

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Jennifer Derrick—upcoming tests
- ♦ Wilfred Derrick—health problems
- ♦ Amanda Hilburn—hurt her back
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—health problems

Others in Need

- ♦ Rhonda Compton—shoulder surgery recovery
- ♦ Danny Davis—back pain
- ♦ Elocio (Chuck Arnett's father-in-law)—health problems
- ♦ Joyce Faulk—health problems
- ♦ Hailey Haas—doing well
- ♦ Dawn Holloway—Sacred Heart
- ♦ Tony Jones—Parkinson's
- ♦ Kyla, Denise's daughter—pregnancy complications
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Harold Moore—spine surgery.
- ♦ Thomas Patterson—health issues
- ♦ Shane Price—cancer
- ♦ Jason Rickmon—cancer, chemo

Continued in next column...

- ♦ Larry Shappley—hospice care
- ♦ Melanie Skinner—cancer
- ♦ Sidney White—stroke recovery
- ♦ Pray for Christians overseas, such as those facing 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.

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

Events



June 26
 4th Wednesday Singing

July 7
 Meal after AM Worship

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 23, 2024

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

A Few Words from Jason

We have great news to share! Recently two denominational preachers were converted in India through the Twin States Bible School, whom the Baker congregation and several other sound congregations in the area have been helping financially. One man was a Pentecostal and the other was an "Assistant Father" in the Catholic denomination.

The Medo-Persian Kings Cyrus and Darius (Part 4)

Jason Patrick Hilburn

Come down, and sit in the dust, O virgin daughter of Babylon, sit on the ground: there is no throne, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called tender and delicate... Sit thou silent, and get thee into darkness, O daughter of the Chaldeans: for thou shalt no more be called, The lady of kingdoms (Isa. 47:1, 5).

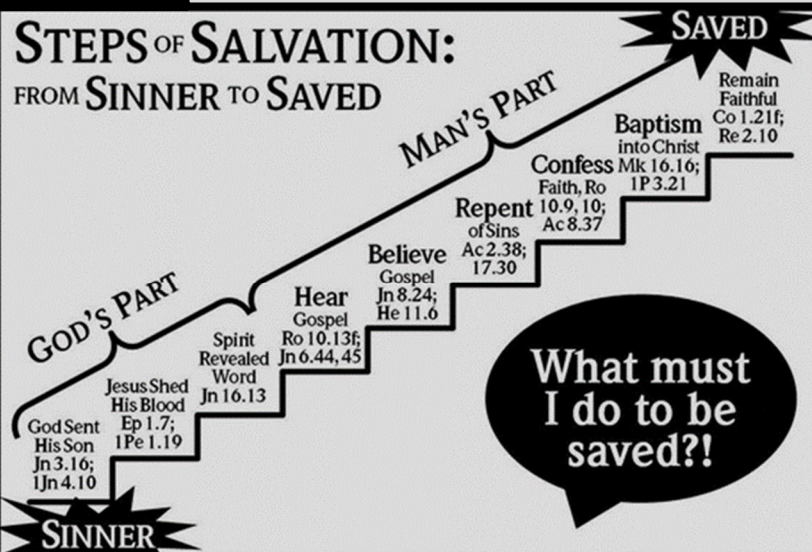
Ceasing Captivity

Cyrus' rapid rise to power and relative ease of conquest happened because God was going before Cyrus and "opening the gates" for him to conquer these kingdoms:

Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before

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).

him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut; I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel (Isa. 45:1-3).

God had foretold Babylon's fall to the Medes and Persians hundreds of years prior to these events: "...Go up, O Elam [Persia, JPH]: besiege, O Media..." (Isa. 21:2). "The burden of Babylon...Behold, I will stir up the Medes against them..." (Isa. 13:1, 17). Barnes noted the following about Isaiah specifically mentioning the Medes:

The Medes - This is one of the places in which the prophet specified, "by name," the instrument of the wrath of God...In looking at this prophecy, therefore, we are to bear in mind:

(1) the fact that, when it was uttered, Media was a dependent province of the kingdom of Assyria;

(2) that a long time was yet to elapse before it would become an independent kingdom;

(3) that it was yet to secure its independence by the aid of that very Babylon which it would finally destroy;

(4) that no human foresight could predict these revolutions, and that every circumstance conspired to render this event improbable.

The great strength and resources of Babylon; the fact that Media was a dependent province, and that such great revolutions must occur before this prophecy could be fulfilled, render this one of the most striking and remarkable predictions in the sacred volume.

Isaiah got even more specific when he named the very leader who would bring all of this to pass! Thus saith the Lord through Isaiah:

That confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers; that saith to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be inhabited; and to the cities of Judah, Ye shall be built, and I will raise up the decayed places thereof: That saith to the deep, Be dry, and I will dry up thy rivers: That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid. Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have

holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut; I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel. For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me. I am the LORD, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else (Isa. 44:26-28; 45:1-6).

Well before the captivity and destruction of Jerusalem even took place, Isaiah prophesied that someone named "Cyrus" would cause Jerusalem to be inhabited again, the city would be rebuilt, and the foundation of the temple would be laid. Isaiah received this revelation "in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah" (740-701 B.C.; Isa. 1:1). The temple was not destroyed until 586 B.C., and Cyrus' decree would not occur for some fifty years after that! The kings following Isaiah's time were:

(1) Manasseh (55 years) II Kings 18:1-20; 20:11; 20:21; 21:18; II Chron. 32:33; 33:20.

(2) Josiah (31 years) II Kings 21:24; 23:20.

(3) Jehoahaz (3 months) II Kings 23:30-33; II Chron. 36:5-8.

(4) Jehoiakim (11 years) II Kings 23:34; 24:7; II Chron. 36: 5-8.

(5) Jehoiachin (3 months) II Kings 24:6-12; II Chron. 36:8-9.

(6) Zedekiah (11 years) II Kings 24:13; 25:29.

Thus a minimum of 160 years elapsed from the close of Isaiah's ministry to the capture of Babylon by Cyrus in 538 or 536 B.C. The predictive element of Isaiah's prophecy is remarkable (Turner, *Survey* 23).

According to the historian Josephus, Cyrus was actually shown the words of Isaiah's prophecy, in which Jehovah referred to Cyrus by name as His "shepherd": "Accordingly, when Cyrus read this, and admired the divine power, an earnest desire and ambition seized upon him to fulfil what was so written" (XI:I.2). "The Lord honours him with the title and character of his 'shepherd', who was to lead his flock, the people of Israel, out of the Babylonish captivity, and guide them into their own land. It is very usual, both in sacred and profane writings, for kings to be called shepherds" (Gill).

To be continued next week, Lord willing...