

## Prayer List



### Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Peggy Preece—health problems

### Others in Need

- ♦ Deb Aplin—health problems
- ♦ Mary Lou Joseph—cancer
- ♦ Mariah Hilburn—expecting
- ♦ Michael Hudson—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Tony Jones—Parkinson's
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—health problems
- ♦ Thad McCall—health problems
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Shane Price—cancer
- ♦ Larry Shappley—hospice care
- ♦ Yoel Urra—improving
- ♦ Ronnie Wells—health problems
- ♦ Craig Wray—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ 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



**July 2**

*Meal after AM Worship*

**July 9**

*Men's Meeting*

**July 16-19**

*Gospel Mtg. at Mossy Head*

**July 30**

*Gospel Mtg. at Union Hill*

## Privileged to Serve



**Announcements**—Mark Howze

**Song Leading**—Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Caleb Howze

**Serving the Lord's Supper**

Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Glenn Howze, Josh Lawson, Johnny Moss

**Lord's Supper PM**

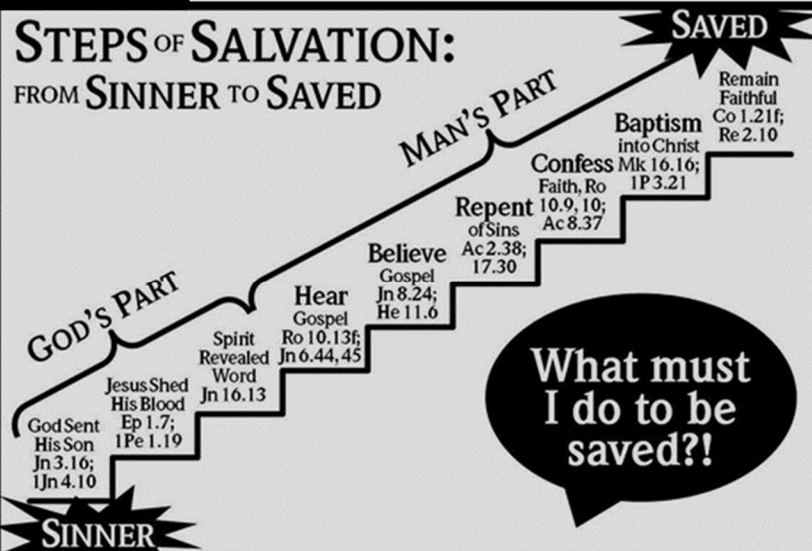
Head: Mark Howze  
Helper: Ethan Howze

**Scripture Reading**—Ezra 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).

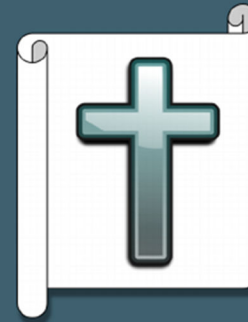
## STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...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

July 2, 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:

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## Paul's Preaching in Thessalonica

Roger Campbell

Probably a little less than twenty years after the Lord established His church on Pentecost, the apostle Paul, accompanied by other disciples, went to the European city of Thessalonica and preached the Gospel. The history of their work there is recorded in the early portion of Acts 17. Hear the message of the first six verses: "Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. And some of them believed, and consorted with Paul and Silas; and of the devout Greeks a great multitude, and of the chief women not a few. But the Jews which believed not, moved with envy, took unto them certain lewd fellows of the baser sort, and gathered a company, and set all the city on an uproar, and assaulted the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. And when they found them not, they drew Jason and certain brethren unto the rulers of the city, crying, These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also."

Let's notice some aspects of Paul's preaching in Thessalonica.

1) *Paul's message was "out of the scriptures"* (Acts 17:3). That is exactly what must be demanded in every sermon today. We should not have it any other way! What is it that God wants an evangelist to do? "Preach the word" (2 Tim. 4:2) and "speak as the oracles of God" (1 Peter 4:11). You can attend some gatherings nowadays and hear a lot of stories and nonsense, but not much Bible. We must always demand book, chapter, and verse preaching.

Folks may look at us as the old out-of-touch, conservative country church, but preaching the Scriptures is always in fashion with Jehovah, whether we are in the farmland or in a heavily populated city.

