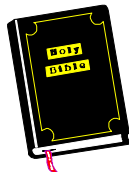


# WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST



“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

## DOES THE CHURCH SAVE? (Part 2)

In Christ "we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins... " (Eph. 1:7). Salvation is in Christ. "That they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ..." (2 Tim. 2:10). Obtain what? Salvation. Salvation is where? In Christ. To be in Christ is to be in the one body, the church" "**He is the head of the body, the church.**" (Col. 1:18).

From this, it follows that if one is not in "the body" he is not in Christ, and if not in Christ, he is not saved. But to be in "the body" is to be in the church. The church does not save you, but the church is the saved ones.

### The Church Is Blood-Purchased

Christ "**is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.**" (1 Jn. 2:2). Though Christ died for the whole world, not all will be saved, because there are some who refuse to appropriate the blessings provided. Those who embrace the blessings are "loosed" from their sins by His blood (Rev. 1:5). Who are that number? "**To feed the church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood.**" (Acts 20:28). Those composing the church are the ones who have been "loosed" from their sins "by his own blood." They are the purchased ones. It is not the church that saves you. The church is the saved number.

"**But if I tarry long that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God...**" (1 Tim. 3:15). "The house of God" is the "church of the living God." No one entertains the idea that the house of God is the meeting house in which His children meet for worship. God's house is not composed of brick and mortar, but of men and women who are his children. Crispus "**believed on the Lord with all his house...**" (Acts 18:8). His house was his family, not his residence.

Of those saved in Ephesus, Paul said, "**Ye are no more strangers and sojourners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.**" (Eph. 2:19). Since the church is "the house of God" — "the household of God" — and one's household is composed of his family, it follows that if one is a child of God, he is in the household of God. To affirm that you are a child of God, but not in the church, is to declare that God has children not in His household, or family!. The church does not save you, but the church is the saved number. (*Part 1 is inside on page 3*)

- C. R. (Charles Ready) Nichol, 1876-1961, Gospel Preacher

**IN THE BIBLE WE'LL DELVE IN 2012**

THE BULLETIN—VOLUME 38, NUMBER 40 October 28, 2012

**SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:**

AM: **ED KELLEHER**

PM: **ED KELLEHER**

**"Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks:  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

**JOIN US IN  
NEW TESTAMENT  
CHRISTIANITY  
TODAY!**

*A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!*  
[www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org)

The Bulletin  
USPS-994-500  
Periodicals Postage Paid  
West Columbia, SC  
Published Weekly By:

West Columbia Church of Christ  
1701 Augusta Road  
West Columbia SC 29169

### SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study  
Sunday 11 AM, 6 PM Assembly  
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study  
Office Phone (803) 794-5320  
*Nursery provided*

*Bible Classes for all ages*

**LADIES CLASS**

To be announced

**EVANGELIST**

### BULLETIN EDITOR

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## **“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16**

- **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:** Miles Johnson, Richard Ramkinson, Margaret Herring, Wilson Burton, Betty Mathis, Lamar Reeves, Elma Berrier.
- Remember **Margie DeYoung** and her family in Ohio who are fighting illness.
- The **Sailor’s** family has been fighting some illness. Brittany has had her hands full with the 3 young ones as Jeremy was off at Guard camp. We hope to see them again soon.
- **Judy Walker** has been under the weather for several weeks fighting bronchitis and respiratory infections.
- **Marshall Mancuso** is having a protracted fight with some kidney stones and might be headed for the hospital.
- **Jan Kelleher** requests prayers from her sister-in-law, **Terri Sheppard** who is recovering from colon cancer, also **Buster Bowman** a friend of **Jones Gamble** who is suffering congestive heart failure.
- Good to have the **Richbourgs** and **Jason Parks** back with us safely from traveling, and **Gail Allen** was with us also, announcing she is “on the mend”.
- Continue to remember **Jones Gamble’s sister, Margie** who continues to be treated for kidney problems, a recent transplant is being rejected.
- Keep all these, and **the church here**, in your prayers. Our thanks and gratitude to those who watch, and work and pray for the church here.

“This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me”  
- Psalms 119:50

## **“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42**

- Remember to **send cards to our visitors**. **Marshall Mancuso** had had a bunch of nice cards printed, and **Jones Gamble** faithfully gets visitor cards posted with addresses. So help out yourself! Send a card, invite people to visit, then send more cards! Postage for a post card is \$.32, Send 3 for a dollar and keep the change!
- The Twin City church in Batesburg-Leesville has a new preacher, **Tommy Johnson**.

“That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly.” - Matthew 6:4

## **“REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!” - Romans 12:15**

- We rejoice with the angels in heaven that **Savannah Crews, Ryan Sheppard’s** fiancée, was baptized into Christ Sunday afternoon after the assembly. Keep her continually in your prayers. We’re happy with her and the Sheppard family also.

“The like figure whereunto *even* baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:” - 1 Peter 3:21

**IN THE BIBLE WE’LL DELVE IN 2012**

## **DOES THE CHURCH SAVE? (Part 1)**

### **"The Church Does Not Save"**

Often you have heard, "The church does not save you." It is meant by those who make such remarks that it is not necessary to be a member of the church to be saved. All who read their Bibles understand that God saves. To pardon is the act of Jehovah. True, one must believe in the Lord before God pardons him (Acts 16:31), but it is not faith that pardons. God forgives. God pardons.

Though one must repent to be saved (Acts 2:38), it is not repentance that pardons or saves the man — God saves! Repentance is an act the man must perform before God will save him.

One must be baptized to be saved (Mk. 16:16), but it is not baptism that pardons. God pardons — God saves! The church does not save you, but consider this: "Are the saved in the church or in the world?"

Writing to the church at Corinth, Paul said they were "**sanctified in Christ Jesus,**" "**justified in the name of the Lord,**" and "**saved**" by the gospel (1 Cor. 1:2; 6:11; 15:1-2). So certain as one is enjoying these blessings, that sure is it that he is one of the number composing the church. The church does not save, but the saved ones are the church.

### **The Church — The One Body**

"**There is one body**" — there is "**but one body**" (Eph. 4:4; 1 Cor. 12:20). What is the "one body?" "**He is the head of the body, the church...**" (Col. 1:18). Christ is the head of what? "**He is the head of the body, the church.**" If one is not of the number constituting the church; if he is not one of the number composing the body of which Christ is head, is he saved?

When one is prepared in heart and life; when he believes in the Lord with all his heart, repents of his sins, and is baptized as the Lord commands, he is baptized into the "**one body.**" (Mk. 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; 1 Cor. 12:13). In one verse it is declared that one is baptized into the "one body," and in another verse it is affirmed that one is baptized "into Christ" (Gal. 3:27). Hence, to be baptized "into Christ" is to be baptized into the "body" which is the church. From this, it follows that if one is saved without being in the "body," he is saved without being in Christ, for to be "in Christ" is to be in the "one body."

In Christ "**we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins...**" (Eph. 1:7). Salvation is in Christ. "**That they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ...**" (2 Tim. 2:10). Obtain what? Salvation. Salvation is where? In Christ. To be in Christ is to be in the "one body," "which is the church" (Col. 1:24).

From this, it follows that if one is not in "the body" he is not in Christ, and if not in Christ, he is not saved. But to be in "the body" is to be in the church. "**He is the head of the body, the church.**" The church does not save you, but the church is the saved ones.

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