

## Prayer List



### Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Wilfred Derrick—health problems
- ◆ Jeff Mashburn—health problems
- ◆ Donna Parish—health problems
- ◆ Peggy Preece—not well lately

### Others in Need

- ◆ Danny Davis—back problems
- ◆ April Estain—expecting in Jan.
- ◆ Dawn Holloway—improving after surgery, long recovery ahead
- ◆ Mary Lou Joseph—cancer
- ◆ Tony Jones—Parkinson's
- ◆ Denver Kitzan—surg. recovery
- ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ◆ Shane Price—cancer
- ◆ Jason Rickmon—cancer
- ◆ Larry Shappley—hospice care
- ◆ Yoel Urra—improving
- ◆ Ronnie Wells—health problems
- ◆ Craig Wray—stage 4 cancer

Continued in next column...

- ◆ Pray for Christians overseas, such as those facing intense persecution in Pakistan and certain parts of India.
- ◆ Pray for peace, pray for the bereaved, the persecuted, sick/suffering, civil leaders, military, 1st responders, sound Bible schools, the lost, enemies.

## Events



### December and January

No meals on first Sundays

### December 10

Men's 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

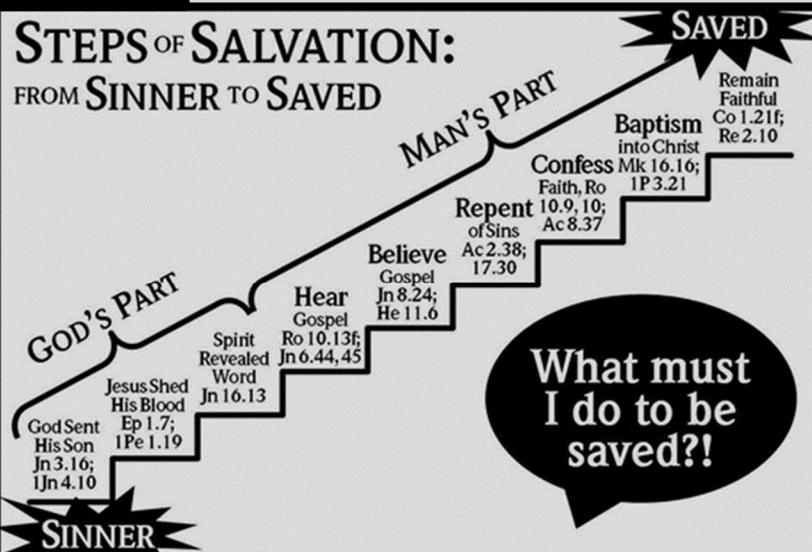


**Announcements**—Mark Howze  
**Song Leading**—Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Caleb Howze  
**Serving the Lord's Supper**  
 Head: Leo Derrick; Helpers: Ethan Howze, Ezra Howze, Glenn Howze  
**Lord's Supper PM**  
 Head: Mark Howze  
 Helper: Caleb Howze  
**Scripture Reading**—Josh Lawson

**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).



"...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

December 10, 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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 hilburnjasonp@gmail.com  
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 JasonsBibleBlog.com

## False Doctrine Going Under the Radar

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Many Bible believers know not to steal, kill, etc., but false doctrine often goes under the radar and gets them (false plans of salvation, false ways of worship, false doctrines about Christ or His second coming, etc.), because, sadly, many do not know God's Word well enough to recognize error (Mt. 22:29). Many sincere believers in Jesus have no idea that false doctrine caused believers in Jesus to be lost, such as Hymenaeus, Philetus, many Galatians, and others. Did you know Hymenaeus, Philetus, and those who followed them became lost, not because they stopped believing in Jesus, but simply because they were teaching error about the resurrection of the dead? Did you know the Galatians became lost, not because they stopped believing in Jesus, but simply because they believed that men must be circumcised according to the old law? There are differences between the old and new covenants that we must understand or be lost. We don't worship the same way they did under the old covenant, and we are not under the Law of Moses. There are many other kinds of deadly errors out there today besides these.

In the Bible faithful Christians are repeatedly warned that misusing Scriptures (or following those who do) leads to destruction, even if we still believe that Jesus is the Son of God (Gal. 5:2-6; 2 Tim. 2:15-18; 2 Pet. 3:15-18; cf. Rom. 16:17; 2 Jn. 9-11). We may believe in Jesus as God's Son, but we must also believe and live by the truths He revealed about other critical matters through the inspired writers of the Bible (Mt. 28:20; Jn. 15:26; 1 Cor. 14:37). Jesus Himself said to live "by every word" from God, not just a handful of verses (Mt. 4:4). For the sake of our eternal destinies (and those we influence), we should study the Bible diligently and compare carefully all religious teachings of men to God's Word. As the Lord said through Paul, "Prove [test] all things; hold fast that which is good" (1 Thess. 5:21; cf. Acts 17:11).

