

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ◆ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ◆ Jennifer Derrick—improving
- ◆ Wilfred Derrick—health problems
- ◆ Jeff Mashburn—surgery recovery

Others in Need

- ◆ Travis Barrow—health problems
- ◆ Shannon Burn—surgery recovery
- ◆ Danny Davis—back pain
- ◆ Louise Douglas—health problems
- ◆ Joyce Faulk—health problems
- ◆ Dawn Holloway—at home, IV meds
- ◆ Tony Jones—recent stroke and fall
- ◆ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ◆ Thomas Patterson—health issues
- ◆ Shane Price—cancer
- ◆ Larry Shappley—hospice care
- ◆ Melanie Skinner—cancer
- ◆ Storm victims in eastern USA, India, and Pakistan
- ◆ Pray for Christians overseas, such as those facing persecution in Pakistan and certain parts of India.

Continued in next column...

◆ Pray for the upcoming election!

◆ Pray for peace, pray for the bereaved, the persecuted, sick/suffering, civil leaders, military, 1st responders, sound Bible schools, the lost, enemies.

Events



November 3

Meal after AM Worship

November 10

Men's Meeting

November 27

4th Wednesday Singing

December 6

Faith and Fellowship

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

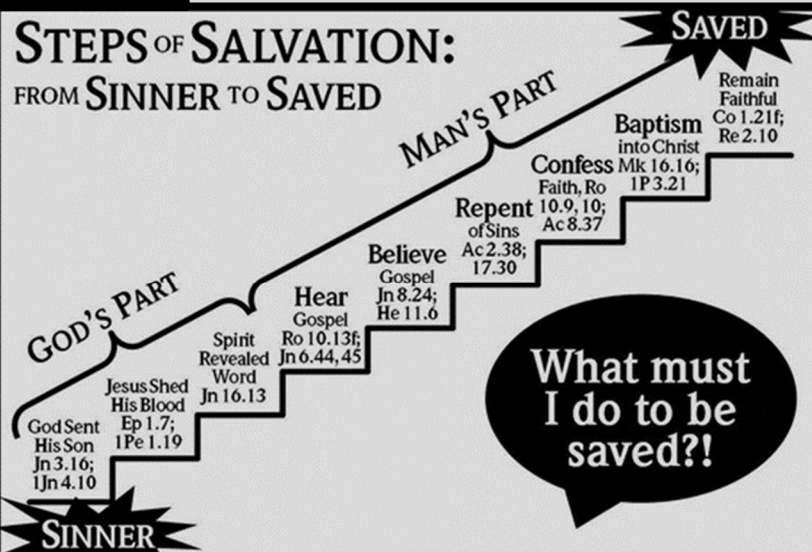


Announcements: Glenn Howze
Song Leading: Sunday—Caleb Howze; Wednesday—David Howze
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Johnny Moss; Helpers: David Howze, Ethan Howze, Mark Howze
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Mark Howze
 Helper: Ezra Howze
Bible Reading: Braden Hilburn

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).

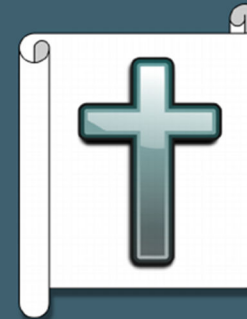
STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...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

November 3, 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

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The Book of Life and Falling From Grace

Jason Patrick Hilburn

The first time the Book of Life is mentioned in the Bible, God said He would blot names out of it: "...him will I blot out of my book" (Exod. 32:32-33). Also, the last time the Book of Life is mentioned in the Bible, it says God will take people out of it: "...God shall take away his part out of the book of life..." (Rev. 22:19; see also 3:5; Psa. 69:28). A Baptist preacher I studied with last week said that God would never take someone's name from the Book of Life, and another one I studied with in recent years claimed that God never said He would do that. Even after I showed them the Scriptures with kindness and patience, they still would not acknowledge the Truth of what God plainly said.

Friends, only those who are truly saved are in the Lamb's Book of Life, and since names can be blotted out, that is irrefutable evidence that people who are truly saved can become truly lost! Deadly errors such as "once saved, always saved" will cause countless souls to be lost, and if we support those who teach such, God will hold us accountable (Rom. 16:17; 2 Jn. 9-11). Also, if children of God can fall from God's saving grace because of their own choices ("...ye are fallen from grace," Gal. 5:4), that proves that man has responsibilities toward his salvation (though he can never earn it). Each individual has personal responsibility to choose to become saved and choose to remain saved (through obedient faith in Christ), and that is contrary to what most denominations teach (Josh. 24:15; Deut. 30:19; Acts 2:38-40; Rom. 11:22; Gal. 5:6; Php. 2:12; Heb. 10:22-31; Jam. 4:7-8; 1 Pet. 1:22; 2 Pet. 1:10; 2:20-22; Rev. 2:10, etc.). Friends, this is just a tiny sample of serious errors that are very widespread. Please understand that these words I am writing are written in love for your souls! Please wake up and study for yourselves, learning how the whole Bible fits together (Acts 17:11; 1 Thess. 5:21; 1 Tim. 4:16; 2 Tim. 2:15-18).

Some People Will Believe Anything

I never cease to be amazed at the absolute gullibility of people in general. It was P.T. Barnum who said "a sucker is born every minute" (or something along that line). The gullibility of the human race makes fertile soil for the con-artists and shysters who prey upon the unsuspecting. Politicians make promises during campaign seasons, and the masses believe those promises in spite of the fact that few of those promises are ever kept.

