

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Wilfred Derrick—kidneys not functioning well

Others in Need

- ♦ Willy Brackin—surg. recovery
- ♦ Dale Cunningham—health issues
- ♦ Louis De Lange—tests
- ♦ Mary Lou Joseph—cancer
- ♦ Michael Hudson—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Lynn Johnson—health issues
- ♦ Tony Jones—Parkinson's
- ♦ Thad McCall—health problems
- ♦ Richard McCool—heart attack
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Shane Price—cancer
- ♦ Larry Shapley—hospice care
- ♦ Cody Skinner—amp. leg, pain
- ♦ Ronnie Wells—health problems
- ♦ Earthquake victims in Turkey / Syria

Continued in next column...

- ♦ Christians overseas, Ukraine
- ♦ Sound Bible schools, civil leaders, military, 1st responders, the lost, our enemies.

Events



April 16-19

Innerarity Point Gospel Mtg, various speakers

May 7-11

Our Gospel Meeting

June 4-7

Gospel Mtg. at Sasser

July

Gospel Mtg. at Union Hill

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).

To Our Visitors

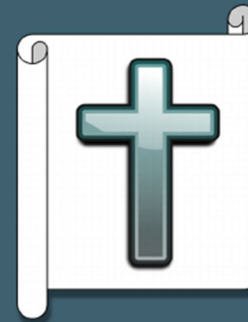


We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Privileged to Serve



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



THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

March 19, 2023

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
 hilburnjasonp@gmail.com
 TheBibleDomain.com
 JasonsBibleBlog.com

There is NO Darkness in God

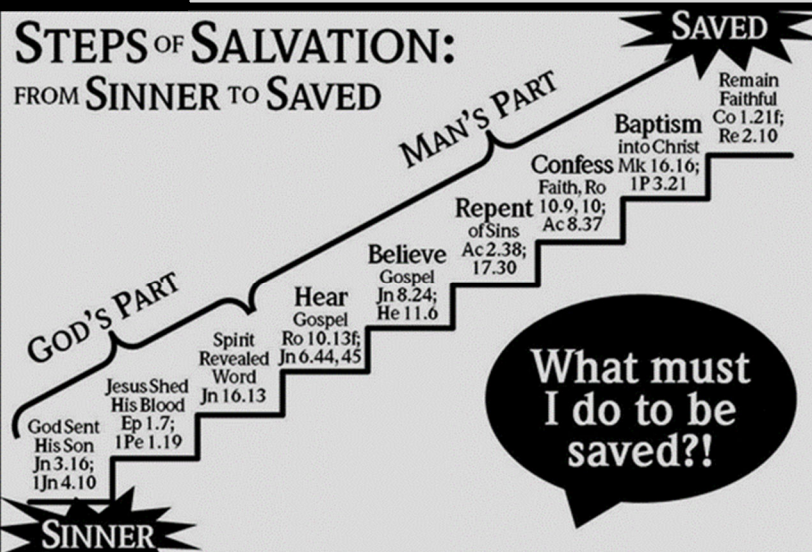
By Charles Box

The book of 1 John has none of the normal characteristics of a letter. It does not contain the name of the author, an introduction or closing remarks, like you would normally see in a letter. We do not know to whom this letter was originally sent. We do, however, know that God wants us to be certain about our relationship with Him. John wrote, *"And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, [even] in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life"* (1 John 5:20). John reminded us of what he had heard, seen and touched concerning the "Word of life." John and the other apostles knew that Jesus was real because they had heard Him with their ears and seen Him with their eyes (1 John 1:1-4). Our fellowship with God is based upon the teachings and writings of these men. Those who have strong fellowship with God must walk in the light. *"If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth"* (1 John 1:6). John's desire was that we know God, love Him completely and be fortified against every false teaching.

Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. John said, *"Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God"* (1 John 4:2). The apostles knew that Jesus came in the flesh because of what

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).

they had seen, heard, observed and touched. They knew and confessed that Jesus was the Word of Life. John does not hesitate to exalt Jesus as Divine. He wrote, *“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life”* (1 John 1:1). He wrote of the eternal existence of Jesus. He spoke of, *“That which was from the beginning.”* Jesus, the Word of Life, is that one who was in the beginning with God. *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God”* (John 1:1). This Word became flesh and dwelt among men. *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth”* (John 1:14). The apostles saw and heard Jesus. They reported to us that He is indeed real. Our hope is not futile or in vain. Jesus, the Son of God, has truly come in the flesh!

Jesus Christ produces fellowship with men and God. Many false messages are filling our world. These messages produce division and turmoil. The message of Jesus Christ produces fellowship among men and fellowship with God. *“That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ”* (1 John 1:3). Those who become Christians have a bond and a fellowship with each other. They also have a wonderful relationship with God. The closer anyone walks with God, the easier it is to relate to fellow man. Out of the closeness of our fellowship with God and with others, comes true joy. *“And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full”* (1 John 1:4). John pictured the life-giving power of our Lord. The ultimate result of being a faithful Christian is that we have fellowship with God and we have fullness of joy. Jesus came in the flesh and our joy can be full if we are true believers.

God is light and there is definitely no darkness in Him. God is light and He is the creator of light. *“And God said, Let there be light: and there was light”* (Gen. 1:3). How feeble man appears when he considers the power of God and the vastness of His nature. *“This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all”* (1 John 1:5). God is light from the standpoint of the guidance that He gives to man (Psalm 119:105). God is light from the standpoint of His holiness (1 Peter 1:15-16). God is light from the standpoint of His glory (Psalm 108:5). We can never know what our life is capable of being until we see it in the revealing light of God’s love. Jesus Christ not only has light, but He has absolutely nothing else. There is no darkness at all in Him or the Father! The reason there

is no darkness in Jesus is because He refused all the evil things connected to darkness such as immorality, ignorance, hatred, drunkenness and chaos.

God revealed Himself as light and we must come into fellowship with Him. There is no evil or darkness with God and there can be none with the children of God. *“If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth”* (1 John 1:6). God’s truth is not just to be known mentally; it is to be committed to our heart and to our daily living. Truth must bring about a transformation of life. Sin is evil; it produces guilt and we cannot allow ourselves to walk in it. Our fellowship with God comes from knowing His will and walking daily in it. *“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin”* (1 John 1:7). Our motivating principle must be the light of New Testament teaching. Walking in the light keeps us in the constant stream of the cleansing blood of Jesus. Sin causes us to recognize the need for the blood of Jesus. John wrote, *“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us”* (1 John 1:8). John pictured a person saying “I have no sin that needs forgiveness; therefore I do not need the blood of Jesus.” Sin has a drastic effect in our life. We must confess our sins and be strong to resist them. *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”* (1 John 1:9). God is faithful and just. He will keep His promises to forgive the penitent. God had said in His word that all men have sinned. *“For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not”* (Eccl. 7:20). In 1 John 1:10, John spoke of those who said they had “not sinned.” He said, *“If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”* If we say we have not sinned and we do not need Jesus, then God’s word is not in us and we have called Him a liar. Sin is a serious matter and can only be dealt with by the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. We cannot allow ourselves to live in sin, because such would be a disappointment to our Creator. God deserves better than a claim of righteousness. He deserves our righteous life.

Jesus has come in the flesh. Get to know Him. Obey Him, love Him and honor Him by walking in the light. To become a Christian you must *hear the gospel* (Rom. 10:17), *believe in Jesus* (John 8:24), *repent of sins* (Acts 17:30), *confess Christ as Lord* (Acts 8:37), and *be baptized to be saved* (1 Peter 3:21).

When we think of our salvation, let us thank God for the opportunity of knowing Him!

Slightly adapted, Seektheoldpaths.com