

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Florene Howze—health problems
- ◆ Glenn Howze—regaining strength
- ◆ Jim Ward—health problems

Others in Need

- ◆ Janet Andrews—chemotherapy
- ◆ Elise Davis—surgery recovery
- ◆ Chad and Kim Holt—Covid-19
- ◆ Briana Howze—better after Covid-19
- ◆ Beatrice Luke—Covid-19
- ◆ Jeff Mashburn—kidney problems
- ◆ Taylor Mashburn—pregnant
- ◆ Brenda Mateer—cancer
- ◆ Thad McCall—health problems
- ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ◆ Don Nagle—stage 4, not doing well
- ◆ Gordon Porter—shoulder replacement recovery
- ◆ Patty Ryan—immunotherapy
- ◆ Melvin Sapp—lungs transplant
- ◆ Don Ward—Covid-19

Continued in next column...

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



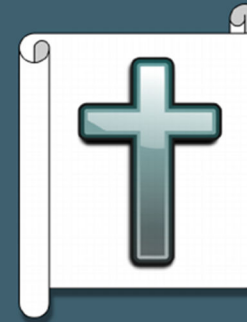
December 23
4th Wednesday Singing

Privileged to Serve



Announcements—Mark Howze
Song Leading—Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Leo Derrick
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Glenn Howze; Helpers: Caleb Howze, Josh Lawson, Johnny Moss
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Ethan Howze
 Helper: Caleb Howze
Scripture Reading—Glenn Howze

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** weekly 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

November 29, 2020

Meeting Times

Sundays:

10AM Bible Class
 11AM Worship
 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
 WAAZ1047.com livestream

Jason Hilburn's Info:

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

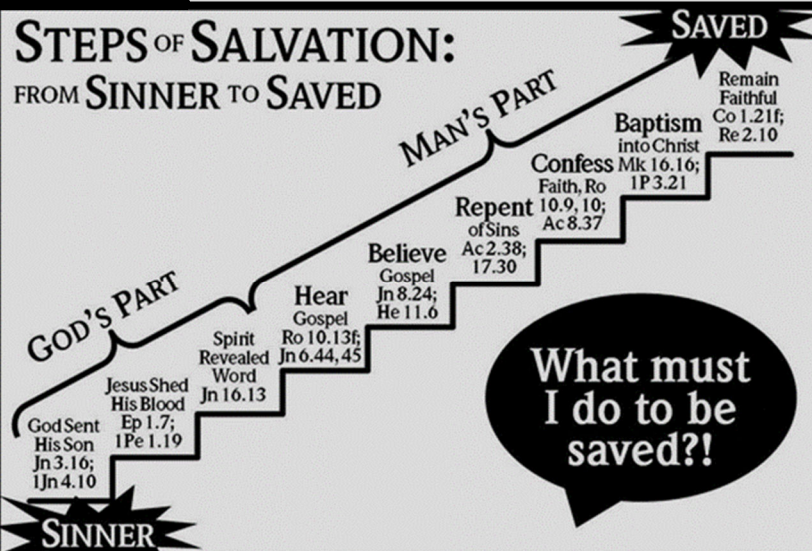
Handling Snakes and Mishandling Scriptures (Part 2 of 2)

By Jason Patrick Hilburn

Someone may ask why Paul said he spoke with the tongues of angels (1 Corinthians 13:1), but that is not literally what Paul said. Paul was speaking hypothetically, as in, "even if I spoke in the tongues of angels..." He goes on to say, "...*though I give my body to be burned...*" (13:3), but Paul had not actually given his body to be burned. The word "*though*" is better translated as "*if*." Again, he was saying, "even if I gave my body to be burned" and "even if I spoke in the tongues of men and of angels." In the same context of 1 Corinthians 12-14, Paul clarifies that he is talking about languages of the world: "*There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification. Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me*" (1 Corinthians 14:10-11). These earthly languages all have a "signification," a meaning, but if one were speaking Hebrew to a mainly Greek audience, how would they understand? If any were speaking in tongues, a translator was required to translate from Hebrew to Greek, or whatever "languages of the world" apply, because "*God is not the author of confusion*" (1 Corinthians 14:33). Notice the word "*unknown*" in the phrase "*unknown tongue*" is always in italics in the King James Version, which means it was not in the original inspired Text but was supplied by the translators. While it

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).

is true that early Christians were speaking in earthly languages that were unknown to many (Latin, Aramaic, etc.), they were not unknown to everyone on earth.

