

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Jennifer Derrick—surgery recovery
- ♦ Mariah Hilburn—expecting, nausea
- ♦ Jeff Mashburn—health problems

Others in Need

- ♦ Travis Barrow—rare condition
- ♦ Phil Benson—kidney dialysis
- ♦ Danny Davis—health problems
- ♦ Louise Douglas—health problems
- ♦ Joyce Faulk—health problems
- ♦ Jennifer Foxworth—health problems
- ♦ Annette Garrett - Non-H. lymphoma
- ♦ Kiptyn Gillis—non-cancerous tumor
- ♦ Janice Godwin—surgery recovery
- ♦ Jamie Goodman—colon cancer
- ♦ Howard & Elizabeth Grace—health
- ♦ Andrew Hickman—health problems
- ♦ Tony Jones—passed away
- ♦ John Moss—surgery recovery
- ♦ Joel Murphey—B-cell lymphoma
- ♦ Stacey Scherl—surgery

Continued in next column...

- ♦ Melanie Skinner—cancer treatment
- ♦ Several sick in Pakistan
- ♦ 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, the lost, enemies.
- ♦ Pray for our evangelistic efforts

Events

If the Lord wills...

- Nov. 2**
Meal after AM Worship
- Nov. 26**
4th Wednesday Singing

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).

To Our Visitors

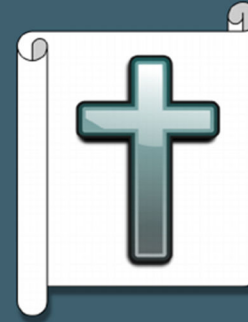


We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Privileged to Serve



Announcements: Glenn Howze
Song Leading: Sunday—David Howze; Wednesday—Mark Howze
Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Johnny Moss; Helpers: Leo Derrick, Ethan Howze, Mark Howze
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Glenn Howze
 Helper: Rick Hemphill
Bible Reading: Trey Miles



THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

October 26, 2025

Meeting Times

Sundays:

- 10AM Bible Class
- 11AM Worship
- 6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

- 7PM Bible Class

Other Information

Building: 5761 Hwy. 4
 Mail: 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

Samaria: The Site of Sin for Centuries

Jason Patrick Hilburn

From Jeroboam's corruption to Philip's Gospel preaching—how a region known for rebellion became ripe for redemption.

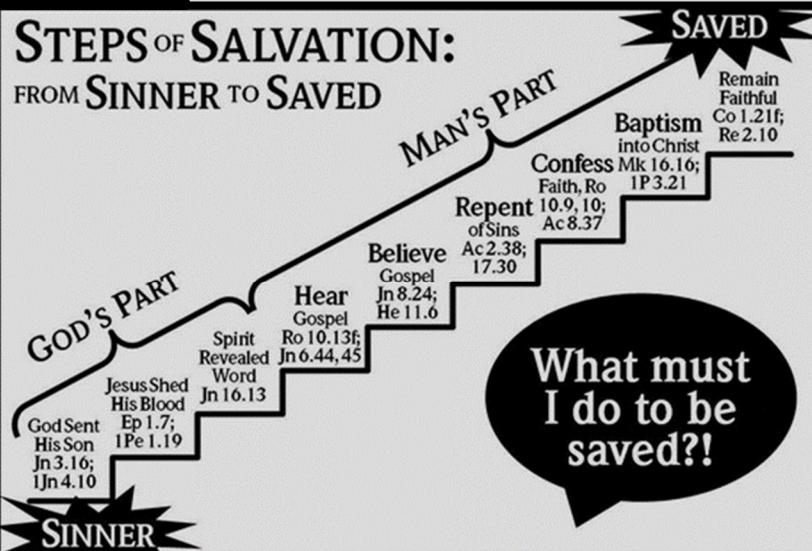
When King Jeroboam led the northern kingdom of Israel away from Jerusalem (c. 931 B.C.), he also led them away from God. Fearing that the people would return to Jerusalem to worship, he set up golden calves at Bethel and Dan, saying, "Behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt" (1 Kin. 12:28). Seeking to make worship more convenient, he told them, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem" (1 Kin. 12:28). Thus began a people-centered religion designed to please men rather than God—the kind of religion that still appeals to multitudes today. From that point forward, the northern region of Israel, later known as Samaria, became synonymous with sin.

Throughout the Old Testament, God repeatedly referred to "the sins of Jeroboam" as a lasting stain on Israel's history. Even when kings rose to power generations later, Scripture says they "walked in the way of Jeroboam." Sinful worship had become their tradition. God referenced "the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat" nearly twenty times throughout the books of Kings, reminding readers for centuries that false worship spreads like a plague once it begins (1 Kin. 13:34; 14:16; 15:26, 30, 34; 16:19, 26, 31; 21:22; 22:52; 2 Kin. 3:3; 10:29, 31; 13:2, 11; 14:24; 15:9, 18, 24, 28).

