Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Leo Derrick—elbow surg. 5/18
- ◆ Wilfred Derrick—aneurysm
- ◆ Florene Howze—Carington Manor
- ◆ Emmy-Lou Mashburn—virus
- ◆ Jim Ward—surgery recovery, rehabilitation in Mobile, AL

Others in Need

- ◆ Elise Davis—shoulder surgery
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Luke Muse—undergoing tests
- ◆ Eti Princess-preg. complications
- ◆ Patty Ryan—better results

◆ Randall Ward—slow cancer

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

Events



May 15-18

Milestone Gospel Meeting

June 5-8

Sasser Gospel Meeting

July 17-20

Mossy Head Gospel Mtg.

July 31-Aug. 3

Union Hill Gospel Meeting

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—David Howze; Wednesday—Caleb Howze

Serving the Lord's Supper

Head: Glenn Howze; Helpers: Leo Derrick, Ethan Howze, Mark Howze

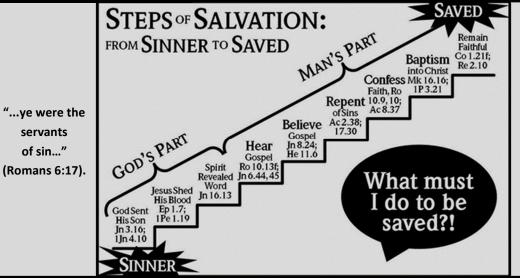
Lord's Supper PM

Head: Leo Derrick Helper: Justin Derrick

Scripture Reading—Caleb 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).

Continued in next column...



"...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

May 15, 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:

850-826-8198
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TheBibleDomain.com
JasonsBibleBlog.com

The Loophole Search

By Stephen E. Yeatts

I was reading the comics the other day and got a chuckle from one that depicted Moses descending from the mountain holding the tablets of stone. At the base of the mountain a multitude of people were gathered and one fellow had his hand raised and the caption read, "Could you make copies? We'd like to begin a loophole search." Certainly there is nothing risible about the actual events that transpired as per Exodus 32 (and following) regarding the people's impatience, disobedience, and refusal to love the Lord their God first and foremost.

However, the caption as per the cartoon does bring to mind the attitude of many today in the religious world, and sadly is inclusive of some brethren in the Lord's church. They are not satisfied with the fact that the Word of God is settled in heaven (Psalm 119:89). They grow restless with the fact that grace and law do not exist mutually exclusive of one another (Gen. 6:8,22; Rom. 8:2; Eph. 2:8-9; 1 John 5:3, et al). They scoff at the reliability of solid hermeneutics which they have "traded up" for the new hermeneutic, and are not unlike the Athenian philosophers whose perpetual desire was to hear "some new thing" (Acts 17:21). They prefer to hold to manmade redaction as the source of God's Word, as opposed to the God-breathed inspiration of the Scriptures (2 Sam. 23:2; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 1:3).

Truly, far too many spend their time engaged in a

"loophole" search when searching the Scriptures (no matter how superficial the search) intending to justify their rejection of the pattern of the New Testament and our amenability to it. Others will search for loopholes on subjects that are adversely affecting their own lives; such as marriage, divorce, and remarriage, alcohol, drug, or tobacco addictions, unfaithfulness regarding the assembling of the saints, and a host of other issues that contradict the faithful life of a Christian (Matt. 19:1-12; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Col. 3:1-7).

We live in a society that revels in pluralism (you make the choice that is best for you and no one can mandate whether such a choice is right or wrong) and relativism (there is no such thing as absolute truth on any subject, most of all religious matters). In recent years it has become evident that for some political entities, laws are merely suggestions and that the law in the eyes of some is not absolute. For example, if the law says 30 days, that may be a good general guideline, but it could just as easily mean 29 or 39, or you fill in the blank. There is always a disturbing nexus between what happens in society and the quasi-agnosticism of some in the church. The Law of Christ is not law at all to those whose loophole search has convinced them that the New Testament is a defunct love letter that may have many good suggestions for us, but no substantive and essential pattern for our worship today. Of course any mention of a pattern for doctrine and worship (Acts 2:42; Rom. 6:17) will not go undetected by the "elitist enlightened" who long for the day when their "traditional" brethren bask in the glorious glow of the contemporary.

The loophole search will lead some to believe that secular institutions (a.k.a. Christian Colleges) are somehow tantamount to, or in some cases, paramount to the church for which Jesus died. This self-deceiving loophole search will cause otherwise lucid brethren to blindly defend an alma mater over the Alpha and Omega, even when the alma mater has made clear capitulations to untruths that warrant an objective review and public censure.

The loophole search conducted by those who refuse to consistently accept the authority of the Word of God will continue until Jesus returns and the Heavenly Father does some weeding in His spiritual garden (Matt. 15:13). There was no loophole in Moses' day. The Lord God said to Moses as the people played around the golden calf, "Go, get thee down; for thy people, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves" (Exodus 32:7). Loopholes are a temporary means of escape in this life, but with the Lord, there shall be no eternal escape for circumventing The Way because one preferred his own (1 Thess. 5:3; Heb. 2:3).

If You Don't Keep My Commandments, You Don't Love Me

By Jason Patrick Hilburn

Did Jesus emphasize obedience to His commands, or simply believing in Him and trusting that "faith alone" will be enough?

The following words are all from the same discourse to His disciples:

"If ye love me, keep my commandments...

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him...

If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings...

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love...

Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you" (John 14:15, 21, 23, 24; 15:10, 14).

See also Matthew 7:21-27; Luke 6:46-49; Acts 10:35; Romans 6:1 -18; Galatians 5:6; Hebrews 5:9; James 1:21-25; 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:15, 16, 22; 1 John 1:6; 2:3-6; 5:3; and Jude 21.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).