and be converted
every one of you	Turning every one of you away from his iniquities
in the name of Jesus Christ	through faith in his name
for the remission of sins	that your sins may be blotted out
and ye shall receive the gift	so that times of refreshing may come
of the Holy Ghost (sent by God, Jn. 14:26; 15:26)	from the presence of the Lord (God)
for the promise is unto you... and to all that are afar off	all kindreds of the earth [shall] be blessed

In fact, a similar pattern is seen throughout the New Testament:

John 3:5	Mark 16:15-20	Acts 2:38	Acts 3:19	Acts 5:31-32	Acts 8:12-18	Acts 19:1-6	Eph. 5:26	Titus 3:5
Water	Baptism	Repent and Be Baptized	Repent and Be Converted	Repentance, Forgiveness	Baptism	Baptism	Washing of Water	Washing of Regeneration (rebirth)
Spirit	Miracles Confirming the Word	Gift of Spirit	Refreshing	Holy Ghost Given	Received the Holy Ghost	Received the Holy Ghost	Word	Renewing of the Spirit

Times of Refreshing

The Greek word translated as “refreshing” only appears in Acts 3:19, and it means “a revival” (Strong) or “a cooling, refreshing” (Thayer). Those who accepted the Truth would be “revived” or “refreshed” through the blessings that the Spirit would provide. This involved salvation (3:26) and a renewing of their minds via the Truth of the Gospel that the Spirit would reveal and confirm (see “renewing of the Holy Ghost” in Titus 3:5). Although this refreshing had already begun for some (Acts

2), many others had not been refreshed (or renewed), because they had not allowed the Spirit to affect them through His Word (Acts 3:19, 20; cf. 7:51, 52; Jn. 6:63; Rev. 2:7,11,17; Rom. 1:16-17, 8:1-9; 1 Cor. 12:13, etc.). Those who did gladly receive the Spirit's Word could also receive the miraculous gifts of the Spirit, which would enable the early church to reveal the saving Truth to the world and edify and comfort those who were already saved (Matt. 28:19, 20; Acts 2:38-41; 1 Cor. 12, 14). Thus, the “*times of refreshing*” was related to the temporary and miraculous “*gift of the Holy Ghost*” in Acts 2:38 (cf. 10:45), but ultimately referred to the saving and renewing effect of God's Word revealed by the Spirit.

Those who have been *renewed* or *refreshed* are “*new creatures*” “*in Christ*” after obeying the Spirit's Truth in water baptism (Rom. 6:3-5). “*Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new*” (2 Cor. 5:17). Paul elaborates further in other passages:

If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:21-24).

“*...Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind*” (Rom. 12:2). “*And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him*” (Col. 3:10).

The fact that Acts 3:20 begins with “and” does not mean that the events of 3:19 and 3:20 will happen simultaneously. The “and” could mean “and here is something else that is going to happen” (but not at the same time). The NKJV and ASV 1901 translate the blessings listed in Acts 3:19, 20 as being conditioned upon the hearers' obedience. The NKJV reads, “*be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...so that times of refreshing may come...and that He may send Jesus Christ [to return in the role of your Savior, JPH].*” The ASV reads, “*...that your sins may be blotted out, that so there may come seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord; and that he may send the Christ who hath been appointed for you, even Jesus...*” The ASV reading of the last phrase seems to convey the meaning as this writer understands it—be converted...so that Jesus will be sent to be your Savior (instead of your Destroyer; cf. 3:23). Jesus was “*appointed*” to be man's Savior: “*For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved*” (Jn. 3:17). If the times of refreshing and the sending of Jesus in this way were conditional upon repentance and conversion, this would reinforce the idea that the “*times of refreshing*” could be parallel to “*the gift of the Holy Ghost*,” because the gift of the Holy Ghost would have been conditioned upon their repentance and baptism/conversion.

Times of Restitution

The word “*restitution*” is translated from a Greek word that only appears in Acts 3:21, meaning “restoration” (Thayer) or “reconstitution” (Strong). A.T. Robertson says, “As a technical medical term it means complete restoration to health.” Regarding the phrase “*restitution/restoration of all things*” – For the last two thousand years, the Great Physician has been restoring man back to a righteous state of “spiritual health,” reconciling man to God (Mk. 2:17; Rom. 5:10).

To be continued next week, Lord willing