# Are You Sure You Are Saved?

Gary Workman

Many people go through life unconcerned about eternity, assuming that they and most everyone else will just automatically be saved at the end of time. But we can learn the truth of this lesson from Jesus. Someone once put this question to him: "Lord, are they few that are saved?" (Luke 13:23). He answered in part: "Strive to enter in by the narrow door, for many, I say unto you shall seek to enter in, and shall not be able" (Luke 13:24).

A sad scene of Judgement Day is presented to us by Jesus in Matthew 7:22-23. He tells us: "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

It would be horrible to be lost and to know that you're lost, but it seems even a worse tragedy to go through life thinking you are saved when actually you are lost. That's the situation with these people Jesus mentions. They had the marks of being religious, and they expected to go to heaven. But they were woefully mistaken, and they discovered it too late.

For this reason the Bible urges us: "Try your own selves, whether ye are in the faith; prove your own selves" (2 Corinthians 13:5). This can only be done by diligently studying God's word and comparing our lives with what the Bible tells us to be and do. All of us who expect to be with the Lord in eternity must take this admonition seriously. It might be that we have only thought we are saved when actually we are lost.

An old proverb says: "he who lies down with dogs will rise up with fleas." Some of our young people are on the wrong road today, due mainly to their contact, directly or indirectly, with "doggish" and ungodly adults. The next time you hear someone say, "Today's young people are going to the dogs," ask this question: "Who Turned The Dogs Loose?"

# "Christ Sent Me Not to Baptize"

Terry W. Benton

In 1 Corinthians 1:17 Paul said, "For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect." The assumption that denominational people make is that Christ did not send Paul to baptize because baptism is not essential to salvation, but is that really the point here? Paul had already made the point that in order to be OF Christ two things were essential: 1) Christ would have to be crucified for you, and 2) you would have to be baptized in His name (1 Cor.1:12-15). That is implied because Paul said they were saying "I am of Paul" and he refutes that by asking "Was Paul crucified for you?" If the answer is No, then stop saying you are "of Paul". Were you baptized in the name of Paul? If the answer is NO, then stop saying you are OF Paul. The implication is that those two things would have to be true of them if they would say that they are OF Paul. But the further implication is that these two things would have to be true if a person can legitimately say "I am OF Christ." Was Christ crucified for you? Yes! Were you baptized in His name? Yes! Then you can claim to be "of Christ." Otherwise, if one or both of those things were not true you could not claim to be "of Christ."

Now in verse 17, is Paul saying, "Christ did not send me to baptize because baptism is not essential?" Or is the key here in what is his primary mission? Is it essential to preach the gospel? Yes! Is it essential that Paul himself do the baptizing? No! Is it essential that someone do the baptizing? Yes! The gospel calls for "He that believes and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). Was it essential that Peter do the baptizing of the 3000 on Pentecost? No! Was it essential that they all get baptized? Yes! Was it essential that someone assist in baptizing them? Yes! Was Peter sent to do the baptizing? No! Was he sent to preach the gospel? Yes! Someone else can help get the baptizing done. So, is Paul saying he was not sent to baptize because baptism is not essential? No! He is saying that God did not instruct him to go baptize, obligating him to do the baptizing, but to preach the gospel, and the gospel would urge the baptism, and others can assist in helping to get them baptized into Christ so that they can then be "of Christ". All the Corinthians were baptized (Acts 18:8; 1 Cor.12:13), but Paul assisted in baptizing only a few. Why? Because that was not what he was SENT to do. Preach the gospel and the gospel bring souls to Christ to be baptized into Christ (Gal.3:26-27; Rom.6:3-6). In the case of many of the childish Corinthians, Paul was glad he didn't do the baptizing of many "lest they say he baptized in his own name." Knowing how they began dividing toward their favorite preachers, he was glad he pointed them to Christ and did not become their argument for saying "I am of Paul." So, Paul is not teaching that baptism is not essential. He is saying it is not essential that Paul does the baptizing. Baptism is essential (1 Peter 3:21; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16), only after the gospel has been taught and brings one to conviction and seeking conversion to Christ. At that time any number of people can help "baptize you INTO Christ" (Gal.3:26-27; Rom.6:3-6; Col.2:12; 1 Cor.12:13; 1 Peter 3:21). No one is ready to be baptized into Christ until the gospel has brought about that proper conviction. Paul was sent to preach that gospel, let the gospel bring people to baptism, and any number of people could help assist in the baptizing. That is what this text is teaching! Do not allow deceivers to twist this passage to conflict with the text and other clear verses.