One may wonder why early Christians were speaking in foreign languages in the worship assembly. Paul explained that it would have been better to simply preach/prophesy God's Word in an understandable way in the assembly than to speak in various languages that could cause confusion (1 Corinthians 14). He said,

I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying...tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe (14:5, 22).

Those today who put so much emphasis on "speaking in tongues" in the assembly are emphasizing the very thing Paul said was not as important as preaching plainly, and they are not truly speaking in "languages of the world" they have never studied.

Besides apostles' hands, the only other way the early church could receive miraculous power was to be "baptized with the Holy Ghost," which was an extremely rare occurrence (Acts 1:4, 5, 8; 2:1-4; cf. 10:44-47; 11:15-17). By the time Paul wrote Ephesians, there was only "one baptism" remaining—"the washing of water" for sanctification and spiritual cleansing (Ephesians 4:5; 5:26). Water baptism, not Holy Spirit baptism, is the baptism of the Great Commission, which was to last until the end of the world (Matthew 28:18-20; cf. John 3:5; Acts 8:36; 10:48; 16:33; Hebrews 10:22; 1 Peter 3:20, 21). The one remaining baptism is not Holy Spirit baptism. Therefore, if there are no apostles and no Holy Spirit baptism, there is no way for people to get miraculous power today. With those things in mind, it should become clear why Jamie and the young lady sadly suffered and died.

Many questions could be raised to any who object to the Truth revealed above. If people can still do miracles, why could they not have flown someone in to heal Jamie or raise him from the dead? He was known internationally because of the success of the show, so was there nobody in the world they could have flown in to raise him? That would have been a great opportunity to show the world that miracles are still happening today, but the truth is they are not.

The purpose of miracles was to confirm the Message as it was being revealed (Mark 16:20; John 3:2; Acts 2:22; Hebrews 2:3, 4). The Word of God has been completely revealed and completely confirmed, so God's purpose for miracles has been completely fulfilled. That is why Jamie repeatedly got harmed by snake bites until he finally died, that is why nobody could heal him or the other church member after the snake bites, and why

nobody could raise them from the dead. That is also why nobody today can speak fluently in foreign languages they have never studied, and why nobody can raise anyone from the dead, though people in Bible times could be raised four days after death! (John 11:17).

True miracles were so amazing that people knew God was behind them, because they could not be faked (John 3:2). No disrespect is intended, but any child could fake the "miraculous healing" or "speaking in tongues" that people are doing today. If someone who had never studied Chinese began speaking a lengthy discourse fluently in Chinese in a way that could be critically verified, that would be different. If someone who had just been in a bad car accident with terrible external wounds had someone immediately and completely heal them, with no need for surgery, medicine, physical therapy, or anything else, that would be different, but nobody can do that today. The early church could do those kinds of things, but God said that would all cease when the perfect system of revelation came (the completed Bible -- 1 Corinthians 13:8-12; cf. Micah 7:15; Zechariah 13:1-3; Ephesians 4:7-15).

Friends, please do not make the same mistake so many have made--failing to understand God's Word, and thus failing to live by it (John 4:24; 8:31, 32; Ephesians 3:4; 5:17). False doctrine is more deadly than any venomous snake. Focus on the Word, not the tools that were used to reveal and confirm the Word. Handle it carefully, because both physical lives and eternal souls are at stake.

REFERENCES

People.com. "Jamie Coots, Snake Salvation Pastor, Dies from Snake Bite." Associated Press. Accessed September 22, 2020.

<https://people.com/celebrity/watch-people-the-tv-show/>

Sieczkowski, Cavan. "'Snake Salvation' Preacher Jamie Coots Dead From Snakebite." Huffington Post. Accessed September 22, 2020.

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/jamiecoots-dead-snakebite_n_4799851

Wikipedia.org. "Jamie Coots." Accessed September 22, 2020.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jamie_Coots

<http://www.JasonsBibleBlog.com>