The religious landscape in our country, and throughout the world, is a living testimony to the gullibility of mankind when it comes to religion. The unbelievable is not only believed but embraced by a great multitude; and it seems that the more foolish a doctrine, the more it is embraced. If men in general loved the truth and rejected error, most, if not all of the religious cults that have arisen in the last couple of centuries would never have gotten off the ground. Paul hit the nail right on the head when he warned, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables" (2 Tim. 4:3-4). The reason for the success of false religion is the desire to have one's ears tickled, and the love of fables over the truth.

Our generation is suffering the full blown fruit of humanism in the form of evolution. This insidious doctrine has been held up as scientific fact, but in truth is nothing more than a theory and a poor one at that. Yet people go on believing the lies, and the more the lie is taught, the more people embrace it. Take the matter of creation and the existence of the universe and all things therein. I once read of some woman who taught that your "ego created the world and that it is an illusion." In fact, she advocated that not only did God NOT create the world, but that He does not know it exists! Well, at least she is unique in her position. Her "New Age" preaching was a mixture of mystic tomfoolery and psychological idealism that amounts to nothing more than FALSE DOCTRINE (spelled with capital letters). Her oracles are shallow precepts with absolutely no substance. But you know what astounds this scribe? It is the fact that she is getting an audience! I once read that the more foolish someone acts or talks, the more he is likely to get a following. In her heyday this woman was considered the "Guru of the moment." And like most Gurus, she managed to draw some away to their own destruction, for when the "blind lead the blind, they will both fall into the ditch." It is sad, but true, that some people will believe anything.

But back to the matter of origins. Is mere chance an adequate explanation for our origin? Common sense tells us that every effect must have adequate cause. Yet there are those who have bought into the lie that this universe is the product of blind chance. One professor has foolishly suggested that "our universe is simply one of those things that happens from time to time." But according to Harold Morowitz the probability for the chance formation of the smallest, simplest form of living organism known is 1 in 10 to the 340 millionth power. Even the late Carl Sagan, renowned atheistic scientist, has admitted that the chances of life evolving on earth is 1 in 10 to the 2 billionth power; that's 1 in ten followed by 2 billion zeroes! Edwin Conklin of Princeton University pointed out that

the "probability of life originating from accident is comparable to the probability of the unbridged dictionary resulting from an explosion in a printing shop." One of the greatest scientists of all time, Lord Kelvin was once asked if he believed that the grass and flowers were the result of mere chemical forces. He replied, "No, no more than I could believe that a book of botany describing them could grow by mere chemical forces. If you think strongly enough you will be forced by science to the belief in God" (Nineteenth Century and After, June 1903, pp 1068-1069). But if our universe is NOT the product of chance, what then is the explanation? The only thing left is "creationism."

So, from whence cometh the universe? This question has been the center of controversy for hundreds of years, if not thousands. After careful examination it seems that there are only three possible explanations for the universe: (1) It is eternal, (2) it came into existence on its own, or (3) it was created by someone else. The first explanation is rejected on the basis of scientific evidence. The universe is running down. The second explanation (self creation) has been rejected as inadequate in that sound reasoning demands that every effect have an adequate cause. The First Law of Thermodynamics states that matter is not currently re-creating itself. If the atheist is true to himself he will hold to the concept of uniformitarianism [the idea that what we observe now has always been that way] and thus admit that matter never has created itself. The only other possibility is that the universe was created by some intelligence. In an attempt to get around this conclusion some modern scientists are throwing all reason out the back door and advocating that the universe must have created itself. One scientist has even gone on record as believing that "our universe had been created from nothing as a result of established principles of physics" (New Scientist, March 8, 1984). In an effort to explain, this professor suggested that "our universe is simply one of those things which happens from time to time." Sorry professor, but the very idea that something came out of nothing is not adequate explanation for the marvelous universe which surrounds us.

God has recorded that "the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured" (Jer. 33:22, Gen. 15:5). In 1603 Johann Bayer devised a system to differentiate the stars of heaven. For centuries men have attempted to count the stars. Hipparchus said there were 1,026. Ptolemy set the number at 1,056. With our modern telescopes and scientific capabilities we have now concluded that there are more than 25 sextillion (that's 25 with 21 zeroes). The size of our own galaxy is overwhelming. Our Milky Way contains over 100 billion stars. It is so large that traveling at the speed of light (186,317.6 miles per second) it would take you 100,000 years to go just across the diameter of the galaxy (and you thought it took a long time to get to downtown Dallas). Our nearest neighboring galaxy is the Andromeda galaxy, an estimated 2,000,000 light years away. The OBSERVABLE universe has an estimated diameter of 20 billion light years. Now think about this. The earth, in orbiting the sun, departs from a straight line by only one-ninth of an inch every 18 miles. If the orbit changed by one-tenth of an inch every 18 miles, our orbit would be so large we would freeze to death. If it changed by one-eighth inch every 18 miles our orbit would come so close to the sun that we would be incinerated. We are, in fact, exactly where we should be for survival. Accident? I think not. Yet in spite of the evidence, men still continue to believe in evolution as the explanation for our existence. Like I said, "Some people will believe anything." —Tom Wacaster, *slightly adapted*