

## Prayer List



### Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Wilfred Derrick--upcoming tests
- ♦ Donna Parish—sick lately
- ♦ Peggy Preece—health problems

### Others in Need

- ♦ Mary Lou Joseph—cancer
- ♦ Mariah Hilburn—expecting
- ♦ Michael Hudson-stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Lynn Johnson—health issues
- ♦ Tony Jones—Parkinson's
- ♦ Patsy Luke—low iron, tests
- ♦ Thad McCall—health problems
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Shane Price—cancer
- ♦ Larry Shappley—hospice care
- ♦ Ronnie Wells—health problems
- ♦ Christians overseas, Ukraine
- ♦ Sound Bible schools, civil leaders, military, 1st responders, the lost, enemies.

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



June 11  
Men's Meeting

July 30  
Gospel Mtg. at Union Hill

## Privileged to Serve



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

**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

June 11, 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

## Don't Judge a Book By Its Cover

By Jason Patrick Hilburn

When I was growing up, I had somewhat of an interest in books. When I would go to a bookstore or a library, I would practically always choose a book that had a nice looking cover. I admit that sometimes I would not even begin to read the book – I was often content merely to have the interesting looking book in my possession!

I sometimes wonder if this is the way many people today think about religion. It seems as if many people pick out the religion which looks the most appealing to them, and they keep it, without ever really investigating what is on the inside.

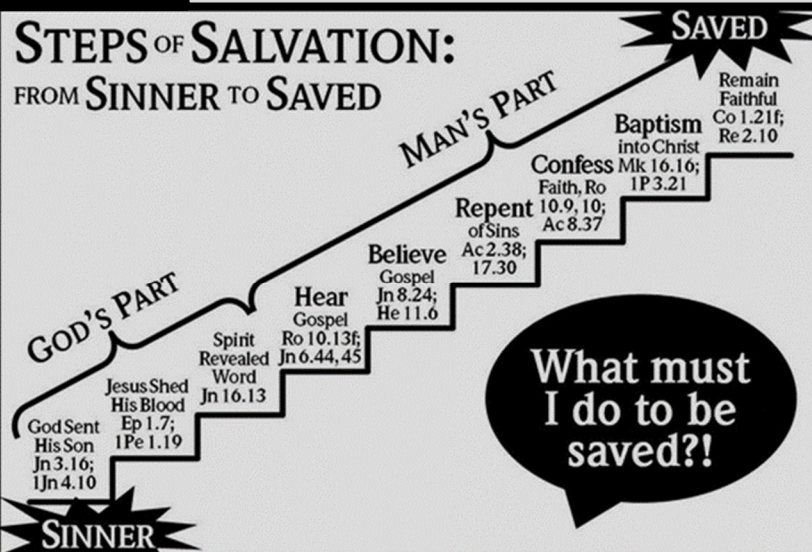
There are many factors which can make a certain religious body have an attractive "cover," such as a beautiful building, a large membership, a charismatic preacher, friendly members, members who are well-known in the community, and plenty of activities in which to be involved. I wonder if a person were to investigate and find serious error taught inside that beautiful building, would it even matter to him? Are we more concerned about the cover than the contents? Are we merely concerned with the outward aesthetics of religion, rather than the true heart and core of it?

Even though truth and love should be our main concerns, it seems that truth has taken a backseat when it comes to criteria for "choosing a church." If we were concerned about the contents rather than the cover, we would be asking questions such as:

1) Is this church found anywhere in the Bible? (Such as "the

## 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).

churches of Christ salute you" – Romans 16:16; Matthew 16:18).