2) *Paul preached Jesus as the Christ* (Acts 17:3). Biblically speaking, to preach the Christ is the same as preaching the Gospel (Acts 8:4,5,14,25,35). Preaching the Christ means preaching what the Bible says about Him, but it also includes preaching the message that comes from Him about what one must do in order to become and remain a saved person. When you read the Book of Acts, you never find the apostles preaching themselves. Here was Paul's outlook: "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake" (2 Cor. 4:5).

3) *Some who heard Paul's preaching believed, while others did not believe* (Acts 17:4,5). Seldom is it the case that all of those in a particular crowd that hear the word obey it. "The rule" for people's response to Gospel preaching is summarized in Acts 28:24: "And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not." Yes, we are well aware that not all hearers become obedient believers. Jesus' parable of the sower reminds us of this fact (Luke 8:4-15). Let us remember, however, that we never know in advance which hearers will receive the word of the Lord and which ones will not receive the word of the Lord. Let us work diligently to get folks to hear "the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). It will then be up to them to become doers of the word and not hearers only (James 1:22). Let us not be guilty of prejudging people's responses.

4) *Paul's preaching caused an uproar* (Acts 17:5). This certainly does not mean he was in any way guilty of wrongdoing. In fact, the Bible indicates that the uproar came about because of the impure motive (called "envy") of some of the unbelieving Jews. Brethren, the preaching of the truth, combined with clear words that show the contrast between light and darkness, gets people fired up! It happened when Jesus taught, when the first century disciples taught, and it happens today. The truth pricked the hearts of the Jews assembled on the Day of Pentecost and led to the obedience of about 3,000 souls that day (Acts 2:36-41). However, when Stephen later preached the truth to his brethren according to the flesh, "they were cut to the heart" and killed him (Acts 7:51-60). Let us never apologize for the soul-saving truth, even when people become angry at the message, the messenger, or the Almighty source of the message.

Consider these points about preaching the Gospel causing an uproar: Preaching one God stirs the idolater and atheist. Preaching divine creation stirs the evolutionists. Preaching immortality stirs the materialists. Preaching the authority of Scriptures stirs the modernist. Preaching one church stirs the denominationalists. Preaching on love stirs those who hate. Preaching the headship of the Christ stirs the Catholic. Preaching on liquor stirs the drunkard/social drinker. Preaching on

modesty stirs the immodest. Preaching on work stirs the lazy. Preaching on attendance stirs the neglectful. Preaching on proper speech stirs the gossiper. Preaching on faithfulness stirs the unfaithful. Preaching on dedication stirs the uncommitted. Preaching on giving stirs the covetous. Preaching on honesty stirs the hypocrite. Preaching on morality stirs the immoral. [borrowed from "Banner of Truth" 5/11/2003]

5) *By preaching God's truth, Paul and his fellow-laborers were accused of turning the world upside down* (Acts 17:6). The exact accusation was, "These that have turned the world upside down are come hither also." There is no doubt about it, preaching the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27) can cause division and bring about changes in people's lives which others adamantly oppose. Our intent in teaching the truth is not to cause division, turmoil, or heartache. Yet, sometimes that is the consequence of Gospel preaching. Remember, Paul's charge was to preach the Gospel was for a purpose: "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me" (Acts 26:18). People sometimes react with animosity when they see others enter the light of God's Son.

There is, brethren, a good sense in which we need to be turning the world upside down. We need to be so zealous in trying to teach the Gospel to the lost that the community knows about us! We need to be so uncompromising with immorality that the world knows us! We need to be so strong in preaching repentance that the darkness-loving rebels of society know us! We need to be so staunch in our opposition to man-made religion that the denominationalists know us! We are not out to make a name for ourselves, but when we teach the truth without fear or apology, we will be noticed. Let us be busy "turning the world upside down."

6) *Paul preached Jesus as King* (Acts 17:7). The unbelievers of Thessalonica declared that Paul and those with him were saying "that there is another king, one Jesus." Because Jesus is King, He has a kingdom, which is His church (Col. 1:13,14). Because Jesus is King, He has a law for people to follow, which is His teaching or doctrine (2 John 9). When one truly preaches the Christ, then his preaching includes God's message about the kingdom of the Christ. When Philip preached in Samaria, he preached the Christ (8:5), and that included preaching His kingdom (8:12).

The apostle Paul's part of preaching the Gospel in Thessalonica was a success. Why? Because he did his part. He could not control the response of those that heard the Gospel, but he did what the Lord expected of him. Can the Lord count on us to do the same? Let's pray for the spread of the Gospel. Let's invite others to attend church services. Let's all support the preaching of the truth.