Eventually, God's patience ran out. He punished the northern kingdom through the Assyrian invasion in 721 B.C. The Assyrians scattered most Jews of the northern kingdom

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).

and brought Gentiles to settle in Samaria (2 Kin. 17:6, 24). These Gentiles brought their idols, blending false religions with remnants of Jewish worship (2 Kin. 17:33, 41). The result was a hybrid people—the Samaritans—who neither fully followed the Law of Moses nor fully turned from the false worship that had begun centuries earlier. Their corrupted religious practices, along with intermarriage between the Jews and pagan Gentiles, caused many Jews to disdain the Samaritans, as evidenced in the New Testament Scriptures (Jn. 4:9; Lk. 9:52–53; 10:33; 17:16).

By the time Jesus came to earth, nearly a thousand years after Jeroboam's rebellion, the Samaritan woman at the well was still confused about where and how to worship (Jn. 4:19–24). Little did she know that the One speaking with her had witnessed every stage of that spiritual decline from Heaven itself. For a thousand years, Jesus had observed the confusion that false religion caused in Samaria. He told her plainly that her people had been worshiping in ignorance of God's will (Jn. 4:22). He revealed that the ways of worship were about to change under His New Covenant, and that God was seeking true worshipers to worship Him in spirit and in truth (Jn. 4:23–24). God is still seeking such worshipers today—those who will follow the New Testament pattern for worship (Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23–29; 16:1–2; Eph. 5:19–20; Col. 3:16–17). Adherence to the Truth in worship has always been an identifying characteristic of the true church of Christ He died to establish, setting it apart from man-made religious groups (Matt. 16:18; Rom. 16:16–17).

After Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, He sent His followers into all the world preaching the good news: that those who believe and are baptized shall be saved (Mk. 16:15–16). Philip the evangelist was carrying this divine message to Samaria, but when he arrived, the people were once again being led astray—this time by a man named Simon, who used sorcery and deceived the people with his tricks (Acts 8:9–11). Their long history of religious confusion had left them vulnerable to such deception—the same gullibility that began in Jeroboam's day still lingered a thousand years later.

However, Philip preached the Gospel with miraculous confirmation, and *“the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake”* (Acts 8:6). *“When they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized,”* and Simon was baptized also (Acts 8:12–13). Many Samaritans left behind centuries of error to finally follow the Truth! What began with Jeroboam's counterfeit worship ended with humble, obedient faith in Christ's one true religion, and the same Gospel that changed Samaria can still change hearts today.

Like the ancient Samaritans, many today remain in false religion generation after generation—trusting what they have been taught instead of examining it by the Word of God. They follow inherited error rather than seeking the Truth; but as the Samaritans once did when they heard the Truth, all can still turn from confusion to Christ, if they will humbly follow God's Word rather than the traditions of men.

<http://www.JasonsBibleBlog.com>

Mark These People

By Bill Hall

Quickly now - What type of people are to be marked by Christians according to the scriptures? Those who cause divisions and offenses contrary to Christ's doctrines? Yes, for so we are taught in Romans 16:17.

There is another type of person to be marked, however. "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample" (Philippians 3:17 KJV). The word "mark" is not synonymous with the word "withdraw." According to W.E. Vine, the word means "to look at, behold, watch, contemplate." Those who are evil, then, are to be marked and avoided; while those who walk in God's way are to be marked and followed.

Godly elders should be marked. Elders are to be examples to the flock (1 Peter 5:3). They are to be men whose character is above reproach, who rule their own house well, who are hospitable, and whose sound teaching can convict the gainsayers. We know such elders, and their example is priceless. Even after such men have passed on, they are to be remembered: "Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow (a similar word to mark-BH), considering the outcome of their conduct" (Hebrews 13:7). Thank God for godly elders; mark them and follow their good example.

Godly women should be marked. If there are women in the congregation who stand out for their piety and humility, whose major attractiveness is their "meek and quiet spirit," who have adorned themselves with good works, who love their husband and children, who find joy and contentment in being a wife and mother and keeper at home, who feel no resentment toward their position of subjection to man, who have devoted their lives to doing God's will - and there are such women in every congregation - then mark these godly women and follow their example. In these days when the women's liberation movement is affecting so many and actually intimidating many women who want to do right, it is wonderful to have godly women in the church who are able to lead the way and provide a role model for other women who are Christians. Thank God for godly women; mark them and follow their example.

Godly preachers should be marked. Not all preachers are godly, but most of the gospel preachers of our acquaintance are godly men whose lives speak as effectively as do their lips. They do their work, not as hirelings, but as men concerned for the truth and the souls of men and women. Mark such men and follow their example!

Godly parents, godly young people, godly older people, godly suffering people, godly dying people - the godly faithful! How sad that some are so blinded by the faults of the few that they cannot see the virtues of the many. Good people are all around us. Let's look for them, contemplate their good qualities, mark them, and follow their example.