

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Larry Derrick—neck surgery 3/29
- ◆ Wilfred Derrick—aneurysm
- ◆ Florene Howze—fell recently
- ◆ Jim Ward—Surgery upcoming

Others in Need

- ◆ Dwayne Cook—cancer surgery
- ◆ Elise Davis—shoulder surgery
- ◆ Tim Dixon—critical condition
- ◆ Viem Do—surgery recovery
- ◆ Mary Lou Joseph—cancer
- ◆ Carol Kitzan—health problems
- ◆ Jeff Mashburn—health problems
- ◆ Paul Mayo—chemotherapy
- ◆ Thad McCall—health problems
- ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ◆ Patty Ryan—better results
- ◆ Donato Velasquez—health issues
- ◆ Randall Ward—cancer

Continued in next column...

- ◆ Ronnie and Elaine Wells
- ◆ Christians overseas, Ukraine
- ◆ Government leaders, military, 1st responders, travelers, the lost, and our enemies.

Events



May 1-5

Gospel Meeting preached by men of this congregation

July 17-20

Mossy Head Gospel Mtg.

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

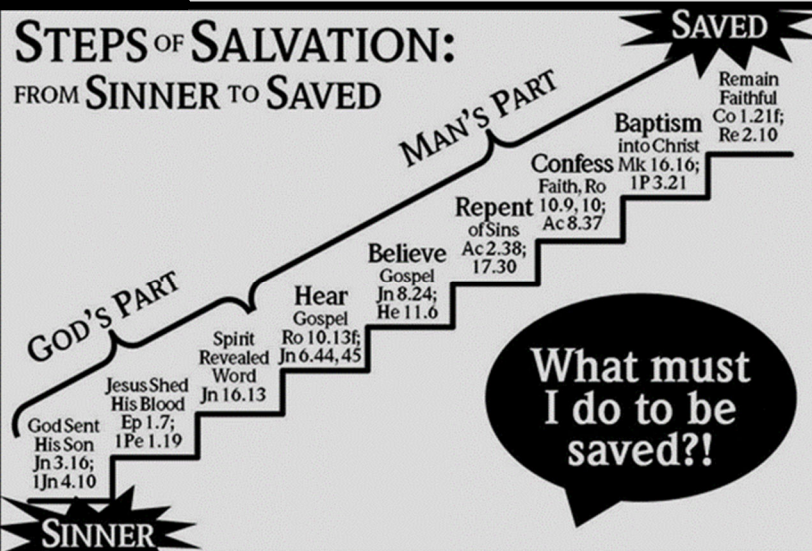


Announcements—Mark Howze
Song Leading—Sunday—Ethan Howze; Wednesday—Ethan Howze
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Caleb Howze, Josh Lawson, Johnny Moss
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Mark Howze
 Helper: Caleb Howze
Scripture Reading—Glenn Howze

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).

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).

THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

March 27, 2022

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:

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A Few Words from Jason

I asked the congregation here and others to pray for doors to open, and they seem to be wide open! God is blessing me with great opportunities to teach His Word. Every week I am now blessed to teach people in Florida, California, Canada, Qatar, Pakistan, India, Laos, and Singapore. Paul said, "Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ..." (Colossians 4:3), and "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you" (2 Thessalonians 3:1).

We began a new class based in Pakistan last week. Brother Khokhar Shahid is gathering both Christians and non-Christians for the class, and he is translating into Urdu. We had 14 attending the first class, and we anticipate more joining soon, Lord willing.

There are currently 14 students at the Savannakhet Bible School in Laos, and we have been averaging from 75 to 95 in the weekly classes to India.

This year makes 10 years that brother Vandan Kumar has been translating weekly for me and gathering people together for the online classes in India. In the past 10 years, 13 denominational preachers have been converted in India (sometimes along with their wives and church members), and we give thanks and all glory to God.

The Great Commission Commands Water Baptism, Not Prayer

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Do you know how John prepared people for the Savior? He was “preaching the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins” (Mk. 1:5; cf. Lk. 24:47; Acts 2:38). Great numbers of people were being immersed in water “to flee the wrath to come...unquenchable fire” (Mt. 3:7-12). John was getting people ready for the Great Commission of Jesus, who had come to save people from their sins and would thus command the whole world to be baptized in water for the forgiveness of sins.

