

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Wilfred Derrick—waiting on scan results
- ♦ Florene Howze—health problems
- ♦ Brenda Ray—back problems
- ♦ Jim Ward—hip problems

Others in Need

- ♦ Janet Andrews—chemotherapy
- ♦ Elise Davis—surgery recovery
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—kidney problems
- ♦ Brenda Mateer—cancer
- ♦ Thad McCall—health problems
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Allie O'Rourke—recovering well
- ♦ Don Nagle—stage 4, not doing well
- ♦ Don Ward—Covid-19
- ♦ Brenda Wooten—stage 4 cancer

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



Lord willing...

Week of May 2nd

Our Gospel Meeting with Sidney White preaching

October 3rd-6th

Leonard St. Gospel Meeting

Privileged to Serve



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

February 7, 2021

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

Perfect and Blameless in Every Dispensation (Part 2 of 2)

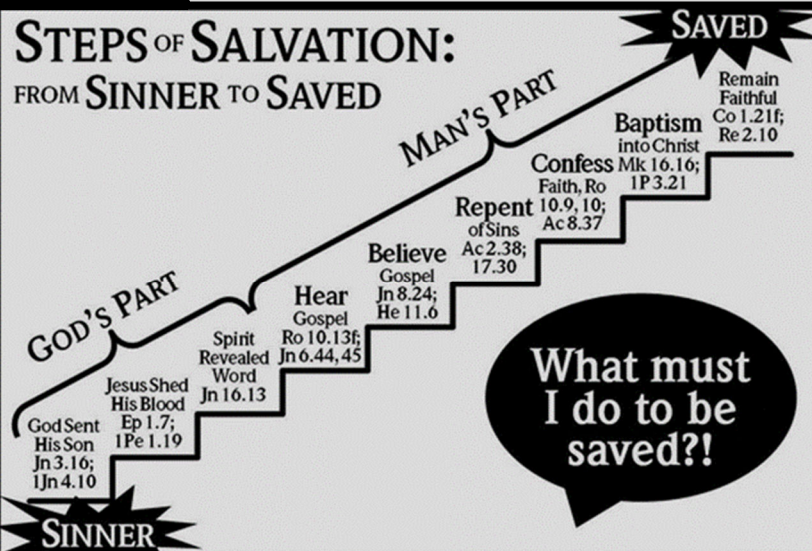
By Jason Patrick Hilburn

Another example of one sin keeping someone from faithfulness is Simon the sorcerer. After Simon was baptized, he committed a sin (Acts 8:18, 19). Until Simon repented and prayed for forgiveness, he would not be perfect, but would remain *"in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity"* (Acts 8:22). Allowing even one sin to remain in our lives is enough to make us imperfect and in need of restoration: *"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such a one..."* (Gal. 6:1; cf. Acts 5:1-11; 1 Cor. 5:1; Jam. 5:19, 20). Even so, there is no sin one must commit, because there is always a way of escape (1 Cor. 10:12, 13). There is also no command impossible to obey (1 John 5:3), and no sin committed today that is unforgiveable. Therefore, there is no excuse not to be faithful.

Satan has convinced many to believe that man has no choice but to sin, and that since *"nobody's perfect,"* it is acceptable to allow sin to remain in one's life. However, God says just the opposite! God commands men to be like Jesus and fight temptations, not to lie down and die! *"Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil"* (Eph. 6:11). *"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him"* (Jam. 1:12). *"Submit*

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).

yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you” (Jam. 4:7). “He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him” (1 John 2:4). “...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life” (Rev. 2:10). God commands Christians to be holy, even as He is holy (1 Pet. 1:15, 16; 2:21-24; cf. Rom. 6; 12:1, 2; 13:14; 1 Cor. 15:58).

For those who do not believe anyone can be “perfect” or “truly faithful,” they must contend with the Apostle Paul, who said that God’s Word can make men perfect (2 Tim. 3:16, 17). Also, if it were impossible there would be no such thing as elders and deacons, who are required to be blameless, completely faithful (1 Tim. 3:2, 10). This simply means they have no outstanding sins of which they need to repent. If it is impossible to be perfect in God’s sight, then it was only wishful thinking when Paul repeatedly expressed his desire for his fellow Christians to be found “perfect,” “blameless,” and “unrebukable” when presented to Christ (1 Cor. 1:8; 2 Cor. 11:2, 3; Eph. 5:25-27; Php. 2:15; Col. 1:22; 1 Thess. 5:23; 1 Tim. 5:7). In fact, the reason Paul preached Christ was because he wanted to “...present every man perfect in Christ Jesus” (Col. 1:28), and he said Epaphras prayed that his brother and sisters would “stand perfect and complete in all the will of God” (Col. 4:12; cf. 2 Cor. 13:11; Eph. 4:12, 13; Col. 2:10; 1 Thess. 3:10; Heb. 10:1, 14; 12:23; 13:21; Jam. 1:4; 3:2; 1 Pet. 5:10; 2 Pet. 3:14).

Friends, the Bible would not tell us all these things about being perfectly blameless if we could not be blameless in God’s sight! All it takes is enough love to obey God and be willing to change if we disobey Him. We will all fall short of God’s glory (Rom. 3:23), but God rewards those who get back up: “For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again...” (Prov. 24:16). The blood of Christ will make us perfectly clean, if we walk in the light after baptism, confessing our sins in true repentance (Acts 2:38; 22:16; 26:20; 1 John 1:6—2:6; Jam. 5:16).

If others in previous dispensations could be faithful, knowing their sins were remembered from year to year, how much more should we be able to be faithful, knowing our sins are truly gone forever? If those under the heavy burden of the Law of Moses could be faithful, how much more should we, under the lighter yoke of Christ? (Matt. 11:28-30). We can and must be perfect in God’s sight—not perpetually flawless, but faithful to Him, willing to repent and renew our love and dedication whenever necessary.

<http://www.JasonsBibleBlog.com>

Nothing Can Sever the Faithful from God

Eric Fariior

Sometimes, in their sincere efforts to affirm the false view of "once saved always saved," some folks will reference a text like this:

“And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand” (John 10:28, 29).

In so doing, they are affirming that being removed from "God's hand" is IMPOSSIBLE and would make the assertion that such is an absolute universal principle (that NOTHING can cause that separation); yet, if you notice the context, that isn't the argument at all. Notice now v27:

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them...” (see Gal. 4:9, 1 Jn. 2:3-6), “...and they follow me” (see Jn. 15:3-10, 8:31-32, 2 Jn. 9).

You see, Jesus isn't saying that there are no circumstances whatsoever that can remove one from God's fellowship. Rather, He is saying that there is no outside agency (man, beast, authority, etc.) that can remove HIS FOLLOWERS (cf. 1 Jn. 1:6-10, 2:3-6, 3:3-10) from God's fellowship.

Paul would give divine commentary on this in Romans 8:28-39, affirming that no persecution, no human being, no principality or power can remove us from God's fellowship, but our own CHOICES can (Gal. 5:4, 1 Tim. 4:1, Gal. 2:11, Rom. 6:3-23).

So be careful trying to make that kind of argument from such a text (1 Cor. 4:6). Be careful not to assume something "beyond" what is being taught..

A careful study of the text above, in light of both immediate and remote contexts will affirm the wonderful truth that Jesus gave on Solomon's porch—that nothing can sever the FAITHFUL from God (cf. Jn. 8:31-32, 2 Jn. 9, Rom. 6:3-18, 8:1ff).