- 2) Is this church the one church Jesus Christ died to establish, or was it founded by someone else at a later date? (In the first century A.D. Jesus died to establish His church, the one body of the saved – Matthew 16:18; Ephesians 5:23).
- 3) Does one have to be a member of this church to be saved? (The Bible teaches that all the saved are in Christ's one church, therefore all those outside of Christ's church are lost! – Acts 2:47; Ephesians 5:23).
- 4) Do they use Scriptural names for themselves as individuals, and as a group? (We are commanded to speak as the Scriptures speak to glorify God – 1 Peter 4:11, 16; Every word should be said with Christ's authority – Colossians 3:17; Man-made names cause sinful divisions – 1 Corinthians 1:10-13).
- 5) Does the preacher give the Scriptural Plan of salvation? It seems that most preachers teach the sinner's prayer, which is not in the Bible. The Bible says: Hear the Word – Romans 10:17; Believe in Christ – John 8:24; Repent of sins – Acts 17:30; Confess Christ before men – Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:10; Be immersed into Christ for the remission of sins – Romans 6:3-5; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Be faithful – 1 John 1:6—2:6; Revelation 2:10.
- 6) Do they "rightly divide the Word" and teach "sound doctrine," or do they "pervert the Gospel" and "twist the Scriptures to their own destruction"? (2 Timothy 2:15; Titus 2:1; 1 Timothy 4:16; Galatians 1:6-9; 2 Peter 3:16).
- 7) Do they follow the New Testament pattern for worship? (a capella singing – Colossians 3:16-17; Ephesians 5:19; preaching the Word – Acts 20:7; praying to the Father – Ephesians 5:20; weekly communion – Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20; 16:2; giving – 1 Corinthians 16:1-2).
- 8) Do they have New Testament authority for everything they do? (Colossians 3:17).
- 9) Do they understand that we are no longer under the Old Testament law and Old Testament ways of worship? (John 4:20-24; Colossians 2:14-17; Hebrews 8:13; 10:9, etc.).

Of which church are you a member? Make sure you examine the contents – not just the cover! God will hold us accountable for having fellowship with or bidding Godspeed to those who persist in error (Ephesians 5:11; 2 John 10-11; Romans 16:17; John 7:24; 1 John 4:1). Become a member of the Lord's true church, live faithfully, and worship regularly with a faithful church of Christ in your area (Romans 16:16; Hebrews 10:23-31).

## No Wonder Hearts Are So Hard!

By John D. Cotham

George Barna is founder and president of the Barna Research Group. Just a few years ago this research group took an annual survey of American values and religious views across the United States. From the data, Barna put out a book by the title, *What Americans Believe*. If you have ever doubted the effect that Satan has on our country, then pay close attention to the statistics quoted from his survey. There were two survey questions that revealed startling information concerning the beliefs of most (and I emphasize most) Americans.

First, Barna's survey showed that two-thirds (67% to be exact) of all Americans deny that absolute truth exists. It is interesting that 72% (approximately 3 out of 4) of all Americans between ages 18 and 25 agreed that one could not know absolute truth. No wonder we can't convert the younger generation. These young people agreed with the statement: "different people can define truth in conflicting ways and still be correct." Brethren, this is one of the most erroneous doctrines that can be taught among men. Notice that this doctrine is not applied to anything other than religion. For example: in math,  $2+2=4$  and  $2 \times 6=12$ . This is absolute truth that no one can change. In science, earth revolves around the sun. This is absolute truth that cannot be denied. It is only in religion that Satan has managed to confuse men into thinking they can't know absolute truth.

Second, Barna's survey showed that 60% of all adult Americans do not believe that Satan is a real being, but is simply a symbol of evil. The scripture warns us to beware of Satan and his ploys to overcome mankind (Matt. 13:39; Eph. 4:26-27; 6:12; 1 Peter 5:8). Other scripture tells us to resist Satan (James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8-9). It is impossible to resist someone if we deny him to be real. Those people who are disposed to deny that Satan exists have been blinded by him. He owns them. How well the scripture speaks of these people. "And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved, and for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thess. 2:10-12).

Do you believe the truth, all the truth? God's word is truth (John 17:17). Obedience to the truth and continuing in it saves. "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, [then] are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). Jesus said, "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" (Matt. 7:21).

Are YOU obeying the truth?

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