Yes, the Savior who died for us commanded baptism, knowing that the whole purpose of His Great Commission was to save people! That is because the lost person dying to sin and being buried in water contacts Christ’s saving blood (Mt. 26:28; Acts 2:38). There was both blood and water in Christ’s death (Jn. 19:33, 34), and the sinner is baptized into His death, where salvation is found (Rom. 6:1-5; 2 Tim. 2:10). Then the baptized person is raised out of that watery tomb to new life, as Jesus was raised from death to life (Rom. 6). The importance of this should not be minimized!

All four Gospel accounts of the Great Commission either explicitly or implicitly include water baptism, and on the first day the Great Commission was carried out, guess what the lost people were told to do—Were they told that they were already saved because they now believed in Jesus? (Acts 2:37). Were they told to pray? No, they were told, “Repent, and be baptized, every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins...Save yourselves” (Acts 2:38, 40). That pattern of water baptism for salvation is seen throughout Acts, to “wash away sins” (Acts 22:16). Prayer was not mentioned at all in the Great Commission, because that is not what people do to become saved, to become Christians. That is what people do AFTER they have been baptized in water to become saved, forgiven (Prov. 28:9; Jn. 9:31; Acts 8:12-24; 1 Jn. 1:9; 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:12, 20, 21).

The Savior said, “He who believes and is baptized shall be saved” (Mark 16:16). He did NOT say, “He who believes and prays shall be saved,” but that is what is being taught by so many today. There is no account of any alien sinner living under the New Covenant being commanded to pray to become saved, but we read of thousands being baptized for the forgiveness of sins! How is it then that “asking Jesus into your heart” is perhaps the most widespread “plan of salvation” these days, even though it is not in the Bible at all? How is it that we have so many churches convincing people they are saved, even though those people have not done what God commanded to be saved? If those churches do eventually baptize people, they tell them it is for a different purpose than what God said. Maybe this happens so often because most people do not study for themselves, but unknowingly put their trust in false teachers, or maybe they simply have not studied enough to learn how the Scriptures harmonize.

Friends, it’s past time to get things like this figured out, and if you want to study this further, I will be glad to help, because I love you and care about your soul. Prov. 16:25; 28:9; Mt. 7:13-27; 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15, 16; Lk. 24:47; Jn. 3:5; 9:31; 12:42, 43; 20:23; Acts 9:6-19; 17:11; 22:16; Rom. 6:3-5, 16-18; Gal. 3:27; Eph. 5:26; Col. 2:11-13; 2 Tim. 2:15-18; Heb. 10:22; Jam. 2:19-26; 1 Pet. 1:22; 3:12, 20, 21; 1 Jn. 6-9; 2:12.

Current Events and Christ’s Return

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Current events are not signs that the return of Christ is imminent. Paul clearly said there are no signs for the Lord’s return: *“But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape”* (1 Thess. 5:1-3). Jesus and Peter also said the Lord will return as a thief in the night (Mt. 24:43, 44; 2 Pet. 3:10), and a thief gives no signs of when he is coming! Jesus said He would come when His followers DID NOT think He was coming: *“But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh”* (Mt. 24:43-44). *“Ye know not when the time is”* (Mk. 13:33).

The signs Jesus gave in the first part of Matthew 24 (*“wars and rumors of wars,”* etc.) were for the destruction of Jerusalem, not His literal return (24:4-34). He had just foretold the destruction of the temple (23:36-38; 24:1, 2). The context is made even clearer when comparing Luke’s account: *“And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh... Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles”* (Lk. 21:20, 24). This was fulfilled when the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

From Matthew 24:35 to the end of chapter 25, Jesus was referring to His literal return on the Judgment Day. He was then answering the second part of the question recorded in Matthew 24:3: *“...what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?”* Jesus said even He did not know when that would be: *“But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is”* (Mk. 13:32, 33). The Book of Revelation is about the early Christians needing to persevere in the midst of terrible Roman persecution, and that Christ would *“come”* to punish their Roman tormentors (Rev. 1:1-3; 2:10; 22:6, 10, 20).

While many love to speculate about “signs of the end times,” we would all do better to love the Truth of God’s Word (2 Thess. 2:10-12). The *“last days”* have been here since the first century A.D., because the “church age” is the last period before the end of the world (Acts 2:16, 17; 1 Cor. 10:11; 15:22-24; Heb. 9:26). The Scriptures cannot be applied to modern secular events as “signs of the Lord’s return” without taking verses out of context and opposing what God Himself said in many passages.